

SCOTTISH NORTH DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Forres

ANDREW CLARK held off a strong challenge from Keith & District AC's Steven Gill and Ross Arbuckle to win his first senior men's title over a challenging course, *Fraser Clyne reports*.

The 20 year-old Moray man took the lead in the closing stages of the six mile race and went on to open up a 60m gap over his nearest challenger with a strong sprint to the finish line.

Gill held on to second position, just a few strides ahead of his clubmate Arbuckle, the four-time previous champion, who was first in

the M40 age division.

Brian Foreman, who had worked his way into contention over the second half of the race, was close behind in fourth position.

George Sim won the M50 age group title for the sixth year in a row when finishing 11th overall.

Keith & District took the team prize with a narrow, two-point victory over title-holders Forres Harriers.

Morag Ross led from the start to win the women's title, although she was chased hard all the way by Dawn Scott. Orkney veteran Doris Leonard took the bronze medal while title-holder Eleanor Reid had to settle for fourth position.

Ross and Reid linked up with fifth-placed Jennifer Main to give Inverness the women's team prize for the 11th year in a row.

Moray's Jennifer Houston collected the U20 gold medal when finishing sixth overall, just two places ahead of her mum Sarah, who won the W45 title.

The bad weather prevented Western Isles clubs from travelling to the event and that seriously affected the numbers competing in the younger age group races.

Kenny Wilson and Scott Miller gave Moray another two titles in the young athletes' races with their respective wins in the U17 and U13 events.

Grant Cameron retained the U15 boys' title while Gemma Cormack U15 girls' award after a close race with Eleanor Duncan.

Christine Grady led her Inverness clubmates Lynsay Hewitson and Mairi Fenton to a whitewash of the top medals in the U17 women's contest.

Claire Kennedy became the first Lochaber athlete to win the U13 girls' title.

Men

1 A Clark (Moray, U20) 34:48; 2 S Gill (Keith) 34:59; 3 R Arbuckle (Keith, M40) 35:02; 4 B Foreman (Moray, M40) 35:08; 5 S Davis (Forres) 35:36; 6 M Stewart (Keith, M40) 36:04; 7 D Adam (Forres) 36:07; 8 K Greig (Forres, U20) 36:17; 9 F Barton (Keith, M40) 36:30; 10 A Ross (Forres) 36:31

M50: 1 G Sim (Moray) 36:49; 2 D Cowie (Forres) 37:36; 3 E Paterson (Moray) 38:15

TEAM: 1 Keith & District 57; 2 Forres H 59; 3 Moray RR 69

VETS TEAM: Keith & District 86

U17

1 K Wilson (Moray) 24:21; 2 I Garioch (Moray) 26:21; 3 M Sutherland (Caith) 26:38; 4 E Rice (I'ness) 27:06; 5 A Gillespie (Forres) 31:18

U15

1 G Cameron (Forres) 16:06; 2 R Cammack (Moray) 16:31; 3 C Fife (I'ness) 17:45; 4 M Trail (I'ness) 18:35; 5 B Lotts (Moray) 18:45

TEAM: 1 Inverness H 14; 2 Moray RR6

U13

1 S Miller (Moray) 13:30; 2 J Gillespie (Forres) 13:36; 3 M Goodfellow (Moray) 13:42; 4 M Anderson (Caith) 13:47; 5 A Yates (I'ness) 13:48

TEAM: 1 Moray RR2; 2 Inverness

H20

Women

1 M Ross (I'ness) 26:20; 2 D Scott (Laber) 27:06; 3 D Leonard (Orkney, W35) 27:33; 4 E Reid (I'ness) 29:03; 5 J Main (I'ness) 29:18; 6 J Houston (Moray, U20) 31:03; 7 K Boocock (I'ness, W35) 30:54; 8 S Houston (Moray, W45) 31:03; 9 J Duncan (Forres, W35) 31:09; 10 N MacDonald (Laber, W35) 31:13.

W45: 2 L Cowie (Moray) 31:33; 3 B Bowie (Moray) 31:59

TEAM: 1 Inverness H10; 2 Moray RR ; 3 Forres Harriers 32

VETS EAM: Moray RR

U17

1 C Grady (I'ness) 20:13; 2 L Hewitson (I'ness) 21:29; 3 M Fenton (I'ness) 21:42; 4 R Pirie (Forres) 21:52; 5 E Wilson (Moray) 23:30

TEAM: Inverness H 6

U15

1 G Cormack (Banff) 17:36; 2 E Duncan (Forres) 17:44; 3 L Sharp (Moray) 20:11; 4 E Fullerton (Moray) 24:26

U13

1 C Kennedy (L'aber) 13:59; 2 K Rogan (Forres) 14:20; 3 H Duncan (Forres) 14:51; 4 L Tonge (Moray) 15:06; 5 E Black (I'ness) 15:17

TEAM: 1 Forres H 12; 2 Inverness H 19