

Galway athletes in superb form

THE BLE West Region Cross-country Championships were held in Athenry on Sunday. John Creane of London Irish was a very convincing winner of the Senior Mens 9000m event.

He set a fast pace from the gun and opened a wide gap on the rest of the field in the first half of the race and while Seamus O'Donnell of GCH gradually closed the gap over the last three laps he could not prevent the title going overseas. Sligo took the Inter-Club competition and Galway won the Inter-County contest.

Josephine Macken of Mayo AC took the Senior Ladies 4500m event with a good sustained run over the three laps. Clubmate Noreen McMenamon took the silver medal and the bronze went to Mary McHugh of GCH. Mayo AC took the Inter-Club title with

GCH in second place and Loughrea taking the bronze medals. Galway took the Inter-County title with 49 points.

Stephen Kelly of Athenry AC took the Junior Mens 6000m title with a fine sustained run over the four laps. Ashley Molloy of Carrick-on-Shannon took the silver medal.

In the Junior Womens 3000m race Kathryn Casserly of Castlegar AC put in a very fast run to win the title convincingly from Jean O'Connor of GCH and Aileen McNamara of Athenry. Athenry took the Inter-Club title with 20 points and Galway took the Inter-County gold medals.

Complete results—

Junior Women. Individual: 1, Kathryn Casserly, Castlegar AC; 2, Jean O'Connor, GCH; 3, Aileen McNamara, Athenry AC; 4, Sharon Fahy, Athenry AC; 5,

Amanda Ruane, Cuchulainn; 6, Grainne Fahy, Athenry AC.

Inter-Club: 1, Athenry 20 pts (3,4,6,7)—Sharon Nolan in 7th place; **Inter-County:** 1, Galway 21 pts (1,2,3,4,5,6).

Junior Men. Individual: 1, Stephen Kelly, Athenry AC; 2, Ashley Molloy, Carrick-on-Shannon; 3, John Travers, Claremorris AC.

Senior Women. Individual: 1, Josephine Macken, Mayo AC; 2, Noreen McMenamon, Mayo AC; 3, Mary McHugh, GCH; 4, Joan Walsh, Mayo AC; 5, Alison O'Connor, Sligo AC; 6, Fionnula Keane, Loughrea AC.

Inter-Club: 1, Mayo AC 26 pts (1,2,4); 2, GCH 38 pts (Mary McHugh 3, Jacqueline Forde 7, Margaret Sheridan 12, Irene Higgins 20); 3, Loughrea 41 pts (Fionnula Keane 6, Siobhan Keane 10, Brigid Kilgannon 12, Claire Beatty 13).

Inter-Club: 1, Galway 49 pts (M. McHugh, F. Keane, J. Forde, M. Sheridan, B. Kilgannon, C. Beatty).

Senior Men. Individual: 1, John Creane, London Irish; 2, Seamus O'Donnell, GCH; 3, Damien McSharry, Sligo AC; 4, Adrian McGuinn, Sligo AC; 5, Billy Gallagher, Sligo AC; 6, Ian Egan, Tuam AC.

Inter-Club: 1, Sligo AC 22 pts (3,4,5,10); 2, GCH 31 pts (S. O'Donnell 2, Sean Staunton 8, Paul Hallinan 9, Danny Carr 12); 3, Mayo AC 58 pts (7,13,18,20); 4, Tuam AC 61 pts (I. Egan 6, James Connell 11, T.J. Whyte 21, Martin Hynes 23).

Inter-County: 1, Galway 48 pts (O'Donnell, Egan, Staunton, Hallinan, Connell, Carr); 2, Sligo 62 pts (3,4,10,14,15,17); 3, Mayo 114 pts (7,13,18,20,26,30).