

Mid-Lancashire Cross-Country League Race

The home club, Leyland Motors A.C., failed to field a team in the 4th Mid-Lancashire cross-country league race in which the visiting teams, Lancaster H. and A.C., Lancaster Freehold H., Clayton H. and Lancaster Primrose H. mustered 48 runners on Saturday.

Trail was laid over about 7½ miles by J. Sumner, Leyland Motors A.C., starting at the Motors' sports ground via the village cross to Worden Park and Runshaw Moor, crossing the main Wigan to Preston road at Pack Saddle Bridge and on to Whittle-le-Woods and Clayton Bottoms, returning to the starting point via Turpin Green Bridge.

At Pack Saddle Bridge (about three miles) G. Kirkus, Clayton H., held a four yards' lead from R. Parker, Primrose H., in 19min. 20sec. At the second checking point at Whittle the Clayton runner had increased his lead to about 40 yards. He lost ground over the down hill return half of the course, however, and, entering the sports ground with only a six yards' lead he failed to respond to a challenge by W. A. Parker, of Lancaster H., who came up from third place over the last 200 yards to win by inches on the tape in record time for the course.

Primrose H. established another record in the contest by placing their six counters in the first nine to finish, to win team honours with the lowest total of points registered in a league race. Results:—

Individual.—1, W. A. Parke, Lancaster H. and A.C., time 47min. 18sec.; 2, G. Kirkus, Clayton H., 47-19; 3, R. Parker, Primrose H., 47-24.

Team placings.—1, Primrose H. (R. Parker 3, J. Fisher 4, T. Arnes 6, F. Rickerby 7, R. Smith 8, J. Jackson 9), total 37 points; 2, Lancaster H. and A.C. (W. A. Parke 1, R. P. Keay 5, R. Carradus 11, J. Vernon 17, H. Quick 18, E. T. Shepherd 19), 71 points; 3, Freehold H. (E. Wilkinson 10, G. Jacobs 13, E. Heyes 14, J. Parkinson 15, C. P. Taylor 16, J. W. Holmes 23), 91 points. Clayton H. were fourth.

W. Mount, Freehold H. crashed in attempting to clear a fence after about two miles and had to be conveyed home with a damaged ankle.

The winning team are now only five points behind the league leaders, Lancaster H. and A.C.

