

Northern Athletics Under 17 Championship 2013

Liverpool played host to the 2013 Northern Athletics Under 17 championships as we returned to Wavertree on a weekend of contrasting weather. On Saturday we witnessed the worst of an English summer's day with heavy driving rain and blustery winds. However on Sunday we had blue skies and sunshine with a slight breeze, which was much more to the athletes and official liking.



Day 1



The frequent heavy rain was the major factor on Saturday and it was not surprising that no CBP were recorded however this did not detract from some fine competition. In the early competition before the worse of the weather Edward Jeans of Preston was a convincing winner of the opening event the U/15 boys hammer with a throw of 51.10 he was never in danger and as his 14 meter plus winning margin proved. As the day progressed so the weather deteriorated and it was increasingly obvious it was going to be a long wet afternoon for athletes and officials alike. Despite having to dodge the showers Adam Hague cleared 4.70 in the U/17 pole vault a performance worth noting in these conditions to take the title. Toni

Buckingham was another impressive winner in the U/17 women shot with an 11.35 throw. On the track in the U/15 boys 80m hurdles William Alred of Trafford and Warrington's Cameron Meakin both record an impressive 11.85 with the judges unable to split them and we had a dead heat, in another tight battle Amy Hincly of Vale Royal just beat English schools champion Rosie Johnson in the U/17 women 1500m. Another close race was the U/17 men 800m in which Matthew Bailey just held off Jethro McGraw in a thrilling race which went all the way to the line. Kristie Edwards won a keenly contested U/17 100m in which the first four athletes all went below 13 seconds. Other eye catching performances on day were Dominic Singh in the U/15 100m and Joseph Milton in the U/15 300m.



Top U/15 200m

Middle Alred & Meakin cross the line together in 80m hurdles

Right Hinchly & Johnson in another close race (photo [Dave Hewitson](#))

Day 2



The weather picked up on Sunday and so did the competition as Abby Roberts of Wakefield set the only CBP of the weekend in the U/17 women's pole vault with a clearance of 3.65. Molly Newton claimed the U/15s title with 2.55. Olivia Stevenson of Hull was a clear winner in the U/15 hammer with a 46.18 throw almost 6 meters ahead of her nearest competitor. George Armstrong of Leeds produced a fine throw of 52.45 in the U/17 discus to take the title. One of the keenest contested field events was the U/17 men Long jump won by Jacob Fincham in 6.61 four centimetres ahead of Jarell Marcham. Amelia

McLoughlin came within 2cm of the CBP with her 1.65 clearance in the U/17s high

jump. On the track we had a new event the U/17 women steeplechase which was contested for the first time at these championships, Rebekah Ward who had led most of the way had to dig deep as her fast finishing teammate Catrina Thomas gave it her all in the final few meters, however the judges could not separate them and we had another dead heat at these championships with both Lincoln Wellington athletes being given 5.14.5. Abdulqani Sharif of Liverpool gave a mature performance is winning the U/17 3000m by a large margin and looks to be an athlete to watch in the future. Alicia Barrett was another athlete who came close to the CBP in the U/17 80m hurdles with her 11.14 just outside Liz Fairs 1993 11.10 [Results](#)



Photos Above George Armstrong winner U/17 Discus

Right Amelia McLoughlin, winner Under 17s high jump



Rebekah Ward, Catrina Thomas joint winners of first ever Northern Athletics U/17 Women Steeplechase, Emma Hargreaves of Preston won the bronze medal.