

St Abban's AC

9th Dec'15

Stephen Storms to Victory

Despite the damage caused by Hurricane Desmond, Dungarvan in Waterford was the ideal place to be last Sunday where the GloHealth All-Ireland Uneven ages and Novice cross country championships were decided. Blessed with no wind and a beautiful mild day and athletes from all over the country the atmosphere was electric from the start of the first event at 11.30am until the conclusion with the Novice men event at 14.45pm. Our boys U.11 were under pressure in the difficult mucky course and experiencing what it is like at National level for the first time. They all found the going tough but enjoyed the experience and are already setting their sights on next year. They finished 13th club on 321 points with Jack Fenlon 94th, Eoin Cawley 91st, Lee Murray 75th and Adam Buggy 61st. Cian Kelly also found the sticky conditions not to his liking when finishing 28th in the boys U.17

Our Novice men were among the favourites and one man bent on proving this was the current Laois county senior champion Stephen Lawler who had himself in the leading group from the off. As the group got smaller he was travelling beautiful on top of the ground, at the head of affairs. Halfway through the 8k event we were down to 4 at the front and soon after it was 3. Over the next lap the pace was furious with Stephen getting slightly dropped only to recover and make it 2 at the front. On the last lap Stephen and his Naas opponent swapped places a few times, until it came down to the last 300m and Stephen made a surge for the line and came home full of running to claim his first National title and the clubs first individual National Novice title. Brian and Cormac Kelly unlike Stephen found the going extremely tough and giving it everything came home in 30th and 39th respectively. James Moore like Stephen was in his element in the tough conditions and had a brilliant run for 50th and when the points were added we were 2nd club and Laois were 1st county. Support came from Garry Cantwell 90th, Aran Murphy 181st and James Nolan 198th. Sure it was a beautiful day in St. Augustine's College in Dungarvan!

11.30am Start

Our usual club runs over the Turra circuit for the Jack Mealy and Paddy 'Doc' Delaney cups will get under way @ 11.30 on St. Stephens day. The ladies and boys U.14 will run over 1 lap of the circuit followed by the men's event. All are welcome to give it a go.

2016

Club membership forms are available for the year ahead in the clubhouse. Your welcome to sign up now. In the Carlow regional youth services 5K road race saw the Maher sisters finish 2nd and 3rd respectively in the junior section with Caragh ahead of Maebh.