Fine Tailteann Tally for Munster Athletes

There was a good turnout from Munster athletes for the Munster Schools Team at the AVIVA Tailteann Schools' Interprovincial Track & Field Championships in Tullamore Harriers Stadium on Saturday 29th June. Throughout the day, Munster athletes were strong in both track & field events taking home 29 individual medals in total (11 gold, 10 silver & 8 bronze) & 4 sets of Relay medals (1 silver & 3 bronze). The Munster Girls finished 3rd overall winning 14 medals (4 gold, 6 silver & 4 bronze) while the Munster Boys finished 2nd overall with 15 medals (7 gold, 4 silver & 4 bronze). Star athlete for Munster was Sam Healy (Carrigaline CS/Leevale A.C.) who won double gold with a great run in the 100m Hurdles (13.05) & a big personal best in the Long Jump of 7.06m, just 10cm short of Jonathon Kron's 1989 record of 7.16m. Daniel Ryan (Thurles **CBS/Moycarkey Coolcroo A.C.**) also medalled in the Long Jump winning bronze with a jump of 6.29m, a good performance considering his tender 14 years. Niamh McNicol (Stella Maris/Ferrybank A.C.) put in two solid performances winning silver in the 200m (25.16) & bronze in the 100m (12.43) just ahead of **Phoebe** Murphy (Loreto Clonmel/Clonmel A.C.) in 12.44. Ronan Barry (St. Flannan's Ennis) won bronze in the Boys 400m (52.11) with Michael Quilligan (Nenagh CBS/Nenagh Olympic A.C.) winning silver in the Boys 400m Hurdles in a time of 57.54. Kelly Ann Doyle (Scoil Mhuire Carrick/Carrick-On-Suir A.C.) reversed the positions from the Schools All-Ireland on 1st June when she was the convincing winner of the 300m Hurdles in 44.35 with Kelly McGrory in 2nd place & Leanne Prout (Presentation Ballingarry/Carrick-On-Suir A.C.) in 3rd place (46.18). Leanne's brother, **Darren (Presentation Ballingarry/Carrick-On-Suir A.C.)** won gold in the Boys Triple Jump (13.50m) with Maria Carey (St. Mary's Newport) 2nd in the Girls Triple Jump with a jump of 10.90m, just centimetres off the gold medal. In the High Jump competitions there were medals for Nessa Murphy (Stella Maris/ Ferrybank A.C.) silver in High Jump at 1.60m & Dylan O'Sullivan (St. **Brendans/Spa Muckross A.C.**) taking bronze in the highly contested Boys High Jump with a jump of 1.85m. St. Augustine's showed its strength in the Pole Vault competitions taking home four medals in total - 1st & 3rd in the Girls competition with Megan O'Connor (West Waterford A.C.) clearing 2.70m & Catherine Hahesy clearing 2.30m. Seamie Fennell & Juris Kanass (West Waterford A.C) also won gold & silver in the Boys Pole Vault at heights of 3.60m & 3.50m.

Success in the Field Events continued with **Kaleigh Cronin** (St. Brigids/Spa Muckross A.C.) winning gold in the Girls Discus with a throw of 40.06m, **Alice Akers** (Scariff CC/Marian A.C.) winning gold in the Hammer (47.30m) & **Aoife Vaughan Witts** (Borrisokane CS/Borrisokane A.C.) taking silver with a throw of 44.26m. **Adam King** (Colaiste na Sceilige/Iveragh A.C.) won gold in the Boys Hammer with a massive throw of 66.98m, less than 1m short of Declan Hegarty's 1977 throw of 67.94. There was also 2nd & 3rd for Munster in the Girls Javelin with **Orlaith O' Brien** (Ursuline Waterford/Ferrybank A.C.) throwing 33.19m & Lauren **O'Mahony** (St. Mary's Midleton/Youghal A.C.) taking bronze with a throw of 30.63m.

In the Boys 3000m Walk, Munster dominated with **Aaron Egan & Anthony Tobin** (**High School, Clonmel/Clonmel A.C.**) winning gold & silver in times of 13.33.41 & 14.32.44 respectively & **David Kenny** (**St. Brendan's/Farranfore Maine Valley A.C.**) giving a good account of himself in 4th place in a time of 15.30.17. **Louise Shanahan** (**Scoil Mhuire Cork/Leevale A.C.**) almost clinched the gold from Alanna Lally in the Girls 800m in a time of 2.13.58 with **Lucas O'hArgain** (**Colaiste Chriost Ri/Leevale A.C.**) winning silver in the 1500m (4.11.09) In the Boys 3000m **Darren Dunne** (**Nenagh CBS/Nenagh Olympic A.C.**) won gold in a time of 9.01.30 with **Fearghal Curtin** (**Midleton CBS/Youghal A.C.**) taking bronze in a time of 9.31.18.

In the Girls Relay competition, Munster came 3^{rd} in the 4 x 100m Relay (Phoebe Murphy, Niamh McNicol, Maria Carey & Leanne Prout) & 2^{nd} in the 4 x 300m (Kelly Ann Doyle, Leanne Prout, Niamh McNicol & Louise Shanahan). Munster also took bronze medals in both the Boys 4 x 100m (Daniel Ryan, Darren Prout, Mark Varley & Sam Healy) & 4 x 400m relays. Congratulations to all.

Full results at www.munsterathletics.com.