

**Munster Juvenile PRO Report –**  
**All Ireland Schools Combined Events**

**5 National Medals for Munster at GloHealth Schools Combined Events**

A strong Munster Squad of 18 athletes travelled to the AIT International Arena, Athlone to represent their schools & province at the GloHealth All-Ireland Schools Combined Events Championships on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2014. It was a day of exciting & intense competition as athletes from the four provinces battled it out for Senior titles & the coveted places on the Irish Junior & Intermediate Schools Teams. In the Junior competitions, Munster were represented by **Sophie Meredith (SMI Newcastlewest)**, **Vicki Cusack (Davis College, Mallow)**, **Fiona Doyle (ISK, Killorglin)**, **Ciara McKeon (Col na Toirhirte, Bandon)**, **David Ryan (CBS Thurles)**, **Joseph Minter (Kilrush CS)**, **James Murphy (Ardcoil na Mara) & Declan Ryan (CBS Thurles)**. At Intermediate level, our competitors were **Clíodhna Blake (St. Michaels, Kilmihil)**, **Laoise Bennis (Hazelwood College)**, **Jodi Cusack (Davis College, Mallow)**, **Daniel Ryan (CBS Thurles)**, **Damien Hickey (Davis College, Mallow)**, **Laju Uwatse (Salesian College, Limerick) & Tom Deasy (Carrigaline C.S.)**. Our representatives in the Senior category were **Grace McKenzie (Colaiste Muire, Crosshaven)**, **John Hogan (Davis College, Mallow) & Shaun O'Brien (SMGS Blarney)**. Out of those 18 athletes, 5 National medals were won (2 gold, 2 silver & 1 bronze) with 4 Munster athletes ( 2 girls & 2 boys) also qualifying for the SIAB Schools International competition in the Emirates Arena, Glasgow on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

In the Junior Girls competition, **Sophie Meredith**, a year out of her age finished an excellent second place with a score of **3546 points** with **Vicki Cusack** in 3<sup>th</sup> place, less than 100 points behind on **3351 points**. Both girls battled all day with Kate O'Connor, St. Vincent's Dundalk with O'Connor snatching victory following a very strong 800m run, just 68 points separating the gold & silver medallists.

In the Intermediate Girls competition, **Clíodhna Blake** placed 6<sup>th</sup> with a score of **2,668 points** with **Laoise Bennis** finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place on **2647 points** & **Jodi Cusack** in 10<sup>th</sup> place on **1835 points**.

**Grace McKenzie** was Munster's only representative in the Senior Girls competition & she put in an excellent performance winning gold with a total score of **3329 points**.

In the Junior Boys category, the competition was particularly tight with only 118 points separating the first 6 finishers. **David Ryan** emerged with a well deserved silver medal running himself from 7<sup>th</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> place with his 800m run of 1.13.74, a new pb for him. His score was **2840 points**, just 23 points off the gold medal. **Joseph Minter** finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place on **2644 points** with **James Murphy** 10<sup>th</sup> on **2378 points** & **Declan Ryan** in 12<sup>th</sup> place on **2338 points**.

**Daniel Ryan** was very strong in the Intermediate Boys competition, battling it out with athletes two years older than himself for the top spots. He kept his composure throughout taking gold with a winning score of **3500 points**. **Damien Hickey** placed 9<sup>th</sup> with a score of **2915 with Laju Uwatse** in 11<sup>th</sup> place on **2753 points & Tom Deasy** 12<sup>th</sup> on **2617 points**.

**John Hogan & Shaun O'Brien** were Munster's representatives in the Senior Boys category & they competed well to finish in 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> place with **2242 & 1863 points**. Congratulations & well done to all our athletes who represented their schools so well on the day.

**See Full results at this link:-**

[http://munsterathletics.com/results/2014/GloHealth\\_All\\_Ireland\\_Combined\\_2014 - Results .pdf](http://munsterathletics.com/results/2014/GloHealth_All_Ireland_Combined_2014_-_Results_.pdf)

Photos from the event are also available to view & buy at this link -

<http://i436.tifmember.com/v/photos/67053hds>

Also check out the Irish Schools Facebook page for all Schools information.

Munster's 4 representatives on the SIAB Schools International Irish Team for 2014 are:-

- Sophie Meredith & Vicki Cusack (Junior Girls)
- David Ryan (Junior Boys)
- Daniel Ryan (Intermediate Boys)

We wish our 4 athletes the very best of luck in Scotland on 13<sup>th</sup> December & hope they are successful in their endeavours on the day.



***Junior & Senior Girls Munster Winners – Sophie Meredith, SMI Newcastlewest  
2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Girls & Vicki Cusack, Davis College, Mallow 3<sup>rd</sup> Junior Girls & Grace  
McKenzie, Colaiste Mhuire, Crosshaven 1<sup>st</sup> in Senior Girls.***



***Junior & Inter Boys Munster winners – David Ryan, CBS Thurles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Boys & Daniel Ryan, CBS Thurles 1<sup>st</sup> Intermediate Boys.***



***Brothers, David & Daniel Ryan who will both compete for Ireland at the SIAB Schools Combined Events International in December***



## **GloHealth All Ireland Schools Combined Events Report – Extract** **taken from AAI Website dated 17/11/14**

“The GloHealth All Ireland Combined Events Championships took place in AIT International Arena, Athlone on Saturday, 15th of November. The performances across the board were of a very high standard with athletes battling it out for the All Ireland Titles in the junior, intermediate and senior categories.

### **Morland Shines**

Elizabeth Morland (Dunshaughlin CC) was the standout performer dominating the inter girl’s competition with a score of 3,909. Morland recorded impressive performances in the 60m hurdles (8.96) and the high jump (879) on her way to an emphatic victory. Arlen Crossan (Loreto, Letterkenny) made a big breakthrough in finishing second yielding a big score of 3,459 points.

### **O'Connor V Meredith**

Another eye catching performance came in the junior girl’s competition with Kate O’Connor (St Vincent’s Dundalk) and Sophie Meredith (SMI Newcastlewest) going head to head for the title. Meredith had an advantage of 113 points over O’Connor going into the final event the 800m. However O’Connor produced a remarkable 800m run to record a time of 2.20.66 enough to win the overall title with a score of 3.614 points. Meredith battled all the way to finish in second place overall with an impressive score of 3,546 points. Vicki Cusack (Davis College) placed third with a score of 3,351.

Grace McKenzie (Colaiste Muire, Crosshaven) won the senior title with a score of 3,329.

### **Inter Boys**

Daniel Ryan (Thurles CBS) underlined his huge potential for the Combined Events with a clear cut victory in the inter boy's competition. Ryan impressed over the barriers (8.42 seconds) and also in the long jump (6.31m) and 200m (23.50) to accumulate an overall points total of 3,500. Tim Bowler (St Mary's CBS Enniscorthy) placed second with a score of 3,303 with Keith Marks (Ashbourne A.S) third on 3,293 points.

Only 23 points separated Shane Mooney (Summerhill College, Sligo) and David Ryan (Thurles CBS) in the junior boy's competition. Despite Ryan's best efforts in the 800m (2:13.74), Mooney hung on for victory with a score of 2,863 points with Ryan second on 2,840 points.

Mathew Behan (C.U.S) made his intentions known from the start with a swift win the 60m hurdles in a time of 8.08 (962 points). He never looked back from there as he claimed the senior boy's title with a score of 3,249."

## **COACHING NEWS**

### **National Combined Events Squad**

Next National Combined Events Squad Day is Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 3pm in Tallaght. For more information, please e-mail [combinedevents@athleticsireland.ie](mailto:combinedevents@athleticsireland.ie).