

## EVENT REPORT

### UK Intercounties Cross Country – Wollaton Park, Nottingham

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024



The Intercounties is one of the highlights of the cross country season and this year was held at a different venue to 2023 as Prestwold Hall was unavailable. Wollaton Park in Nottingham has hosted many cross country events over the years and our Dorset athletes were excited to be racing at this classic venue.

Things did not go completely smoothly in the run up to the race with Nottingham City Council and the organisers making the decision with just five days to go that the car parking area on site was too waterlogged to be used, instead asking attendees to use city centre car parks and buses. With no more rain that week the car park actually proved usable on the day and cars were allowed on site. Despite these shenanigans everyone managed to get to the venue on time and the weather gods favoured us with a clear, dry day.

Underfoot conditions around the course were firm with just a few muddy corners, a big contrast to the deep mud of the previous year. The biggest challenge to the runners were the hills, with the course looping up to Wollaton House and back down. The course was very well marked and marshalled. Facilities such as portaloos, kit vendors and PA announcements were all excellent as you would expect from a major event that was also the final race of the British Athletics Cross Challenge.

Dorset fielded scoring teams in all classes except for the Under 20 women.

The stand-out individual results were Will Rabjohns who finished a fine 7<sup>th</sup> out of 155 finishers in the Under 20 Men, Isabel Cherrett 19<sup>th</sup> out of 294 in the Under 15 Girls, Riley Austin 32<sup>nd</sup> out of 297 in the Under 13 Boys and Charlie Collins 33<sup>rd</sup> out of 290 in the Under 17 Men.

The highest ranked Dorset teams on the day were the Under 15 Girls who were 19<sup>th</sup> out of 42 scoring teams and the Under 13 Girls who finished 20<sup>th</sup> out of 40. Please follow this link to view all results.

<https://results.sporhive.com/events/7171445711774430464>

Congratulations to all of our Dorset athletes who did their county proud. It was a long way to go to run in a race. Their rewards were taking pride in wearing their county vest, running at a classic cross country venue and racing against the toughest competition most will experience at any event.

Major thanks go to the team managers who spent many weeks pulling together the teams: Jo Brown, Simon Hearn, Simon Saunders, Mark Pauley, Phil York and Andy Howse. Additional thanks go to Simon and Simon for setting up the Dorset tent and to Phil and Mark for driving the minibus.

If you get the chance to run at the Intercounties, or indeed for Dorset in any event, be sure to take it. It will be a day to remember.

Andy Howse  
March 2024



*The start at Wollaton Park*



*Dorset Under 13 Girls Team*



*Dorset Under 13 Boys Team*



*Dorset Under 15 Girls Team*



*Dorset Under 15 Boys Team*



*Dorset Under 17 Mens Team*



*Dorset Under 20 Mens Team*