



History of the St George District Athletic Club

Compiled by Michael Gentle

1925

Team Championship Successes

The club's 5th year, 1925, saw further improvement and great progress in the distance running ranks. Our teams won the teams events for the State Novice Cross Country Championship and Manly Modified marathon. We finished second in the State 5 Mile Championship and would have won the teams event for the NSW 10 Mile Championship had it not been abandoned on the day due to torrential rain.

The distance road season saw an average of 17 competitors at each event. The point score competition was won by C. Lemon (55 pts), with T. Hasler (52 pts) second and S. Gainsford (48 pts) third. The club conducted a 5 Miles Novice Championship for the first time, won by Robert Chadwick in a time of 30m 6s on the hilly Hurstville course.



1925/6 St George Club photo at Hurstville Oval

The club's 1925 open competition successes included:

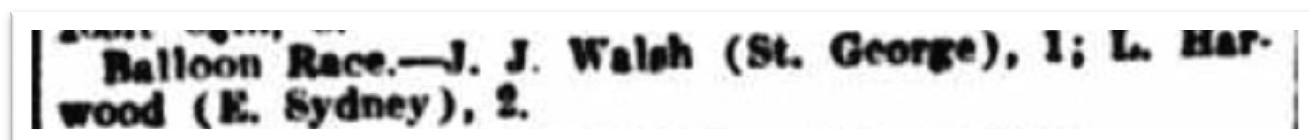
- Charlie Weekes, 1st State 5 Mile Championship;
- Alley Gainsford, 1st State 10 Mile Championship;
- Stan Gainsford, 1st East Sydney 2¾ Miles, 20th June 1925 (15m 20s; Hcp 1m 55s);
- Charlie Weekes, 1st Western Suburbs 3¾ Miles, 21st June 1925 (19m 50s; Hcp 1m 10s);
- Maurice Moroney, 1st St George 3 Miles, 4th July 1925.

Following the excellent performances during the season, Charlie Weekes and Alleyn Gainsford were selected to represent New South Wales in the Australasian Cross Country Championships at Wellington, New Zealand on 29th August 1925 over a 10km course. Our President Harold Taylor was the Hon. Manager of the NSW team. The day saw the course under quagmire conditions, and neither Charlie (10th, 39m 16s) or Alleyn (15th, 40m 28s) were able to repeat their Australian performances.

During the 1925-26 season, St George athletes produced several fine performances. Oscar Matson won the Dunn Shield Javelin Throw with 159ft 2 in, and placed 2nd in the State Decathlon with 5163 points. Doug Cox won the State Discus Junior with 83ft 3½in; Aub Harper finished 3rd in the State 1 Mile Walk Junior; and Harold Llewellyn gained 2nd place in the Junior Hop Step & Jump. Miss Gladys Phillips placed second to Miss Edith Robinson in both the 75 and 100 yards State Championships.

Oscar Matson bettered the State Record for Javelin Throw at Earl Park on 28th March 1925, however his throw of 182ft 7in was not recognized as the javelin was 2oz light.

Among all the successes recorded by the club throughout the year, there was still time to have some fun.



Above: Result from 8 Hour Sports Day, October 1925

On the social front, the club held it's first Annual Ball at the Masonic Club at Kogarah, with catering provided by Mrs Colvin. Perhaps a sign of the times, the club also conducted a "Smoko" at the School of Arts, Kogarah to welcome back the three members of the cross country team who had represented New South Wales in Wellington, New Zealand.

Club Champions

100 yds	Edward Groves	10.6s
220 yds	Edward Groves	23.9s
440 yds	Edward Groves	54.4s
880 yds	Harry Walker	2m 10.0s
1 Mile	Harry Walker	4m 43.7s
3 Miles	Len Robinson	16m 15s
1 Mile Walk	Jack Harris	7m 49s
3 Miles Walk	Jack Harris	25m 0s
Javelin Throw	Oscar Matson	138ft 9in
Shot Put	Oscar Matson	30ft 6in
Hammer Throw	Oscar Matson	69ft 3in
Discus Throw	Fred Matson	84ft 4in
Pole Vault	Oscar Matson	8ft 10in
High Jump	William Potter	5ft 6¼in
Broad Jump	Don McKay	21ft 2½in
Hop, Step & Jump	Oscar Matson	

Awards & Trophies

The Stewart Trophy Winner, 5 Miles Senior Championship A.A. Gainsford

Further Reading

The club website has many documents pertaining to the history of the club available for download in pdf format: <http://www.sgdac.org/documents.php>

The club website has detailed results of club events, open handicap events, track & field events, and State, National and International Championship events featuring club athletes from 1921 onwards: <http://www.sgdac.org/results.php>

Please contact the author via webmaster@sgdac.org with feedback, suggestions, additional information, results or resources to help expand and improve these history documents.