

Region 14 Multi's a Success

Over 60 youth athletes representing both the Pacific Association and Central California Association descended upon Granada High School, Livermore for a hot weekend of stellar competition. Top two finalists in each age group advance to the USATF Junior Olympic Nationals in Omaha, Nebraska in late July. Co-meet director, Lee Web stated, "It was a fun and exciting two days for the Multi's. I really enjoyed the two days and thanks to all who helped. The Multi's are very unique and an event every athlete should do at least once. It is a great challenge!"

The Bantam Girls competition was close as Franny Kiles (City Track) and Camille Johnson (UMOJA Track Club) kept switching the lead between events. It came down to the 200m to decide the winner with Franny pulling out the win over Camille by 1.81 seconds.

The Midget Girls competed in the Pentathlon. Four different girls won the five various events with Mackenzie Arnold (Roseville Express Track Club) the only double individual winner in the 80m Hurdles (16.07) and Long Jump (13' 9"), ultimately though the event winner went to Emily Richardson (Team Raw Track Club, Bakersfield) who won by only 57 points over Arnold.

The only meet age-group record broken occurred in the Youth Girls Pentathlon. Melanie Speech (City Track) broke Eve King's record by 10 points when she scored 2,858 points. In her effort to break the meet record Melanie won the 110m Hurdles (15.98), Long Jump (16' 1") and the Shot Put (38' ¼"). Taking second in this age group was Celeste Martore (Castro Valley Track Club). Celeste won the 800m (2:36.30) and the High Jump (4' 9").

Intermediate Girls held the largest competition field with nine girls starting in the first event. Tatum Souza (Napa Track Club) put herself in the lead after the first event with a 100m Hurdles of 15.65. Continuing to excel in her events she won the Shot Put in 29' 5 ½" and the Javelin in 81' 5". Second for this age group was Sunny Margerum (Joy's Jack Rabbits) who won the 200m (26.41), 800m (2:31.75) and the Long Jump (17' ½").

Young Women rounded out the girl's competition. Ultimately the event was won by Lauren Chin (unattached). Lauren took first in the Long Jump (16' 2 ½") and High Jump (4' 9"). Second place went to Amanda Stevens (Roseville Express Track Club). Amanda won the 100m Hurdles (18.04), 200m (27.01), 800m (2:22.88) and Shot Put (22' 10"). Stevens who is a 5' 4" high jumper no-heighted in this competition which ultimately cost her the first place title.

Only 29 points separated Bantam Boy's first place (Erik Clemensen of Castro Valley) and second place (Daniel Alexander of City Track). Clemensen won the High Jump (3' 9 ¼") and the 400m (1:10.52). Alexander won the Shot Put in 23' 4 ½".

Another close competition occurred in the Midget Boys Pentathlon. Dylan Holborn-Welsh (City Track) took first place by only 42 points over Tim Duckworth (Diablo

Valley Track). First place was shared by four different boys in the individual events. The double winner was Blajon Lux (UMOJA) who won the 80m Hurdles (13.46) and the Long Jump (14' 7 ¾"). A heartbreaker in this event was the unfortunate fall of Samson Moore (Central Valley) who entered the meet with the number one national age group time in the 80m hurdles. During the event he fell and had to leave as it is believed he may have broken his arm near the wrist.

Youth Boys winner was Evan Baxter (Roseville Express Track Club) who won four of the five events: 1500m (5:01.98), High Jump (5' 1"), Long Jump (15' ¾") and Shot Put (27' 9 ¼"). Second place finalist for the Youth Boys was James Warwick (Central Valley).

Seven Intermediate Boys competed in the Decathlon. Taylor Heinen (unattached) emerged the winner with a score of 4,871 points while William Bello (Pii Track Club) took second with a score of 4,768 points. Heinen took first in the Long Jump (19' 1 ½"), Discus (102' 0"), and the Shot Put (37' 10 ½"). William Bellow won the 100m (11.90), 110m HH (16.82) and the High Jump (5' 7 ¾").

The largest field of competition could be found in the Young Men's Decathlon. Ultimately Dominic Giovannoni (Napa Track Club) took the podium in first place while Sam Schur (Unattached) claimed the second place victory. Although Dominic took only one individual first place (110m HH – 15.96) he was consistently found in the top 3 overall finishers after each event closed. Sam also compiled only one first place (Javelin - 131' 7").