

ATHLETICS.

Novice Cross Country

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

SOUTH SYDNEY'S DUAL WIN.

The South Sydney Athletic Club gained individual and teams honours in the 24th State five miles novice cross-country championship, promoted by the Amateur Athletic Association at Kensington Racecourse on Saturday. After a great duel, W. Henderson beat his club mate, F. S. Warren, by four seconds. South Sydney won the teams race by 20 points.

Henderson is 19 years of age, and it is his first long-distance season. He commenced well this winter by winning the St. George club's open four miles handicap last month. In that race Warren had second fastest time. Warren is the senior and junior five miles champion of South Sydney.

South Sydney's team showed splendidly, notwithstanding the absence of P. Rochfort, who was expected to be the club's third man. The fourth man was in 10th position when one other club had two men in. The club has been slowly building up a strong body of distance runners, concentrating mainly upon road racing.

The race drew a nomination of 63, and withdrawals brought the number of starters to 52, the smallest field of recent years. This was partly due to the decision of the controlling body to restrict the number in club teams to eight men. Botany, Eastern Suburbs, Randwick-Kensington, South Sydney, St. George and Western Suburbs competed for

Randwick-Kensington, South Sydney, St. George, and Western Suburbs competed for teams honours, and there were eight aspirants for the individual race who could not be included in club combinations.

RACE DESCRIBED.

From the start on the course proper at the judge's box the runners travelled along the straight for a furlong and a half. W. Renshaw was the early leader from G. R. Goss, W. Henderson, and F. Packwood. This was the order after three furlongs on the grass track, then a lap of the course was covered, after which Packwood had assumed command from M. Siddons, C. Cumming, D. A. Shipway, and F. S. Warren. The leaders were well bunched as they reached the hill, and travelled along the eastern side of the course.

When the runners passed the stands again Warren was slightly in advance of Cumming and D. Gallon, followed after a gap of 20 yards by W. Hamilton, O. Bond, and Henderson. At the completion of the next circuit Warren still held the lead, and Henderson had moved almost alongside of him, six yards ahead of Gallon, Bond, and Cumming. Again the hill was ascended, and when the runners reached the judge's box with a lap of the course to complete the full distance Warren held a two yards advantage from Henderson. They had left the field behind, and it was apparent that they would dispute the leading positions. Gallon was 50 yards behind, 20 yards in front of Bond, who led Cumming by 40 yards. The South Sydney club also had its requisite four men in advance of other teams.

The South Sydney runners increased their lead, and Warren moved ahead each time Henderson endeavoured to pass him, but in the straight the strength of Henderson prevailed. Warren weakened, and Henderson beat him by four seconds in 27m 56s. Gallon was 31 seconds behind the second man and eight seconds in advance of Bond. The time was 24 seconds slower than that registered by J. Reid, of Botany, last year.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

W. Henderson (South Sydney), 27m 56s, 1; F. S. Warren (Sth. Syd.), 28m, 2; D. G. Gallon (Randwick-Kensington), 28m 31s, 3; O. Bond (St. George), 28m 39s, 4; C. Cumming (Myer Park), 28m 56s, 5; A. Whillier (East. Subs.), 29m 7s, 6; E. G. Perry (West. Subs.), 29m 10s, 7; W. Prowse (Bot.), 29m 11s, 8; J. Smith (Bot.), 29m 16s, 9; D. White (Sth. Syd.), 29m 22s, 10; G. Goss (Manly), 29m 43s, 11; F. Carroll (Sth. Syd.), 29m 44s, 12; R. Young (St. Geo.), 29m 48s, 13; J. Beaumont (St. Geo.), 29m 59s, 14; G. Francis (Sth. Syd.), 30m 1s, 15; W. Hamilton (Bot.), 30m 15s, 16; Chas.

Geo.), 29m 59s, 14; G. Francis (Sth. Syd.), 30m 1s, 15; W. Hamilton (Bot.), 30m 15s, 16; Chas. Patterson (Bot.), 30m 23s, 17; H. Browne (Rand.-Kens.), 30m 25s, 18; R. B. Mills (Rand.-Kens.), 30m 26s, 19; W. Renshaw (Sth. Syd.), 30m 28s, 20.

TEAMS' RACE.

South Sydney (W. Henderson 1, F. S. Warren 2, D. White 9, F. Carroll 10), 22 points, 1.

Botany (W. Prowse 7, J. Smith 8, W. Hamilton 13, Chas. Patterson 14), 42 points, 2.

St. George (O. Bond 4, R. Young 11, J. Beaumont 12, R. Duffen 20), 47 points, 3.

Randwick-Kensington, 3, 15, 16, 19, 53 points, 4; Eastern Suburbs, 5, 17, 21, 23, 66 points, 5;

Western Suburbs, 6, 18, 22, 24, 70 points, 6.

J. SHEAVES'S FINE RUN.

Before the start of the novice cross-country championship a four miles open handicap was decided. Of the 65 entries 55 runners started. J. Sheaves, Australian and State cross-country champion, was on scratch. Conceding allowances to 4m 30s, he finished fifth, his time, 21m 25s, being the fastest. The nearest approach to this was 22m 6s, by B. Doyle, of South Sydney, in 14th position from the 25 seconds mark.

The journey was over much of the novice course. C. Hensley, of Botany, with an allowance of 3m 15s, passed the leaders after three miles, and with a lap of the course to complete, led by 31 seconds from W. Stoddart and J. Sanderson. Hensley held his position to the finish, and broke the tape 26 seconds in advance of the Western Suburbs runner, L. Triglone, who was conceding the winner 1m 25s, with W. Walker and the Botany man three seconds behind Triglone.

C. Hensley (Botany), all, 3m 15s (actual time 24m 5s, 1; L. Triglone (Western Suburbs), 1m 50s, 23m 6s, 2; W. Walker (Botany), 2m 10s, 23m 29s, 3; J. Townsend (St. Geo.), 1m 20s, 22m 44s, 4; J. Sheaves (West. Subs.), scratch, 21m 25s, 5; R. Chadwick (St. Geo.), 2m, 23m 26s, 6; A. Hayes (Botany), 1m 30s, 22m 58s, 7; H. R. Stevens (Rand.-Kens.), 1m 45s, 23m 15s, 8; E. Thornton (Rand.-Kens.), 1m, 30s, 22m 51s, 9; D. Parnhill (Manly), 50s, 22m 22s, 10; R. Mettam (St. Geo.), 50s, 22m 24s, 11; I. H. Lane (Sth. Syd.), 2m 25s, 24m 4s, 12.

CLUB RACES.

EASTERN SUBURBS.—Five miles novice cross-country championship, at Kensington: R. Ford, 1; E. Harvey, 2; C. Markham, 3. Time, 31m 41s.

N.S.W. WALKING.—Six miles road handicap (Shaw Cup), at Allawah: G. A. Smith (8m 40s), 53m 6s, 1; W. Pritchard (16m 30s), 1h 2m 21s, 2; W. Hayward (2m 50s), 48m 54s, 3, and fastest: J. F. O'Rourke (8m 50s), 55m 31s, 4.

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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 promoted by the South Sydney Club at Enmore next Saturday.
