

Galway athletes come up with big performances at West track & field finals

THE Athletics Ireland West Region Track and Field Championships for U-13s to U-19s and Seniors took place in IT Sligo last weekend.

Galway clubs had a remarkably successful day out with Craughwell, GCH and Athenry leading the way in the medal count followed by Tuam, Ballinasloe and Loughrea.

In the U-13 girls, Marie McNamara from Craughwell AC took gold in the high jump while Caoimhe Quill, also of Craughwell finished in third. Athenry duo Marie Touhy and Hayleigh Somers claimed 2nd and 3rd in the 600m.

Marie Touhy also captured bronze in the javelin. Craughwell's Sinead Gaffney took bronze in the long jump, while Aedin Hanahoe won a bronze in the shot putt. GCH claimed bronze in the relay.

In the U-14 girls category, Linda Porter had a fine double in the 800m and 1500m, with a Galway clean sweep in the 800m as Ruth O'Sullivan of GCH and Nadine Rainey of Craughwell filled the minor placings.

GCH's Deirdre Lally took bronze in the 200m while clubmate Nicola Conlon did likewise in the 75m hurdles. Debbie Kenny of Craughwell and Deirdre Lally of GCH won silver and bronze in the long jump.

Hannah Kindreagn of Athenry was runner up in the shot putt while Niamh O'Halloran of Craughwell took bronze in that event and silver in the javelin. GCH captured silver in the relay.

In the U-15 girls, Amy Rohan of GCH claimed gold in the 80m hurdles and 250m hurdles with Sinead Touhy of Athenry claiming silver in the 80m hurdles while GCH's Ciara Meagher took silver in

the longer event.

Ashley McDonnell of Craughwell took gold in the 800m, as well as silver in the long jump, while Ballinasloe's Claire Burke did likewise in the 1500m. Teresa Garvey of Athenry finished third in the same race.

Athenry's Sorcha Murphy and Sinead Touhy took 2nd and 3rd in the high jump. Cliona Ni Ceallaigh of GCH won gold in the discus and javelin and bronze in the shot putt, while Shauna Monaghan of Tuam won the hammer and took silver in the javelin and shot putt. GCH took silver in the relay event.

In the U-16 girls category, Rachel Allen of GCH had a fine double in the 100m and 200m with clubmate Leona Maguire taking bronze in the 200m. Rachel Finnegan of Craughwell took gold in the 250m hurdles and silver in the 80m hurdles.

Rachel Shaw had another fine double in the 800m and 1500m with clubmate Eimear Hanahoe taking silver in both events. Catriona Farrell took gold in the high jump and silver in the long jump with Rachel Finnegan taking bronze in the long jump.

In the throws Eimear Hanahoe took bronze in the shot putt, clubmate Sarah Ni Loinisigh won gold in the discus and silver in the javelin. Galway had a clean sweep in the relays with GCH taking the top two spots with Athenry in 3rd.

In U-17 girls, Athenry's Katelyn Duane had a fine double in the 100m and 200m with Aedin Esslemont of GCH 2nd in both. GCH's Irene Gorman claimed gold in the 300m, while Athenry's Aoife Touhy won the 1500m with GCH's Anna Shelton in 2nd.

Rebecca Nolan of GCH

won a hurdles double over 100m and 300m. Fiona Fitzgibbon of GCH took silver in the 100m hurdles while Irene Gorman and Anna Shelton filled the minor placings in the 300m hurdles. Nicola Monaghan dominated the throws with golds in the shot putt, javelin and discus while Aoife Touhy took bronze in the long jump.

In the U-18 girls, Claire Rockall was most impressive taking gold in the 400m hurdles, 800m and 1500m. GCH's Nicola O'Ceallaigh won the 3000m ahead of Laura O'Shaugnessy. In the senior events, Mary Barrett claimed gold in the long jump, shot putt, javelin and discus while Sarah Finnegan captured the 100m hurdles, 400m hurdles and triple jump. Orla Ni Muircheartigh was impressive in winning the 3000m.

In the U-13 boys, GCH's Ciaran Gaffney won the 60m hurdles and took silver in the 80m, while Brandan Gallagher of Craughwell took bronze in the hurdles. Craughwell's Jack Raftery won the long jump, ahead of clubmate PJ Kelly and Ciaran Gaffney, and high jump where he beat Athenry's Simon Brody.

Evan Maguire of GCH won the javelin and Craughwell won the relay. Eoin McCormack of Ballinasloe took bronze in the 600m, while PJ Kelly won bronze in the shot putt.

In the U-14 boys, Craughwell athletes dominated. David Concannon won the 1500m ahead of Shane Fahy of GCH. David Farrell won the long jump with GCH's Colm O'Muircheartaigh in 3rd. Paul McGill completed the shot putt and javelin double while Craughwell took the relay with GCH in 3rd.

Paul McGill took silver in the hurdles while Darragh

Whyte of Athenry won bronze in the 200m and 800m. Ronan Dobey of GCH claimed bronze in the 80m and silver in the javelin. Craughwell's Ross Havety and Padraic Tobin filled the minor placings in the long jump.

In the U-15 boys, GCH's Simon Callaghan had a fine double in the 80m and 250m hurdles while Craughwell captured the relay. Thomas Keehan took silver in the 100m with Ruairi Finnegan doing likewise in the 200m.

Keehan also took bronze in the long jump and silver in the high jump while Finnegan won bronze in the 800m. Niall Rooney took bronze in the high jump and shot putt and silver in the triple jump, with Aidan Jennings taking bronze in the triple jump. Ruairi Coyle finished third in the javelin.

At U-16 level, Athenry's Conor Kindreagn won the discus while Athenry and GCH went 1-2 in the relay. Conor Caulfield and Cathal Kelly, both of Athenry, captured silver and bronze in both 100m and 200m while Caulfield also took silver in the long jump.

GCH's Alan Campbell took bronze in the long jump while clubmate Sean Disken took bronze in the 800m. Disken and Campbell also finished 2nd and 3rd in the high jump.

In the U-17 boys, Eanna O Cathain of GCH won the javelin while Athenry's Aidan Conway won the discus. Conway also took silver in the shot putt. David Gow of GCH was runner up in the 400m while Chris Casserly took bronze in the 100m. In the U-18 boys, GCH's Michael MacDonacha won the javelin while Feargal Geraghty of GCH claimed the senior men's 800m title.