

ATHLETICS.

STATE JUNIOR TITLE.

St. George Wins Teams Race

G. W. PONT INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION.

In a great race for team honours, St. George club beat Botany Harriers by one point in the second State junior five miles cross-country championship controlled by the Amateur Athletic Association of New South Wales, at Kensington race-course on Saturday. When the officials had completed their count they announced that Botany and St. George were equal with 26 points, but under the rules St. George was declared the winning team as its first man had finished before a Botany runner. They also declared that Myer Park (Newcastle) and Randwick-Kensington had not finished full teams. A subsequent check showed that the last two mentioned clubs had the requisite numbers. This gave St. George 35 points, Botany was one point behind, and Western Suburbs third. Myer Park displaced Eastern Suburbs for fourth position, and the latter club shared fifth place with Randwick-Kensington.

G. W. Pont, of Waratah-Mayfield club, Newcastle, was expected to secure the individual championship, and he justified this confidence by beating all metropolitan competitors. He was always amongst the leaders, and raced away from C. Chappel, of Randwick-Kensington club to win by 15 yards in 29m 19s. The time was 50 seconds slower than the record established by C. M. Hall, of Eastern Suburbs, who won the initial race last year, but a breeze at times hampered the runners, and Pont made no attempt to leave the field until the closing stages.

From 1911 this race had been designated as the novice cross-country championship. It was inaugurated by East Sydney club, and this year

novice cross-country championship. It was inaugurated by East Sydney club, and this organisation had promoted it annually until last year the association decided to assume control. Conditions and the title were altered to permit many runners to compete who were ineligible. The entry of 99 was below that of last year, and scratchings reduced the number of starters to 81. Botany, Eastern Suburbs, Myer Park, Randwick-Kensington, South Sydney, St. George, Waratah-Mayfield, and Western Suburbs clubs were represented by full teams, and there were individual nominations from Baptist, Goulburn, Manly, Newcastle, and Rydalmere.

From the start on the course proper at the judge's box, the runners travelled along the straight for a furlong and a half, then retraced their steps. C. W. Perry, M. Rodger, and R. Punter headed a bunch as they passed the stands on the outside tan track. They turned on to the grass and, after completing a circuit of the course, H. R. Stevens had gained a 30 yards lead from G. W. Pont and S. Millington. A mile and a quarter had been completed, and the runners commenced the climb of the hill on the eastern side of the course. They turned at the southern end and over the hill, and at 2 1/2 miles F. Packwood held a slight advantage from Pont, Millington, J. Townsend, and R. Sleigh as they completed another round of the track. Millington was in front of L. Barlow, Pont, and Packwood the next time round, and again turned to the hill. With four miles one furlong covered, and a lap of the course before them to complete five miles, Pont was in front of Millington, Barlow, Townsend, Sleigh, and Chappel. Turning into the straight the leading men were together, and the first nine were well away from the remainder of the field. Pont moved to the front after passing the Leger reserve, and beat Chappel by 15 yards. The winner was credited with having beaten the second man by four seconds, but it was apparent that the margin was not so great. J. Townsend was a close third, beating L. Barlow by a few yards.

Pont competed last year, but has made considerable improvement since. He has won the Northern District championship for the last two years, and upon the second occasion reduced his previous time for five miles by 1m 12s.

Results:—

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

G. W. Pont (Waratah-Mayfield), 29m 19s, 1; C. Chappel (Randwick-Kensington), 29m 23s, 2; J. Townsend (St. George), 29m 24s, 3; L. Barlow (Botany), 29m 27s, 4; R. Sleigh (St. George), 29m 30s, 5; D. Farnhill (Manly), 29m 45s, 6; S. Millington (Moyer Park), 29m 48s, 7; V. I. Smith (Western Suburbs), 29m 54s, 8; A. Hayes (Botany), 29m 58s, 9; J. Jarvie (Moyer Park), 30m 02s, 10.

(Western Suburbs), 29m 54s. 8; A. Hayes (Botany), 29m 58s. 9; J. Jarvie (Moyer Park), 30m 21s. 10; D. A. Shipway (Western Suburbs), 30m 25s. 11; R. Punter (Botany), 30m 35s. 12; H. Moses (Eastern Suburbs), 30m 40s. 13; C. Stark (St. George), 30m 41s. 14; H. R. Stevens (Randwick-Kensington), 30m 42s. 15; L. R. Walker (Western Suburbs), 30m 54s. 16; C. W. Perry (Western Suburbs), 30m 56s. 17; W. Barlow (Botany), 31m. 18; J. F. Beckhaus (Western Suburbs), 31m 3s. 19; C. Lovett (Baptist), 31m 13s. 20.

TEAMS' RACE.

St. George: J. Townsend 2, R. Sleigh 4, C. Stark 12, A. Flood 17, 35 points **1**
 Botany: L. Barlow 3, A. Hayes 7, R. Punter 10, W. Barlow 16, 36 points **2**
 Western Suburbs: V. I. Smith 6, D. A. Shipway 9, L. R. Walker 14, C. W. Perry 15, 44 points **3**
 Myer Park 64, Randwick-Kensington 66, Eastern Suburbs 66.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS.

In conjunction with the junior championship, Eastern Suburbs and Western Suburbs decided their junior titles. Results:—

EASTERN SUBURBS: H. Moses, 30m 38s. 1; A. Whillier, 31m 37s. 2; A. McIntyre, 31m 55s. 3.
 Sealed handicap: S. Packwood (all, 2m 50s), 29m 12s. 1; A. Whillier (2m 15s), 29m 22s. 2; H. Moses (1m 10s), 29m 28s. 3.

WESTERN SUBURBS.—V. I. Smith, 29m 54s. 1; D. A. Shipway, 30m 25s. 2; C. W. Perry, 30m 56s. 3.
 Sealed handicap: V. I. Smith (scr.), 29m 54s. 1; E. G. Perry (2m 20s), 30m 1s. 2; J. Preston (1m 30s), 30m 3s. 3.

N.S.W. WALKING.—10 miles senior road championship, at Newtown: W. J. Clark, 1h 23m 18s. 1; S. Sheedy, 1h 25m 7s. 2; F. J. Collings, 1h 31m 32s. 3; C. Smith, 1h 31m 54s. 4. Junior: S. Sheedy, 1h 25m 7s. 1; C. Wilson, 1h 33m 23s. 2; A. Scanlon, 1h 33m 38s. 3. Sealed handicap: C. Wilson (all, 16m), 1h 17m 23s. 1; W. J. Clark (5m 30s), 1h 17m 48s. 2; A. Scanlon (15m), 1h 18m 28s. 3.

ST. GEORGE.—Five miles invitation scratch race, at Kensington: C. M. Hall (Eastern Suburbs) and P. Ferguson (South Sydney), dead heat. 1; A. Gainsford (St. George), 3; J. Patterson (Botany), 4. Time, 29m 59s.

BRAYBROOK CUP.

Nominations close at 1.30 p.m. to-day with the Amateur Athletic Association for the Braybrook Cup, three miles open road handicap, to be controlled by South Sydney Club, on Saturday next.