

Bronze for McElhinney at Celtic XC



The Celtic Cross Country International took place in Edinburgh, Scotland, on Saturday 9th January 2016. Munster's 3 representatives in the U/17 age categories on the day were:-

U/17 Irish Team

- Darragh McElhinney, Bantry A.C.
- Donal Devane, Ennis Track A.C.

U/17 Development

- Damien Madigan, North Cork A.C.

Darragh McElhinney, Bantry A.C. was 1st home for the Irish team in 21.14 finishing 34th overall in the U/17 & U/20 race & was 3rd in the U/17 race with **Damien Madigan, North Cork A.C.** in 49th place overall & 2nd home for Ireland in a time of 21.53. **Donal Devane, Ennis Track A.C.** was 55th overall & 4th home for Ireland crossing the line in 21.58.

The Irish U/17 & U/20 Men's team finished in 1st place with the Women's team in 2nd. Congratulations to our Munster athletes who represented their Country so well on the day.



Report Taken from AAI Website dated 12th January 2016

Juvenile Success At Celtic Nations Cross Country

2016 Celtic Games Cross Country Report

Edinburgh January 9th 2016

The National Juvenile Committee sent 4 teams to Edinburgh on the 9th Jan to compete in the Celtic Cross Country Competition which was televised by the BBC on the day.

The competition was held with the Great Edinburgh Cross Country which included teams from Europe, USA, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

Athletes such as Mo Farah, Garrett Heath (USA) and Fionnuala McCormack took part in the competition over the same course as our under 17 athletes. The athletes were a credit not only to AAI, but also to their clubs, coaches, parents and more importantly to themselves.

All athletes had an enjoyable experience and were able to meet and mix with the world's elite athletes and have a few photos taken. The National Juvenile Committee wish to congratulate all the athletes who travelled and thank the managers (Evelyn O'Reilly and Pat Fitzgibbon) and parents who also travelled with the teams.

Edinburgh in action

All four 4 teams stayed in the Premier Inn Edinburgh the night before the race and arrived at the course in plenty of time for their normal warm up. While the ground was soft and difficult in places during the walk around all the athletes enjoyed the excitement and TV cameras and the build up to their event. Sufficient time was allowed after their competition to view the senior men's and women's races including photograph taking and autographs hunting from the elite athletes. All athletes appeared to have greatly enjoyed this portion of the day and the interaction with athletes from other countries. Several if not all athletes managed to obtain entry into the compound reserved for elite athletes and shared their company for a short period of time.

RESULT

The Boys under 17 – 6K Race – in association with the Junior and under 20 men

Total athletes competing : 90

Darragh McElhinney , Bantry , Irish Team , with a time of 21.14 was placed overall in 34th place but was 3rd in the Celtic games competition and received an individual medal on the podium. Damien Madigan, North Cork, on the development team had a great run and came in as the 2nd Irish athlete placed 49 with a time of 21.53. There was literally no time difference in the finishing times of the 2nd to 4th placings.

Overall placing	Irish place	Name	Team	Time
34	1st	Darragh McElhinney	Irish	21.14
49	2nd	Damien Madigan	Development	21.53
53	3rd	James Battle	Irish	21.56
55	4th	Donal Devane	Irish	21.58
65	5th	Cian Kelly	Development	22.11
69	6th	Adam Fitzpatrick	Development	22.28
70	7th	Louis O'Loughlin	Irish	22.30
83	8th	Jack Moran	Development	23.13

As a result of the above, the Irish Under 17 team won the event and took gold.

The Girls under 17 – 4K Race – in association with the Junior and under 20 women This was a fantastic result for the Irish girls and due to the diligence of the manager secured 2nd placing and silver team medals. One of our athletes was not recorded as four athletes finished together with a time of 16.17.

Abigail Taylor, DSD, with a time of 15.22 was placed 3rd just ahead of Amy Rose Farrell with a time of 15.23 finishing 4th- Abigail received an individual medal on the podium.

Overall Placing	Irish Place	Name	Team	Time
20	1st	Abigail Taylor	Irish	15.22
21	2nd	Amy Rose Farrell	Irish	15.23
45	3rd	Rosanne McCullagh	Irish	16.17
47	4th	Clare Rafter	Irish	16.17
54	5th	Aoife Darby	Development	16.36

59	6th	Grace Devane	Development	16.50
60	7th	Amy O'Brien	Development	16.52
64	8th	Annie McEvoy	Development	16.58

A total of 85 athletes finished this race.