



DOUBLE SUCCESS FOR WORCESTER ATHLETES

On a glorious sunny evening at Nunnery Wood Sports Centre track Worcester Men's & Women's Veteran track & field athletic teams were both crowned League Champions in the Midlands League Southern Division for a second successive year. This is only the second ever double success in the Club's long history. It has been an epic battle with local rivals Bromsgrove & Redditch Athletic Club throughout the season.

On the night the ladies team were convincing winners with 132 to Bromsgrove & Redditch's 118 points. With three outright wins from the four league meetings and a tie for first place in the other match, Worcester Ladies comfortably retained their title with Bromsgrove & Redditch runners-up. Over the last few seasons the ladies team has grown in both strength and depth and can now compete with the best Veteran Ladies teams within the UK.

The men's team with already two league meeting wins and a second place were again beaten into second place by local rivals Bromsgrove & Redditch with the narrowest of margins, 125 to 124 points. League victory was assured by virtue of the total number of points accumulated over the four meetings. Although the team was not at full strength they still managed to retain their title, winning for an impressive twenty-fourth occasion in the last twenty-five years.





The eight team line up contesting the league with Worcester includes Bromsgrove & Redditch, Stratford-on-Avon, Halesowen, Dudley & Stourbridge, Sparkhill Harriers, Midland Masters, plus a team comprised of Droitwich, Rowheath, Kidderminster & Stourport clubs.

In the ladies 200m sprints Ros Townsend-Hope (W60) Mel Garland (W50) Pam Murray (W40) and Cat Goulder-Davies (W35) all delivered excellent times and set the tone for the evening with 29 points. In the 800m Ros and Pam were running again, plus (at W35) Alison Buttle. They each returned top three finishes, whilst the 3000m runners Ros (W50), Becky Freeman (W35) and Anne O'Connell (W40) went even better, as they all finished in the top two in their age categories. The 2K race walkers Rebecca Hambrook (W60) and Alison Buttle (W35) delivered valuable points for the team with solid performances.



Meanwhile, in the field events, Mel Garland achieved first place and maximum points in both the Long Jump (W35) and Triple Jump (W40) before securing third place in the (W40) Javelin. Nicky Lockett (W35) Shot and (W50) Discus plus Pam Price at (W60) Shot brought in more valuable points, followed by a first place from Iris Holder in the (W60) Long Jump.

The final event, in the final league match of the season, was the ladies 4 X 100mt relay. Anna Little joined Pam, Mel and Cat knowing that a win would secure a match victory.





Mel got the quartet off to a flying start before handing the baton to Pam. Anna was next and she passed both the baton and a healthy lead to Cat. Cheered on by the home supporters, the relay squad ensured Worcester Veteran Ladies won the match - and with it the league title, in a time of 58.6 sec.

In the twenty events contested Worcester Men's team scored consistently throughout the evening with two individual winners, seven runners-up and seven third places to retain their league title just ahead of local rivals Bromsgrove and Redditch.

Multi-event star Pete Stewart gained maximum points in winning the M40 Pole Vault & runner-up spots in both long jump & shot putt.

Team Manager Dave Hope secured victory in M60 Pole Vault.

Worcester's track star Darren Salisbury had a busy night but was narrowly out-sprinted in M35 800m then produced a solid run in 3000m for third place followed up with a leg of the relay. Ian Bowles finished a close second in M60 Hammer.

The 4 x 100m relay team of Laurence Oldfield, Steve Mayfield, Darren Salisbury & Nick Hitchings combined well to take third place.

Other notable performances were produced by Dave Waldron & Les Scrivens 2K Walk, Laurence Oldfield 200m & relay, Steve Mayfield 200m & relay, Nick Hitchings 200m, 800m & relay, Stefan Sternkopf & Martyn Cole 3000m, Richard Perkins 200m, Roger King long jump & javelin all securing valuable team points.





As always, both the men's and the ladies team were supported by a number of "non-scoring" athletes, a genuine indication of the level of interest and the strength within the club.

The season concludes with the Regional Cup Final on Sunday 31st August at Stoke with both teams taking on the Midlands best



Words by Dave Hope and Roger Garland

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