Hi all

Two coming of age birthdays, a great debut run, three individual firsts and 5 age group teams top of the league were the results after a fantastic second Kent league fixture at Somerhill school, Tonbridge.

On a glorious autumn day over 50 BBHAC young athletes competed on arguable the best, toughest, well marked out cross country course Kent have to offer. Tonbridge AC and Somerhill school hosted a well organised event over a varied and difficult course.

The girls continue their dominance in all age groups despite losing the U13 team race by one point. We lead the team tables in all the girls age groups U13, U15, U17 and U20, a great showing so far.

The U13's girls were again out in large numbers with 10 girls racing. Morgan Squibb continued her great start to the seasons with a fine 4th with Jessica Neal only 1 second behind in 5th. Biathlete Imogen Meers in 8th completed the scoring team of three.

Emilie Penlington crossed the line in 10th and Rosie Allan running in her debut race for BB finished strongly in 13th, a great start to her athletic career. Alice Prentice 15th, Lily Tappenden 17th, Gracie Horton 24th, Hanna O'Flynn 25th and Zoe Austridge 33rd completed the strong turnout.

Naomi Kingston 2nd, Yasmin Austridge 4th and Millie Smith 6th ensured team victory for the U15 girls and were well backed up by great runs from Genny Allan 7th,Kelsi Cornish 9th, Grace Scopes 10th, Lottie Weitzel 15th and ladies club 5 mile champion Amy Leach in 25th.

The U17 girls race saw the first of two Fuss family victories on the day with Kelsey leading the race from start to finish, to claim her first Kent league win . Jessica Keen in 2nd and a great run from Shannon Riskey in 5th helped the team to victory. Good to see large numbers out again and great runs from Charlotte Rhule 6th, Mary Guy 11th, Joanna Clowes 14th and Jenny Sheasby 17th .

The U20 girls again top their league after another victory for Anna Myers, a great 2nd for Sam Leighton, 5th for Emma Rowland 6th for Chloe Haffenden.

Having done the clean sweep in the first fixture the U13 boys were up against it to produce similar results, but Rowan Fuss, Peter Guy and Joseph Georgiadis all flew off the start line with real intent and the field soon spread over the difficult hilly course. Rowan, looking strong throughout gave the Fuss family their second victory of the day and backed up by a great 3rd place from Peter and a strong 5th from Joseph ensured team victory once again and sees them firmly at the top of their league. A fantastic run from Leo Braden on only his second cross country race for BB had him finishing in 16th, Robert Suckling looking strong was 18th. Keir Lundy running in a fancy pair of borrowed pink spikes was 24th and Cameron Swatton well up the field in 25 th completed the U13's effort.

Great numbers again in the U15 boys as 8 toed the line. Henry Cowie powered off in determined fashion as he normally does, but unfortunately had to pull out 3/4 of the way around with a tightening of the hip. Nothing too serious and with rest and ice should be up and running again soon. This left the team race open for the other boys and Coleman Corry 24th, George Pope 27th and Lewis Stickings 29th completed the scoring team. Lewis Warren finished 35th, Frankie Scrivener 36th, Charlie Scrivener 47th and Charlie Andrews on only his 2nd competition for BB was 49th.

The U 17 boys only had 4 running but another great run from Joss Barber in 6th, Charlie Davis 9th, James Crawley 21st and Alex Leggatt 25th sees the team joint second in the league table after two events.

Tom Desborough and Richard Webb, both celebrating their 18th birthdays, decided to run in the 10k senior race, as opposed to the U20 5k race. Just as well for the club as both finished as scorers in the twelve to score race. Fittingly, Richard had made his BBHAC debut 8 years ago on this very same course as a primary schoolboy. This time around Richard had a strong run and finished high up the field in a great 24th while Tom had a determined run finishing in a fine 69th. Another U20 opting to run the senior race was 17 year old Will Fuller who seems to improve in every race and finished in an astonishing 9th position being the third BB across the line. When you consider that Alex Bruce Littlewood was 1st and Mike Skinner 4th it puts Wills effort well into perspective.

This weeks girls team manager award goes to Kelsey Fuss for her outstanding and confident run giving her, her first ever Kent league victory.

The boys team a mangers award goes to Leo Braden for his great run in the U13 race wearing spikes for the first time!

Congratulations to Kelsey, Leo and all who ran this very tough but excellent cross country course.

Looking forward to the National cross country relays on 1st November in Mansfield.

Paul