

St Abban's AC

9th November 2016

Stephen & John Battle it Out

Emo Court was the beautiful setting for the Downey's Auto Laois masters and juvenile development cross country on Sunday last. While our juvenile numbers were scarce we made up for it in the masters. In the juveniles Laoi Cullen was 12th U.10, Ella Conway 16th and Holly Byrne 19th U.12 while the boys we had Jack Milton 4th, Reece O'Hallornan 6th, Daragh Farrell 10th, Riann Cullen 17th and Cian Houlihan 18th. Zoe Hancock was 8th and Emma Dermody 10th in the girls U.14 with Jamie Conway 9th in the boys. Sarah Graham having a fine run for 3rd in the girls U.16 her sister Laura took the bronze also, in the junior ladies while Cian Kelly was a convincing winner of the junior men's event. The master ladies saw Colette English set the pace from the off and succeeded in dropping all her rivals until the last 100 meters where she had to give way to St. Michaels Monica Corcoran. Never the less she had the satisfaction of leading her team to victory with Margo Dowling 5th and Caitriona McDonald 6th with excellent support from Josceline Ayres 7th, Sharon Buggy 11th and Deirdre Brennan 16th. Mairead Moore was 2nd in the O.45 with Ann Nicholl 3rd and Colette Brennan R/M 4th and these combined for 1st team.

The men's race saw several interesting battles among club members none more interesting than the battle for 1st place in the O.35. Stephen Hunter set a hectic pace from the off and opened up a sizeable gap on the rest of the field. Just before the halfway point John Fenlon set off in pursuit and closed the gap little by little. Going out on the last lap it was shoulder to shoulder with John coming out on top. No doubt we will see some more great battles from these two. With Dermot Ayres 7th and Colin Coyne 9th the team title was secured, providing support we had Conor Barry 20th, Niall English 24th and Francis Fleming (Junior) 25th. Colm Burke led the O.45 team to 2nd place when he finished 4th overall and 2nd individual. With Liam Byrne 19th Francis Fleming (Senior) 26th and Matt Moore 32nd completing the team. Support came from Paddy Harding 35th and Dinny Whelan 36th to complete a fine morning's action.

Stradbally the Venue

Downeys Nissan Laois senior cross country and the juvenile relays will take place on Sunday 20th November on the Electric Picnic site on the Lawn in Stradbally. On what is a fine cross country course another keen tussle is anticipated and all are welcome to come along and support Laois athletics.

Members Draw

The 2nd draw will take place in Behans on Sunday 20th November. Still some tickets available, your support appreciated.