

## Report on National Juvenile Even Age Cross Country Championships

Mucky conditions greeted the even ages in Limerick Racecourse on Sunday 20th October. Well done to the Tipperary u/10 girls who finished 4th county as did the boys u/10 county team. Kevin Finn of Nenagh Olympic had a great race in the boys u/12 event finishing 2nd overall. Tipperary were 4th county team here again. Tipperary athletes took the top 3 podium positions in the boys u/14 race. 1st Shane Buckley of Dundrum AC, 2nd Conor O'Gorman of Clonmel AC, 3rd Cathal O'Gorman of Clonmel AC. Clonmel AC took the silver club medal here with Tipperary taking the gold county medal. The Tipperary u/16 girls won a bronze county medal. Tom Walshe and Cian Hodgins of Nenagh Olympic ran very well in the boys u/16 race to take 2nd and 3rd respectively. They helped Nenagh Olympic to a cold club medal. Clonmel AC took the bronze club medal in the girls u/18 race helping Tipperary to a bronze county medal. Congratulations to all the Tipperary athletes.

The County Juvenile Cross Country Relays were held in Thurles on a damp Sunday 3rd November. The poor weather didn't put off the relay teams from putting in great performances, each athlete giving their best for their teams. Clonmel AC, Dundrum AC and Moycarkey Coolcree took the top 3 places in the girls u/10 race. Templemore AC, Newport AC & Dundrum AC were 1st, 2nd & 3rd teams in the boys u/10 race. Dundrum AC, Nenagh Olympic & Clonmel AC were the first three teams over the line in the girls u/12 race. Newport AC, Nenagh Olympic & Clonmel AC were the top 3 teams in the boys u/12 race. Moycarkey Coolcree, Dundrum AC & Templemore AC came out on top in that order of the girls u/14 race. In the boys u/14 race it was Dundrum, Templemore AC & Moyne AC who took the top 3 places. The u/16 relay race included mixed boys' and girls' teams. Well done to Clonmel AC who were 2nd team, Templemore AC were 2nd and Moyne AC were 3rd. Great running by all teams.

Sunday 10th November saw the Munster Uneven Age Cross Country take place in Conna, Co. Cork. All Tipperary Athletes ran very well over a good cross country course. Tipperary were 4th county team in the girls u/9 race as were the u/9 boys and boys and girls u/11 returned the same result also. The girls u/13 county team were 4th overall with the boys u/13 county team winning a bronze medal. The u/15 girls county team won bronze also. The u/15 boys ran very well with Cian Hodgins of Nenagh Olympic taking the win followed by Shane Buckley of Dundrum AC in 2nd. Tom Walshe of Nenagh Olympic was 4th overall. Nenagh Olympic took gold club medal and Tipperary won the silver county medal. Aimee Hayde of Newport AC had an excellent race to win the girls u/17 race. Congratulations to all the Tipperary runners on a good day out for Tipperary Athletics.

Beaufort in Co. Kerry was the venue for the Munster Juvenile Cross Country Relays on Sunday 17th November. Newport AC were first team home in the boys u/12 race with Nenagh Olympic 3rd. The Moycarkey Coolcree girls' team were first in the u/14 race. Nenagh Olympic were first in the boys u/16 relay race. Well done to all the teams who put in a great effort.

The Irish Life Health National Cross Country Championships took place on Sunday 24th November in the National Sports Campus in Dublin. Tipperary was very well represented in the juvenile even age races. Conditions were described as very testing as athletes made

their way through mucky areas. The first Tipperary medal of the day went to Kevin Finn of Nenagh Olympic, he ran a super race to take 3rd position. Shane Buckley of Dundrum AC ran very well to finish 4th in the u/14 race. Tipperary athletes took the gold county medal here. Nenagh Olympic boys u/16 team were successful in combining to win the bronze club medal in their race. Congratulations to all the athletes for representing their club and county with pride. Well done to all their parents and coaches also.

**By Tricia Ryan, Mooreabbey Milers A.C.**

**County Juvenile Cross Country PRO**