

British National Student Modern Pentathlon Championships 2002



Official Programme

Essential Information



Zig & Tom's Bit

Matthew Gisbourne and Tom Kennedy started the student pentathlon championships two years ago. Still a student, Zig will also be this year's oldest competitor, this is what he has to say:

Welcome to this, the third running of the National Student Modern Pentathlon Championships. It is fantastic to see that the competition continues to attract a large number of students from across the British Isles, we have 17 universities and 6 or more schools represented. There is, as ever, a large Celtic contingent with Stirling and Edinburgh universities making the long trip to Oxford, Haberdashers Monmouth School returning to defend their schools title from across the Wye, University of Wales Institute Cardiff make their debut, representatives from Ireland and Cornwall



are also competing as well as the likes of Agnew, Mackie, Rees, Murphy and King competing for English Universities. It is great to see so many familiar names in the entry list, especially those that appear for the third time in three years, such as Sian Rees and Simon Marwood, and particularly Rachel Measures, Pieter Boodt and Tom Hopson who compete this year for the first time as university students. It is immensely encouraging for university pentathlon that

Bristol University continues to be strongly represented, lead this year by Katie Cheyne, unfortunately Liverpool have not been able to make the trip, but it is great to see the return of Exeter, Birmingham and Stirling as well as the debuts of Bath, Brighton, Brunel, Edinburgh and UWIC.

The women's competition promises to be particularly fierce this year as we welcome back last year's run away champion Aly Rowell who will face sterner opposition this year with the likes of Heather Fell, Tina Agnew and the Bath contingent. The withdrawal of Ben Candy from the men's competition leaves the fight for the title wide open, with the old stagers Marwood, Kelly, Graham-Brown, King and Frith facing the challenge of the youngsters such as Tom Hopson, Ben Buckley, with Matthew Graham-Brown. The team competition will be particularly interesting this year with the long awaited debut of Bath University who will face an experienced Cambridge and weakened Oxford teams. The 'B' team prize will no doubt be contested by the same three universities, with Bristol also offering a challenge. Monmouth are surely favourites to retain their schools title, but face opposition from Oakhampton, Peter Symonds 6th Form College and the Hampshire sixth formers. We also welcome representatives from Westminster and Lamerton schools which are represented for the first time.

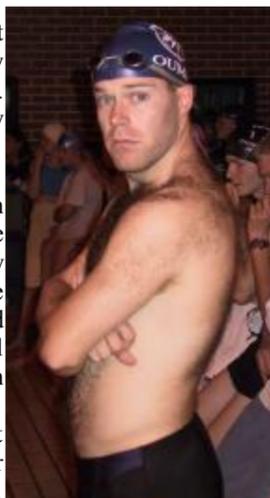
It has been, as usual, a time consuming but rewarding struggle to get this competition on track, and it could not have been done without the help of people such as Gill Andrews at MPAGB head office, Cathy Fenn at the Pony Club and

Richard Dodsworth at the University Sports Centre. Tom Kennedy and, particularly this year, Ben Measures have worked very hard to acquire equipment and find personnel and it is with immense gratitude that we thank our event officers, our scorer, and the myriad of friends and acquaintances, Old Blues and otherwise, that have come to help this weekend, we hope you enjoy yourselves as much as the competitors.

I was reminded recently, whilst reminiscing with a Pony Club tet teammate from over a decade ago, that the reason that we start this sport is because it is fun. I hope that you all enjoy this weekend both during the competition and at the party afterwards. If you don't enjoy pentathlon then there is no point in doing it, so let me end by particularly welcoming all of those competing at the Student Pent for the first time, I hope you enjoy it and return in years to come.

Zig.

Contact Zig: (07929) 787529



Ravishing Records From Yesteryear

Gents

	Name	Institute	Result	Points	Year
Overall Record:	Mathew Barnes	Oxford Brookes		5287	2000
Best Shoot:	Ben Candy	University of Oxford	182	1120	2001
Best Fence:	Alasdair Baker	University of Cambridge	31/3	1189	2001
Best Swim:	Pete Gibbons	Loughborough	2:12.4	1176	2000
Best Ride:	Many		Clear	1100	
Best Run:	Mathew Barnes	Oxford Brookes	9:27	1132	2000
Best Biathlon (Run/Swim):	Mathew Barnes	Oxford Brookes		2221	2000
Best Skills Triathlon (Shoot/Fence Ride):	Pete Kelly	University of Oxford		3226	2001

Ladies

	Name	Institute	Result	Points	Year
Overall Record:	Gwen Kinsey	University of Surrey		5337	2000
Best Shoot:	Lorna Wiggins	Southern 6th Formers	181	1108	2000
	Zoe Hughes	Chelt & Glouc CoHE	181	1108	2001
Best Fence:	Georgie Lewis	University of Bristol	30/2	1232	2001
Best Swim:	Heather Fell	S.W. 6th Formers	2:15.4	1246	2000
Best Ride:	Many			1100	
Best Run:	Gwen Kinsey	University of Surrey		1072	2000
Best Biathlon (Run/Swim):	Gwen Kinsey	University of Surrey		2147	2000
Best Skills Triathlon (Shoot/Fence Ride):	Zoe Hughes	Chelt & Glouc CoHE		3286	2001

Teams

1st	Oxford A	12169	2000	(Ben Candy, Ben Measures, Joshua Funder)
2nd	Cambridge B	11684	2000	(Adrian Smale, Cahir King, Jamie Frith)
3rd	Loughborough	11676	2000	(Pete Gibbons, Simon Dean, Simon Marwood)
4th	Cambridge A	11664	2000	(Fiona Boyd, Harriet Thompson, Pippa Whitehouse)
5th	Cambridge A	11476	2001	(Fiona Boyd, Alasdair Baker, Cahir King)
Best 'B' Team	Cambridge B	11684	2000	(Adrian Smale, Cahir King, Jamie Frith)
Best 'C' Team	Oxford C	8674	2000	(Sara Grosvenor, Selena Cochrane, Veronika Markwardt)

The Order of Merit

The following should be commended for achieving at least 4500 points in past Student Championships

Ben Candy	Pete Kelly
Aubrey Cunnington	Cahir King
Simon Dean	Simon Marwood
Joshua Funder	Ben Measures
Neil Gibson	

Fiona Boyd	Georgina Rolt
Emily Bright	Aly Rowell
Heather Fell	Harriet Thompson
Gwen Kinsey	Lorna Wiggins

The Rules

The competition shall be run in accordance with the 2002 UIPM Modern Pentathlon Rule book with MPAGB amendments, and additional rules dictating the scoring of the Student Pentathlon. This document is not in anyway to be considered a rule book for the competition.

Jury of Appeal:

In the case of an appeal the jury shall be, Mr Tom Kennedy, Mr Euan Lees joined by the OIC of the relevant event. The jury will hear reasonable argument and then shall make a fair decision according to the rules. The jury's decision is final.

Teams

	11755	Oxford A	(Ben Candy, Pete Kelly, Ben Measures)
1	11476	Cambridge A	(Fiona Boyd, Alasdair Baker, Cahir King)
2	11031	Wales A	(Aly Rowell, Becky Butler, Emma Chandler)
3	10787	Bristol A	(Georgie Lewis, Sarah Tavener, Sula Young)
4	10137	Oxford B	(Delyth Lloyd, Justin Yeoman, Sara Grosvenor)
5	9754	Liverpool A	(Ellen Eaves, Tamsin Gristwood, Mary de las Casas)
6	9104	Stirling	(Claire Bolger, Andrew Macleod, Eddie Parr)
7	8197	Oxford C	(Robert Harland, Kathryn Mackie, Imran Akram)
8	8053	Bristol C	(Nicole Jones, Lucy Henton, John Wills)
	7995	Cambridge B	(Jamie Frith, Travis Brown, Steve Lennard)
9	7798	Cambridge C	(Claire Thomas, Laura Davidson, Richard Avery)
10	7589	Liverpool B	(Kathryn Hall, Stephanie Bayly, James Harrison)
	7119	North	(Tom Hopson, Jack Smales)
11	6728	Bristol E	(Jenny Offord, Ian Challins, Gunther Konig)
	6683	South	(Joe Jordan, Fraser Jones)
12	6669	Oxford D	(Vanessa Regester, Jennie Wallace, John Riches)
	6498	South East	(Rachel Measures, Pieter Boodt, Sam Lipscombe)
13	6348	Bristol B	(Katie Cheyne, Christopher Boxer, Darryl Chiles)
14	6279	Bristol D	(Louisa Crisp, Christopher Just, Tom Bell)
15	6196	Exeter A	(Sian Rees, Jane Evelegh, Francesca Kenton)
	5033	Bristol F	(Vicky Hudson, Alex Aboshiha, John Malone-Lee)
	3843	Bristol G	(Justin Hall, Georgie Rolt)
	3816	Cambridge D	(Becky Pope, Lindsay Hulme)
	2298	Oxford E	(Richard Bowdler, Bethan Hopewell)

Oxford A were disqualified after an appeal due to Ben Measures having only contested three events (having withdrawn with suspected appendicitis after the fence) rather than the stipulated minimum four events. Travis Brown, Pieter Boodt, Sam Lipscombe and John Malone-Lee also only contested three events, disqualifying Cambridge B, South East and Bristol F. North, South, Bristol G, Cambridge D and Oxford E have been discounted for only fielding two athletes. Therefore the final positions are as indicated by the numbers on the left above.

Other Officers of the Competition

If you need an answer to a question, these are the people to find:

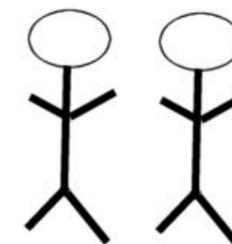
Mr Euan Lees, Stats: Responsible for the stats at events such as the Sydney Olympics and the 2001 World Championships, Euan shall be responsible for calculating the results before everyone is too drunk to care. Then, when everyone is too drunk to care Euan will slip on his kilt and transform into the club travesty that is, 'Cheese with Lees'.



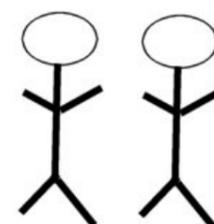
Dr Aubrey Cunnington, Swim OIC: Aubs has expressed worries about his ability to handle a false start, but, dizzy with power, he's not allowing anyone else to play with his pistol and shall be 'Mister Referee' for the duration of Friday evening. At least he's not practicing medicine.



Mr & Mrs Dean, OIC Shoot: Experienced event organisers, Paul and Marion have run many national competitions, and will ensure that the shoot is run with military precision.



Mr Ben Measures, OIC Fence: I'm great, me!



Mr & Mrs Murphy, Run OIC: Ran the run last year with top efficiency, so make sure you are at South Park in plenty of time.

Miss Selena Cochrane, OIC Ride: London Lawyer, Selena, returns to Oxford to look after the animals.



Time Table of Events

Friday, 15th March

Temple Cowley Pools

8.00pm Reception registration
8:30pm Main Pool swim (men and women together)

South Park

2:30pm Warm up
2.45pm Women's run
3.00pm Men's run

Blewbury Equestrian Centre

4pm-4.30pm Walk the course
4.15pm First rider up
4.30pm-7.30pm Ride starts (men and women together)

Saturday, 16th March

Iffley Road Sports Centre

8am-11am Cricket Schools men's shoot
8am-11am Main Hall women's fence
11am-2pm Cricket Schools women's shoot
11am-2pm Main Hall men's fence

The Mitre, Oxford High Street

7.30pm onwards Buffet
c9pm Prize giving
9.15pm-midnight Party (bar open 'till 11.30pm)

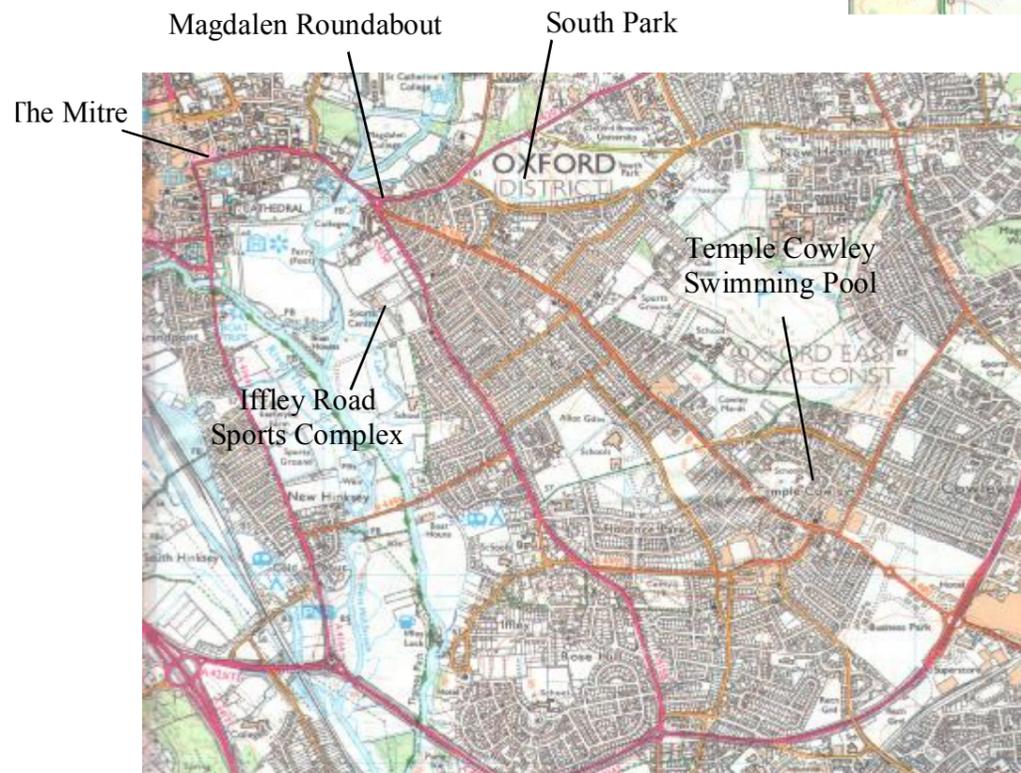
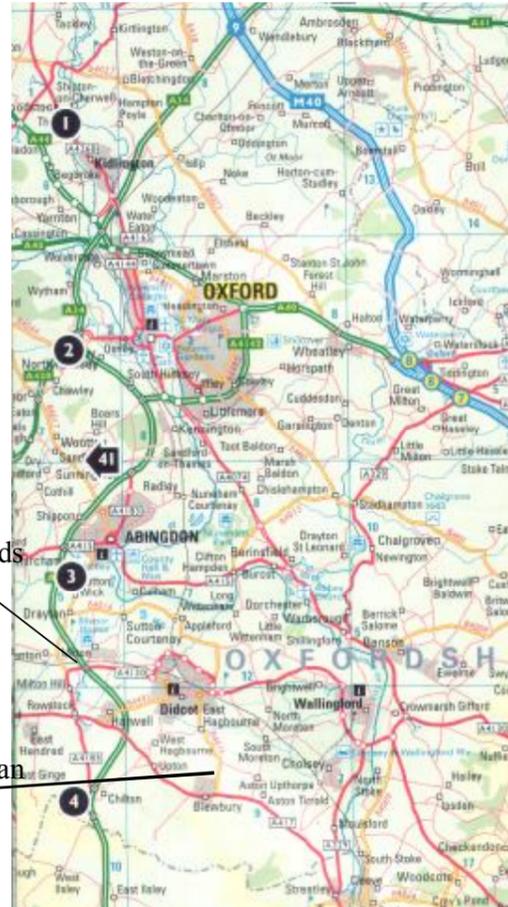
Maps and Directions to Venues

Getting to the events:

Swim – Temple Cowley Pools (Friday, 8pm onwards)
 The pool is easily located off the Cowley Road (B 480). Follow the high street out of Oxford over Magdalen Bridge to Magdalen Roundabout. At the roundabout take the second exit (Cowley Road), with ‘The Pub Oxford’ on your right. Follow the road past Blockbuster on the right and the small Tesco on the left, beyond the Bingo Hall and, as the road goes up a short hill, turn down the road on your left (Temple Road) located just after the police station and just before a large church and major road junction, the pool is about 200m down Temple Road, on your left.

From the Ring Road it is a short trip towards town along the Cowley Road, If you are coming from the north the turning off the ring road is immediately after the BMW Mini plant, if you are coming from the south/west, the turning is immediately after the large Tesco superstore on your right. The turning is the main turning for Tesco straight on at a small round-a-bout and through a major road junction (two sets of traffic lights). Take the first road, Temple Road, on the right immediately after the junction just before you go down a short hill (if you pass the police station you have gone too far), the pool is on your left about 200m down Temple Road.

Shoot and Fence – Iffley Road Gym (Saturday, 8am onwards)
 The gym is best approached from Jackdaw Lane off Iffley Road (A4158). Jackdaw Lane is on your right immediately before Greyfriars College as you go up Iffley Road from Magdalen round-a-bout (which is at the Oxford end of St Clement’s Street, Cowley Road



and Iffley Road). The fence will take place in the main Sports Hall, the shoot in the Cricket Schools at the same complex.

Run – South Parks (Saturday, 2:30pm, First Heat Start)
 South Parks are located between Headington Road, Cheney Lane, Warneford Lane and Morrell Avenue. There is limited parking along Morrell Avenue and Warneford Lane, the run will take place at the top end (Warneford Road end) of the parks.

Ride – Blewbury Riding Centre (Saturday, 4pm onwards)
 The ride is out of town, head south of Oxford on the A30

Gents

No.	Name	Team	Total	Fence	Swim	Shoot	Run	Ride
1	Ben Candy	Oxford A	5104	1104	1147	1120	744	989
2	Pete Kelly	Oxford A	5013	1156	975	1000	812	1070
3	Tom Hopson	North	4438	919	1007	628	784	1100
4	Alasdair Baker	Cambridge A	4330	1189	893	760	428	1060
5	Joe Jordan	South	4280	1130	943	1036	328	843
6	Harry Thorne		3997	636	1157	808	356	1040
7	Matthew Graham-Brown		3978	757	859	736	556	1070
8	Simon Marwood		3928	946	1118	868	996	ELIM
9	Jack Smales	North	3865	784	635	556	820	1070
10	Ben Buckley		3682	896	1010	676	0	1100
11	Cahir King	Cambridge A	3638	948	0	952	668	1070
12	Justin Yeoman	Oxford B	3488	688	841	748	472	739
13	Jamie Frith	Cambridge B	3467	896	895	616	0	1060
14	Robert Harland	Oxford C	3455	757	242	808	548	1100
15	Andrew Macleod	Stirling	3317	757	698	328	464	1070
16	Ben Measures	Oxford A	3194	1108	1050	1036	0	0
17	Eddie Parr	Stirling	2819	676	1096	232	0	815
18	Fraser Jones	South	2731	610	813	208	0	1100
19	Richard Avery	Cambridge C	2425	622	31	592	80	1100
20	Travis Brown	Cambridge B	2316	844	1072	400	0	0
21	Christopher Boxer	Bristol B	2314	730	776	616	192	ELIM
22	Richard Bowdler	Oxford E	2298	870	532	196	700	0
23	Steve Lennard	Cambridge B	2212	688	0	64	360	1100
24	Imran Akram	Oxford C	2181	792	657	316	416	0
25	Ian Challins	Bristol E	2159	1135	0	532	492	0
26	John Riches	Oxford D	2060	662	634	268	496	0
27	Gunther Konig	Bristol E	2043	838	497	184	524	0
28	Justin Hall	Bristol G	1972	784	220	880	88	0
29	Alex Aboshiha	Bristol F	1894	766	0	664	464	0
30	James Harrison	Liverpool B	1850	622	0	0	188	1040
31	Christopher Just	Bristol D	1837	703	478	532	124	0
32	Pieter Boodt	South East	1808	948	0	688	172	0
33	John Wills	Bristol C	1762	568	410	40	744	0
34	Darryl Chiles	Bristol B	1677	740	377	0	560	0
35	Tom Bell	Bristol D	1207	703	352	0	152	0
36	John Malone-Lee	Bristol F	1067	532	535	0	0	0
37	Sam Lipscombe	South East	1014	610	0	0	404	0

Results from 2001 Championships

Ladies

No.	Name	Team	Total	Fence	Swim	Shoot	Run	Ride
1	Aly Rowell	Wales A	5130	1116	1210	964	740	1100
2	Fiona Boyd	Cambridge A	4604	1000	968	868	668	1100
3	Zoe Hughes		4369	1108	955	1108	128	1070
4	Delyth Lloyd	Oxford B	4335	855	952	976	452	1100
5	Georgie Lewis	Bristol A	4265	1232	1073	676	184	1100
6	Rachel Measures	South East	4076	973	807	796	400	1100
7	Sarah Tavener	Bristol A	3911	913	784	484	660	1070
8	Ellen Eaves	Liverpool A	3686	919	919	376	372	1100
9	Becky Butler	Wales A	3633	1000	881	508	144	1100
10	Sian Rees	Exeter A	3627	811	880	352	484	1100
11	Tamsin Gristwood	Liverpool A	3579	946	930	544	68	1091
12	Claire Bolger	Stirling	3500	865	727	604	204	1100
13	Sara Grosvenor	Oxford B	3434	730	730	196	708	1070
14	Jenni Goodman		3398	710	684	760	144	1100
15	Emma Chandler	Wales A	3392	595	733	724	240	1100
16	Kathryn Hall	Liverpool B	3337	855	728	328	356	1070
17	Amanda Richmond		3333	652	917	268	396	1100
18	Sula Young	Bristol A	3279	797	966	544	972	0
19	Louisa Crisp	Bristol D	3235	892	327	916	0	1100
20	Kathryn Mackie	Oxford C	3215	622	657	424	412	1100
21	Nicole Jones	Bristol C	3161	946	809	0	336	1070
22	Lucy Henton	Bristol C	3130	541	657	832	0	1100
23	Stephanie Bayly	Liverpool B	2958	565	593	472	228	1100
24	Mary de las Casas	Liverpool A	2929	913	916	0	0	1100
25	Claire Thomas	Cambridge C	2799	757	404	568	0	1070
26	Laura Davidson	Cambridge C	2605	919	0	472	144	1070
27	Jenny Offord	Bristol E	2586	676	60	340	464	1046
28	Katie Cheyne	Bristol B	2549	739	562	0	148	1100
29	Vanessa Register	Oxford D	2329	676	513	40	0	1100
30	Becky Pope	Cambridge D	2324	884	0	340	0	1100
31	Jennie Wallace	Oxford D	2320	681	211	40	288	1100
32	Vicky Hudson	Bristol F	2072	710	0	292	0	1070
33	Georgie Rolt	Bristol G	1871	0	943	928	0	0
34	Jane Eveleigh	Exeter A	1722	622	0	0	0	1100
35	Lindsay Hulme	Cambridge D	1492	797	127	568	0	0
36	Francesca Kenton	Exeter A	1199	623	576	0	0	0
37	Bethan Hopewell	Oxford E	0	0	0	0	0	0

and turn west on to the A4130 (going under the A30) towards Wantage. At the round-a-bout where the road meets the A417 you turn left, east towards Harwell and Blewbury. Passing back over the A30 you go past the village of Upton and then through Blewbury and turn left after the service station at the end of the village on to the B 4016 towards Didcot. Blewbury riding centre is about half a mile down on the left hand side. Please turn up on time! There will only be one opportunity to walk the course at the beginning of the competition. There may be as many as 60 riders, so please be patient if you have to wait until the fifth round.

Party – The Mitre (Saturday, 7pm until midnight)

The Mitre is on the High Street in the middle of Oxford, parking is extremely difficult in Oxford, so we suggest you find a place to hide your car for the night and make use of the busses. Take the bus to the centre of Oxford ('Carfax' or 'the 'High Street' stops are close). From the centre (Carfax), head down the high street and the Mitre is about 250yds on the left, we have booked a function room upstairs which has its own bar. If you do have to make a quick getaway (we hope you won't!) there is very limited parking on Broad Street and Mansfield Road, although please be aware that they are ticketed 24/7.



Main Entrance Access from Iffley Road (Jackdaw Lane)

List of Entries

University/School	Team	Surname	First Name
Bath University (SW)	A	Wiggins	Loma
Bath University (SW)	A	Langridge	Sarah
Bath University (SW)	A	Clarke	Jo
Bath University (SW)	B	Adams	Elizabeth
Bath University (SW)	B	Weedon	Lindsey
Bath University (SW)	B	Notz	Sara
Birmingham University (WM)	A	Goodman	Jenni
Birmingham University (WM)	A	Hoy	Anna
Birmingham University (WM)	A	OShea	Charlie
Birmingham University (WM)		Graham-Brown	Matthew
Brighton University (SE)		Hopkins	Sally
Bristol University (SW)	A	Hall	Charlie
Bristol University (SW)	A	Parker	Russell
Bristol University (SW)	A	Ghazaros	Sam
Bristol University (SW)	B	Cheyne	Katie
Bristol University (SW)	B	Pearson	Mark
Bristol University (SW)	B	Yeates	James
Brunel University (SE)		Fell	Heather
Cambridge University (E)	A	King	Cahir
Cambridge University (E)	A	Frith	Jamie
Cambridge University (E)	A	Thompson	Harriet
Cambridge University (E)	B	Culling	Andrew
Cambridge University (E)	B	Davidson	Laura
Cambridge University (E)	B	Arrand	Jenny
Cambridge University (E)	C	Lennard	Steve
Cambridge University (E)	C	Pope	Becky
Cambridge University (E)	C	Church	Claire
Cambridge University (E)		Pilgrim	Simon
Cirencester Royal Agricultural College (SW)		Hopson	Tom
Edinburgh University (Scot)	A	Mooney	Keira-Eve
Edinburgh University (Scot)	A	McRobbie	Andy

University/School	Team	Surname	First Name
Exeter University (SW)		Rees	Sian
Exeter University (SW)		Bevan	Emily
Haberdashers Monmouth School for Girls (Wales)	(Wales)A	Rowell	Aly
Haberdashers Monmouth School for Girls (Wales)	(Wales)A	Butler	Becky
Haberdashers Monmouth School for Girls (Wales)	(Wales)A	Chandler	Emma
Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges	A	Jordan	Michael
Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges	A	Buchan	Scott
Hampshire Sixth Form Colleges	A	Clewes	Hannah
Lamerton School (SW)		Preece	Daniel
Lamerton School (SW)		Ryan	Toby
University of Limerick (Eire)		Downes	Robert
Oxford Brookes University (S)		Ducroq	Coral
Okehampton College (SW)	A	Geike	Georgina
Okehampton College (SW)	A	Friend	Caroline
Okehampton College (SW)	A	Boyce	Tanya
Oxford University (S)	A	Graham-Brown	James
Oxford University (S)	A	Kelly	Pete
Oxford University (S)	A	Agnew	Tina
Oxford University (S)	B	Yeoman	Justin
Oxford University (S)	B	Gisborne	Matthew
Oxford University (S)	B	Mackie	Kathryn
Oxford University (S)	C	Jones	Ruth
Oxford University (S)	C	Riches	John
Oxford University (S)	C	Hulatt	Laurence
Oxford University (S)	D	Wallace	Jennie
Oxford University (S)	D	Davies	Helen
Oxford University (S)	D	Ward	Caroline
Oxford University (S)	E	Baxter	Alex
Oxford University (S)	E	Bowdler	Richard
Oxford University (S)	E	Kazan	Georges
Oxford University (S)	F	Verjee	Sabrina
Oxford University (S)	F	Murphy	Mike
Oxford University (S)	F	Bullock	Steph
Oxford University (S)		Tritchler	Amy
Peter Symonds 6th Form College (S)	A	Herridge	Ashley
Peter Symonds 6th Form College (S)	A	Horscroft	Andrew
Peter Symonds 6th Form College (S)	A	Knott	Henry
Reading University (S)		Boodt	Pieter
South Bank University (SE)		Marwood	Simon
Stirling University (Scot)	A	Bolger	Claire
Stirling University (Scot)	A	Tucker	Alex
Stirling University (Scot)	A	Macleod	Andrew
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (W)	A	Weedon	Max
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (W)	A	Coulson	Steve
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (W)	A	Brooke-Smith	Robin
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (W)		Brook	Alistair
Westminster School (SE)		Richards	Susie
Westminster School (SE)		Marwood	Joe
University of the West of England (SW)		Measures	Rachel

concrete growth in university pentathlon and OUMPA has enjoyed having competitors from both clubs competing in their domestic competitions earlier in the year. Hopefully in the future we will see Bristol and Liverpool university teams at competitions other than those in Oxford and perhaps even hosting competitions of their own. Such development is exactly what the student pentathlon was designed to encourage.

It terms of the strength of turn out from Bristol, Oxford, Cambridge and Liverpool it was apparent that all four clubs enjoy tremendous strength in depth, over half the men and nearly all the women attempt all five events. It is significant that of these four universities, three have veterinary schools and it is perhaps worth targeting other universities with vet schools, such as Edinburgh, in the future as there are often pony clubbers on such courses. It was hugely encouraging that Stirling University, who tried to make it last year but were unable to, made the Odysseian trip down to Oxford for the competition. Eddie was certainly among those that made his presence felt on the dance floor and everyone was left fully aware of the state of his attire under his kilt. All three genuine Scots, the Stirling contingent reinforced the strong Celtic representation at the competition and they intend to be back next year with new recruits.

Haberdashers Monmouth made an impressive impact on the competition this year, and with a little more pentathlon shooting experience may have won it. The purpose of having sixth formers at the otherwise university-orientated competition is to try to encourage people to take up or continue with pentathlon before they get to university. Most successfully this year it was a delight to welcome back Sian Rees who competed as a sixth former last year but brought an Exeter University team this year. It has also been great to welcome back Rachel Measures and the Wallington Grammer School boys from the South East, Joe Jordan and Fraser Jones from the Southern region and Tom Hopson from Sedbergh, bringing Jack Smales with him this year. I hope we can continue to encourage the sixth formers to come to the competition and to continue to come into their university years.

With an eye to the future, it is a shame that we have not attracted more of

last year's competitors back this year, particularly from the universities that provided teams but send no representatives this year, Leeds, Imperial, Reading, Newcastle and Loughborough. This highlights the fact that it usually requires one person to drag a couple of others along, and if that person leaves or gives up pentathlon then no team comes. It also highlights the fact that clubs at universities are invaluable as they provide the continuity that has occurred at Oxford and Cambridge since 1958. Hopefully Bristol and Liverpool's clubs will flourish into the future. We have also failed to attract back a number of the sixth formers that came last year, notably the likes of Lorna Wiggins, Heather Fell, Jo Portus and Vicky Hinton. While it is perfectly understandable that people will not want to come, for whatever reason, such individuals are the best hope of encouraging pentathlon at different universities, including Bath University, where there are now a few pentathletes but no university club. While fewer universities have been represented this year there is plenty to be optimistic about, especially after the founding of clubs at Bristol and Liverpool and the involvement of Stirling and Exeter. The 2001 student pentathlon has undoubtedly been a success thanks to the efforts of all that competed, organised and supported the competition.

PONY CLUB

The student pentathlon continues to foster links with the Pony Club, Cathy Fenn, who is in charge of Pony Club tetrathlon nationwide, has again provided help this year in circulating information about the student pentathlon to Pony Club members. As in 1999 Tom was at the Pony Club Tetrathlon National Championships at Morten Morrell in 2000 to give the fencing demonstration and to advertise the student pentathlon, this continues to be an invaluable source of competitors for our competition.

Pony Club involvement in pentathlon has highlighted the geographic divide between the pentathlon stronghold of the south and southeast and that of Pony Club tetrathlon in the north, Wales and southwest. As in last year's student pentathlon there was a significant Welsh presence in the women's compe-

tion where they took 1st, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th, 15th and 20th places (all current or ex pony clubbers) and in the team event Haberdashers Monmouth came a close second to Cambridge A. Current and ex pony clubbers also formed the majority of the Liverpool and Stirling teams.

BUSA

The student pentathlon is currently seeking BUSA sanction in order to raise the profile of the competition. While sanction will have relatively little financial advantage for the running of the competition itself, it will make university sports federations much more amenable to funding teams to attend the championships. Birmingham, Liverpool and Stirling universities sports federations provided funds for competitors to enter and travel to the student pentathlon, but I gather they have taken some convincing to do so; BUSA sanction would (hopefully) remove any such reticence. Sanction would also provide a recognised standard of achievement for the winners; BUSA would provide their medals, and the Daily Telegraph covers BUSA events. (Unfortunately we failed to get a mention in the Daily Telegraph this year, despite a detailed report on the telephone to the journalist who wrote us up last year).

I attended a meeting at BUSA headquarters in London on 7th November 2000 with the BUSA chief executive Greg Jones, and Jim Ellis (who this year and last has circulated information on the student pentathlon to university sports federations for us). The meeting was extremely encouraging, and their main concern was for the national governing body (the MPAGB) to take responsibility for the competition, which the MPAGB has duly done since. One of the objectives for the student pentathlon is to attract competitors from 15% of BUSA affiliated institutions, as this is the stated desired level of participation BUSA would like to see. 15% is roughly 20 universities; in 2000 the student pentathlon attracted competitors from 18 different universities, in 2001 there were 10 universities represented despite a comparable number of competitors. However the number of pentathlon clubs at universities has doubled from two to four in the last year, as Bristol and Liverpool now join Oxford and Cambridge in having recognised clubs.

Review of the 2001 Student Pentathlon Championships

THE COMPETITION

While foot and mouth and (very) late entry forms made the build up to the competition somewhat uncertain, by the time Friday evening on 16th March arrived there was a reassuringly large entry (74 competitors, despite 9 late withdrawals) from a very wide geographical spread of academic institutions. The pre swim buzz of excitement and expectation was a reminder that the efforts of the organisers really were worth it.

There were several 1000 pt swims among the men, Ben Candy narrowly lost to Harry Thorne but neither threatened Pete Gibbons' record of 2m 12.44s of the previous year. Simon Marwood, third, joined them in breaking 2m 20s, with Eddie Parr for Stirling in fourth with an impressive swim after seven hours of driving! Heather Fell's women's record of 2m 15.42s from last year also remained untouched, but Aly Rowell's 2m 19.00s was over 10 seconds ahead of Georgie Lewis in second and 20 seconds ahead of the rest of the field.

Aly and Georgie continued to impress in the fence on the Saturday morning, this time with Georgie in front of Aly with a record 1232 pts, only dropping two hits. Zoe Hughes, Becky Butler and Fiona Boyd also scored 1000 pts or over in the women's fence. The men's shooting record also fell in the morning as Ben Candy shot 182 (1120 pts), his two Oxford A team mates also scored over 1000 pentathlon points, with only Joe Jordan matching their accuracy. All four of them broke 1100 pts in the men's fence, as did Ian Challins of Bristol University, but the winner was Alastair Backer who dropped only three hits for a score of 1189 pts. In the women's shoot Zoe Hughes shot an impressive 181 to equal Lorna Wiggins record of the previous year, a score which was 11 target points ahead of her nearest rival Delyth Lloyd. After three events the Oxford A team members had scored over 1000 pts on every event bar Pete Kelly's 975 pts swim and looked to be running away with

the team title. However Ben Measures' withdrawal before the run due to suspected appendicitis made the strong fences of Aly, Becky, Fiona and Alastair more significant.

The run course was decidedly kinder to the runners than that of 2000, but testing non the less as the recent weather saw the ground quickly churned to mud. The men's and women's run winners were a class apart from the rest of the field, both smashing the previous record, Sula Young finished almost a minute ahead of Aly Rowell in 11m 27.0s and Simon Marwood was 45 seconds ahead of Jack Smales running 10m 1.0 s, only a second off the 1000 pt mark. Sara Grosvenor, Fiona Boyd and Sarah Tavenor joined Aly in breaking 13 minutes, the Sedbergh boys, Jack Smales and Tom Hopson reinforced their schools reputation for good cross country runners by running under 11 minutes, finishing second and fourth either side of Pete Kelly in third.

The ride, as usual, saw the women claim many more clear rounds than the men, although the likes of Fraser Jones and Rob Harland put in impressive performances. With 53 riders the ride took some time to get through. There were many clear rounds, reflecting as much the large Pony Club contingent among the competitors as the ease of the course, which was testing enough to catch out unwary riders. All three Haberdashers Monmouth girls went clear, but despite slight slips from Cahir King and Alasdair Baker this was not enough to edge them ahead of Cambridge's team score.

As with last year the team event was decided by adding the four best scores of the team members. Despite the fact that Oxford A would have won without Ben Measures adding a fourth scoring event they were disqualified on appeal as the rules state that each team member must contest four events. This also caused the elimination of Cambridge B, due to the withdrawal of Travis Brown after three events, and of Bristol F and the South Eastern team. The victors in the team event were therefore Cambridge A, who narrowly defeated Haberdashers

Monmouth. Oxford B was the highest placed B team in 4th and it was encouraging to see teams from Bristol, Liverpool and Stirling finish 3rd, 5th and 6th respectively. As in 2000 there were three competitors with over 5000 points, Ben Candy defeating his team mate Pete Kelly 5104 pts to 5013 pts to take the men's individual prize and Aly Rowell over 500 pts clear of the rest of the field took the women's title with a score of 5130 pts.

DEVELOPMENT

When Tom, Harriet and I began preparation for this year's student pentathlon we had the rather ambitious notion that we might get 100 competitors for the championships in 2001. At one stage (around the entry deadline) it looked as though 60 competitors would be unlikely, but in fact shortly before the day we were expecting 83 competitors (although 9 of these would withdraw before the competition began). A combination of uncertainty caused by foot and mouth, an enforced change of date for the competition (which unfortunately remained advertised at its earlier date in some places), and the busy schedules of a teacher/vice chairman of the MPAGB, an unfunded 1st year doctoral student/recently returned world traveller and a vet/competing pentathlete meant that preparation for the competition was not as smooth as it might have been. However a comparable number of competitors to last year, the return of some familiar faces among the competitors and the huge turnout from Bristol, Oxford, Cambridge and Liverpool made for a competition that I think can be considered as successful as last year.

Most encouraging this year has been the involvement of Bristol and Liverpool universities where pentathlon clubs have been set up in the last year thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of Georgie Rolt at Bristol and Ellen Eaves and Mary de las Casas at Liverpool. It is heartening for the organisers to see such

The Events



Swim



The first event of the competition is the swim, as with all the events standards for the swim vary greatly, from rubber rings and knee length shorts to skin tight body suits; a time of 2mins 40secs for 200 meters scores a thousand points for the ladies, whilst the gents are required to go ten seconds faster to score similarly. The UIPM rules have altered this year so that ± points are scored four for every third of a second, adding to the importance of a good swim in the pentathlon.

Loughborough has a history of producing fast swimmers, the Gents record is held by Pete Gibbons

with a time of 2mins 12secs from 2000. Don't expect the pace to ease up for the ladies as the record (also set in 2000) is held by Heather Fell at 2mins 15secs.

Temple-Cowley is twenty five



metres long meaning each swimmer must

complete eight lengths in the race. Swimmers may start from a block, the poolside, or in the water. The stroke is freestyle so if you feel like a bit of doggy-paddle you're perfectly within the rules. Tip for the swim: double check your trunk cord before you swim, otherwise you could be faced with the trunks round ankles dilemma, do you stop or carry on?



Shoot



For those who can't ignore the fact it was Friday night last night and didn't get too much sleep the shoot could seem like an opportune time to catch up ready for the Saturday night ahead, but don't be mistaken the shoot demands the eyes of a hawk combined with a calm nerve and a steady hand.

This event allows the athlete to score a large number of points with



no physical effort, compare the effort required to score 1100 in

the shoot with that required to run 1100 points! But do not underestimate those who do well at this event, shooting is a mind game and those who score highly do so because of superior mental fitness. Competitors are required to shoot 20 shots over a ten metre range, being allowed forty seconds per shot.

All athletes must pass through gun control prior to the event to demonstrate that their



gun conforms to regulations pertaining to trigger pressure, barrel length etc. Once on the range competitors are allowed two periods of two and a half minute warm-up where they may fire as many shots as they like. After this the targets are changed and the competition begins for real. One useful tip for the shoot: if your gun malfunctions put it down and raise your hand, if the gun is at fault you will be allowed to retake your shot.





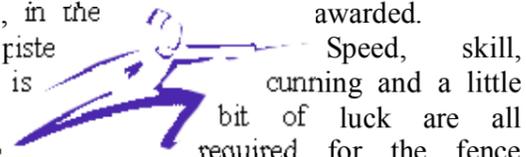
Fence



The fence is the pentathlete's opportunity to steal some points away from his fellow competitor. Hitting each other with sticks may seem childish, but we like it, and it is exactly what is required for points.

A traditional one hit poole unique adds to the pressure as the slightest lapse in concentration results in the loss of points. Although the advent of electronic scoring ensures the majority of hits are unquestionable, in the case of a dispute the piste presidents decision is always final. The scoring for the fence has also altered recently, although competitors still require 70% hits to score 100C points. Competitors are asked to ensure they have two service-

able epees and body wires available in case of weapon failure. In the case of a draw on hits for the lead the winner of the fence is decided with a one hit barrage, for which no extra points are awarded. Speed, skill, cunning and a little bit of luck are all required for the fence event. The winner, the competitor with the strongest mind.



Run



Traditionally the final event in pentathlon, daylight dictates that the run should be the penultimate event in the 2002 Student Pentathlon Champion ships. The run shall, again, this year be set in South Park, Oxford. A notoriously tough course with very little flat running meant that last year nobody ran under 10 minutes, the time for 1000 points. However, more important are the

two points gained for every half second faster run. Those of you who watched the wome n's pentathlon at Sydney 2000 will remember seeing Steph Cook use her strong run to good effect. She blazed through the field in a well timed effort to cross the line first and take gold

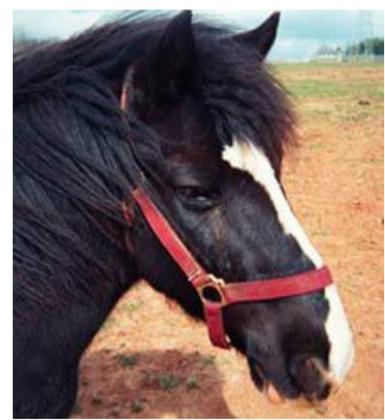
for Great Britain. In pentathlon both men and women run three kilometres, the course consisting of three, one kilometre loops. These three loops make pacing easier, as most runners find that they achieve their best times when running roughly equal split times for each kilometre. The course in South Parks is best run beforehand, so bring some with you if possible.



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Ride



The final (official) event of the competition, the ride, ensures that nothing is decided until the competition is completed. Times for competitors to mount and to enter the ring will be displayed at the ride, competitors are asked to ensure they are ready to mount with their horse at the time stated. No extra warm up time can be allowed for those who are not prepared! Competitors are allowed fifteen minutes and four practice jumps (red flag on the right) before entering the arena. Many illustrious pentathletes have had their hopes dashed by this event, even Olympic

competitors are not immune to tumbling down the rankings in little over a minute. Like any skill event an experienced competitor will make the ride look trivially easy,

whilst the inexperienced make it look impossibly hard. Officers will be on the collecting ring to ensure safety. If these, the organisers or the horse's owners consider a competitor unsafe, either to themselves or the well being of the horse they do have the power to withdraw that competitor. The large entries that the student pentathlon attracts means that the ride will take several hours to complete, and can be subject to unavoidable delays. We apologise to those in later rounds that the course will only be open for walking once, at the beginning of the event.

6th and 7th Events; Apres-Pentathlon

Anyone who completes a pentathlon should feel celebrate, but even if you haven't broken a sweat all weekend don't miss out on the after event antics in The Mitre's function room on the high street in Oxford. Parking is very difficult in central Oxford, so tuck your car up for the night and bring a wad of cash to buy me drinks. The Mitre is on the High Street in the middle of Oxford. There will be a light buffet, music and dance floor; there will be a £3 charge on the door to help cover the costs of the food and room hire. The prize giving will take place in this function room. Please note that the prize

giving will not commence until all the scores from the ride have been added and all the scores involving the ride has a tendency to overrun in the past two years please be patient! We will try to hold the prize giving as early as possible, but it may not start until 9pm, we apologise to those that have to get home quickly, but we hope that as many of you as possible will stay for the party. The highlight of the evening will, of course, be the now legendary set, 'Cheese With

Lees'; expect Scottish kilt-wearing, alcohol fuelled antics involving tunes you thought/ have been checked. As the ride has a tendency to overrun in the past two years please be patient! We will try to hold the prize giving as early as possible, but it may not start until 9pm, we apologise to those that have to get home quickly, but we hope that as many of you as possible will stay for the party. Celebrate or commiserate your result in style!



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