

Junior Report 2018-2019

The WCOC juniors have had a very successful 2019 - over the year we've earned quite a collection of medals! The year started off with some great results at the Northern Championships - gold for Caitlin on W16 and silver for Joe Hudd on M16, Issy Sunley on W14, Ash Boothroyd on M10, Niamh Hunter on W20E and Alastair Thomas on M20E.

We then moved to the JK, and it was great to see so many juniors were committed enough to travel such a long way! Unfortunately I couldn't actually find any results for the JK due to the organisers' choice to use EMIT – there was a lot of trouble with disqualification and getting the results up.

Many of our juniors then went to Tiomila, the large night relay hosted in Sweden, to run in the Junior Tiomila (which we had won free entry to at the previous year's Peter Palmer's), as well as the main race; it was a brilliant chance to run in Scandinavian terrain at one of the biggest orienteering events of the year.

Meanwhile, Issy Sunley and I flew to Estonia to represent England at the World Schools Orienteering Championships, which overlapped with the British Mixed Sprint Relays, Long Distance, and Relay Championships.

The weekend started strong with Joe Sunley, Caitlin Irving and Charlie Rennie winning the -16 mixed sprint relay. We then had success at the British Long with 1st place for Hiroki Holmes on M10 and Joe Sunley on M16, 2nd place for Joe Hudd on M16, Niamh Hunter on W20E, Alastair Thomas on M20E, and Ash Boothroyd on M10, and 3rd for Caitlin Irving on W16, as well as Charlie and Daisy Rennie on M16 and W14. The relays also went well, with our W14 team consisting of Issy S, Emma C and Daisy R, as well as our M18 team of Joe H, Charlie R and Joe S coming first, as well as our W18 team of Lily R, Carys T and Jess B coming second.

Lots of our younger juniors then competed at the Yvette Baker heat, which we won, but decided not to travel to the final for.

Over the summer came the JROS and BOF tours, as well as the Scottish 6 days, which led to overall second places for Joe Hudd, Caitlin Irving and Daniel Spencer. Issy Sunley went to Lagganlia at the same time as Joe Sunley and Joe Hudd attended Talent Camp, and later in the summer Caitlin Irving, Joe Sunley, Joe Hudd and myself went on the Stockholm tour.

After the summer came the Peter Palmers, which our top team won for the fourth year in a row! Our second team came third in the Joan George competition, and for many juniors on our third team it was their first time taking part in the competition.

The next major event was the British Sprint Championships, where Caitlin and Joe Sunley both came 1st in the M/W16 categories, and Zac Hudd won the M20 open course. Daisy Rennie (W14) and Ash Boothroyd (M10) earned a silver medal, with Charlie Rennie also coming 3rd in the M16 category. The next day were the British Middle Distance Champs, where Caitlin once

again took the win on the W16 course, and Zac H came second in the M20, with bronze medals for Daisy (W14) and Charlie Rennie (M16), and Joe Hudd on M18.

Many of our juniors then went on to represent the North West at the JIRCs - Louis Morris, Ben Goodwin, Joe Hudd, Joe Sunley, Charlie Rennie, Lily Regan, Carys Thomas, Caitlin Irving, Herbie Ashworth, Wilf Teasdale, Daisy Rennie, Issy Sunley, Emma Crawford and myself all travelled to Yorkshire to take part in the competition. North West came second overall behind Scotland.

The most recent event took place last weekend, when six of our juniors – Daisy Rennie, Issy and Joe Sunley, Caitlin Irving, Joe Hudd and myself - represented England at the Ward Junior Home Internationals in Northern Ireland. England came second to Scotland, but we had a lot of fun in the process!

We're really looking forward to the Compass Sport Cup this weekend, as well as Spook-O next Thursday. A massive thank you to the club for supporting and funding us through the different events throughout the year - as juniors we really appreciate all the help you give us. Thank you once again for allowing us juniors to take the amazing opportunities presented to us.

Rosie Spencer
Junior Rep