

St Abban's Athletic Club News

17th September 2014

Men Retain Title

The Annual Luggacurren road race as usual was blessed with a beautiful day and the usual hills which tends to attract it's annual pilgrims to this picturesque village in Laois. The walkers got underway @ 12.30 where we had a fine field with the main race starting at 1.00 From the off Toss Hayes and Stephen Lawler were forcing the pace, while Stephen Hunter and Colm Burke were renewing another battle this time for 3rd place. Toss and Stephen came home knackered as the early pace and the warm conditions sapped all the energy and made the final kilometer very tough. Toss took his first title in 32.25 on this tough course with Stephen the defending champion registering 32.53. Stephen Hunter secured 3rd in 33.43 and Colm 4th in 33.48 Dermot Ayres was having a steady run and finished 9th in 36.42 and when Niall English crossed the line in 12th place (2nd O.40) in 38.57 the 'P.J.Dunne Cup' was on its way back to the Trophy cabinet in Monavea.

Bernard Graham was 16th in 40.38, Francis Fleming (Snr) 20th in 41.09 and 2nd O.55 followed home by Colette English 21st and 2nd O.40 in the ladies in a fine time of 41.15 and Matthew Waarren making a welcome return 22nd in 42.42 Margo Dowling was 29th in 44.40 and with Cairiona McDonald 32nd in 45.23 and 2nd O.35 it was 2nd team for the ladies. Paula Guinan was 37th in 47.43 getting back nicely into the competitive side of things. Sean Kelly was 38th in 47.48, with Dinny Whelan 42nd in 49.37, Ann Nicholl/Waugh 47th in 52.21, Lisa O'Shea 49th in 52.36, Emer Morrissey 55th in 57.09, Maura Fleming 56th in 57.21 and Carmel Hughes 59th in 60.09. Many thanks to James Kilbride and his team for another enjoyable promotion, and a date to pencil into your 2015 diary.

Peter the victor in Pal

Peter Baldwin had the satisfaction of registering a fine victory in the Palatine GAA run on Sunday as well as taking the King of the Mountain crown.

Danny on Song

The numbers in the Tinryland autumn league are down somewhat on previous years due no doubt to the many local runs taking place. Danny Lawlor is the clear leader after 2 rounds with two impressive victories to date. Matt Moore and Laura Graham chalked up good runs also.

Club Cross Country

Sunday next the 28th September the clubs cross country championships will be held on the land of Mr. Diarmuid Graham (by kind permission) at the back of Behan's pub commencing at 11.00 with the U.10, followed by U.12, 14, 17, junior, novice, senior and masters.

Good Turnout

The club had a 50% turnout from the local schools for a most enjoyable primary schools cross country with St. Fiacc's (Graiguecullen), Killeshin, Mayo, Newtown, Arles, Moneenroe and Barrowhouse (making a welcome return). It is a little disappointing to see that half of the local schools can not give up 2 hours to a sport that embraces all other sports and is the foundation of many. Congratulations to all those that turned out and special thanks to the teachers and parents for their encouragement. It was nice to see all schools visiting the podium with some fantastic individual performances. A total of 156 children took part representing 7 schools. 4th class saw Aaron Dargan (St. Fiacc's) come out on top from Shane Buggy (Moneenroe) and Cody Corrigan (Arles) with Seoghe English Killeshin) 1st girl. The 5th class victor was Darragh Kealy (Arles), from Sean O'Driscoll (Killeshin), with B. J. Akpoyen (St. Fiacc's) 3rd and Amy Brennan (Moneenroe) 1st girl. The

6th class saw a fine race with Killeshin supplying the top 3 – David McDonald taking the title from T. J. Burke with Shane Buggy 3rd, it was the turn of Susan Oyeniyi (St. Fiacc's) to be the top girl.

Registrations

With the cross country season getting underway it would be much appreciated if those that are not registered would do so immediately. Application forms are available in the clubhouse. Those that are registered please collect your registration card from Breda.

Members draw tickets are also available from Breda and we would like to see a few more promoters coming on board. Interested in playing your part now is the time.