## **European Youth T&F Championships 2016**



The inaugural European Youth Track & Field Championships took place in Tbilisi, Georgia from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016. <u>8</u> athletes represented Munster on the Irish team & although no medals were won by our Munster group on this occasion, lots of valuable experience was gained on the international stage with some of our athletes posting personal bests in their events. With competition at its highest level, Ciara Neville, Emerald A.C. ran very well placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in her 100m Heat (12.03) to reach the Semi-Final where she finished 6<sup>th</sup> in a time of 12.02 which unfortunately was not fast enough to qualify for the final. Her team-mate Jamie Mitchell ran 49.41 in the 400m to place 4<sup>th</sup> in his heat & was unfortunate to be just outside the qualifying times for the Final. Cathal Locke, Dooneen A.C. was running very well in the 400mH & on target to easily qualify for the Final but he clipped the 3<sup>rd</sup> last hurdle to fall heavily & put himself out of the race. Charlie O'Donovan, Leevale A.C. gave a good account of himself in the 1500m placing 4<sup>th</sup> in his heat in a time of 4.00.17 to gain an automatic qualifying spot in the Final. He finished 8<sup>th</sup> overall in a time of 4.03.90 in the final. In the 5000m Walk, Orla O'Connor, Waterford A.C. put in a good performance to place 10<sup>th</sup> overall in 24.57.33 with a 20<sup>th</sup> place finish for **Gearoid McMahon, Shannon A.C.** in the 10,000m Walk in the searing heat of 40 degrees. Michael Power, West Waterford A.C. lined up for the straight final in the 3km & did himself justice by finishing 14<sup>th</sup> in 8.49.00. Daniel Ryan, Moycarkey Coolcroo A.C. competed in the Decathlon in the searing heat of 40 degrees over the final two days. He finished in 11<sup>th</sup> place posting a new pb of 6,752 points with individual pbs in the 100m, 400m, 1500m & Discus. Congratulations to our 8 athletes who competed so well on the international stage. A big thank you also to the Munster

Council who provided funding to Athletics Ireland to enable our athletes to travel to Tbilisi for the Championships.





Michael Power, West Waterford A.C. & Daniel Ryan in action in the 1500m Decathlon







Charlie O'Donovan, Ciara Neville & Gearoid McMahon