

Athletics Weekly – 5 February 1955

MID-LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

1, E. E. Hoggarth (L) 27.05; 2, G. A. North (B) 27.06; 3, F. Holland (B) 27.54; 4, M. Topham (L) 28.40; 5, F. B. Yates (P) 28.59; 6, J. L. Barraclough (L) 29.09. Teams: 1, Lancaster 42pts.; 2, Blackpool and Fylde 54; 3, Preston 96.

Lancaster Guardian - Friday 28 January 1955

Lancaster Harriers take league title

LANCASTER Harriers and Athletic Club won the Mid-Lancashire League cross-country championship and with it, the Meyler Cup, for the fifth time on Saturday. Although pressed hard by Blackpool and Fylde Harriers and Athletic Club, Lancaster gained their fourth successive win in the competition.

NEWCOMER WINS

From Fisher's Hill, E. E. Hoggarth, newcomer to Lancaster Harriers, had moved up to North's shoulder and from then to the finish, a ding-dong struggle developed between them. Neither would give an inch. First one would take the lead and then the other would take over. Entering Newton Estate, Hoggarth latched his way forward and throwing off North's desperate finishing challenge won with a second to spare. He recorded a fast time of 27 minutes 0.5 seconds.

Team placings:- 1 Lancaster H. and A.C. 42 points (1, 4, 6, 8, 11 and 12); 2 Blackpool and Fylde H. and A.C. 54 points (2, 3, 9, 10, 14, 16); 3 Preston A.C. 96 points (5, 7, 19, 20, 22, 23); 4 Lunesdale A.C. (15 and 21).

Individual results:- 1 E. E. Hoggarth (Lancaster), 27.05; 2 G. A. North (Blackpool), 27.06; 3 F. Holland (Blackpool), 27.54; 4 M. Topham (Lancaster) 28.10; 5 F.B. Yates (Preston), 28.59; 6 J. L. Barraclough (Lancaster) 29.09.

Local placings:- Lancaster H. and A.C. 1 Hoggarth; 4 Topham; 8 Barraclough; 11 M. Shearer; 12 I. D. Eccles. Lunesdale: 15 H. Anderson; 21 W. Leak.

Hosts, Lunesdale Athletic Club were unable to field a full team owing to sickness and the fact that their L.R.G.S. members were representing the school at Kendal. The sudden thaw on Friday made the original course into a quagmire and accordingly, the Lunesdale committee switched the race to the alternative road course via the Ramparts, Halton village, Denny Beck and Newton Estate. The start was from the Newton County Primary School.

The field for the final event was smaller than usual, but the race proved one of the most exciting of the competition. At the Denny Beck check point on the return, the six leading men had opened a wide gap from the rest of the field. Blackpool and Fylde runner, G. A. North was leading at this point and all were in striking distance of him.

Harriers' 177 pts.

Lancaster Harriers and Athletic Club, who on Saturday won the Mid-Lancashire cross country championship for the fifth time, scored 177 points from four meetings. Runners-up were Preston Athletic Club, 120 points behind.