

2013 COMPETITION REPORT

8-9 March saw 160 athletes from 21 universities and colleges descend on Oxford for the BUCS Modern Pentathlon and Modern Biathlon Championships. The annual competition attracts the top athletes in full time education and the standard is excellent. In the Ladies Modern Pentathlon Rebecca Wain of Aberdeen University topped the results with 5,124 points, whilst Tom Lees of Oxford University came top in the Men's competition with 5,616 points. In the 3 person team event, Oxford University A showed their strength by averaging over 5,000 points each, beating off both Edinburgh University and Cambridge A.

In the biathlon, records fell in the swimming pool with Guy Giles of Birmingham University recording 1.55. But the overall event was won by Phil Sesemann of Leeds University who racked up a staggering 2,643 points with a superb 3.59 over 1,500m. Competition was just as fierce in the Ladies' event with Catherine Taylor of Gloucester University narrowly winning with 2,407 points. In the Ladies' team events, Leeds University women won comfortably, whilst Leeds University Men's A narrowly beat Birmingham University A in the Men's competition.

But these championships are also about the grass-roots level in university sport. 2013 saw more than 15 pentathletes and 2 universities entering a competition for the first time. The standards achieved across the competition showed a dedication to training in all the disciplines. The competition has always prided itself on a competitive but friendly atmosphere and this was successfully achieved again.

Numbers in the Oxford University 6th Form Competition were lower than in previous years, but the Men's winner, John Allen of Gravesend Grammar School, kept the standard high with an impressive 5,564. Volunteer numbers were up with more than 25 people assisting with timing, marshalling, refereeing and scoring. Full results can be found at <http://www.oxbridgepentathlon.org.uk/BUCS>. 2014's competition will take place on 14-15 March.

Jonathon Wright

Photo courtesy of Paul Wain: Rebecca Barwise-Munro (left) takes on Yvonne Howat (right) in the Ladies' one-hit competition.

