

SOUTH WEST SCHOOLS COMBINED EVENTS REPORT 2018

The 15 Avon Schools athletes performed with distinction at this years Combined Events at Yeovil. On a superbly warm weekend personal bests flowed regularly as the event progressed.

The outstanding fact was that there was not one athlete who had 3 No Throws or 3 No Jumps or who retired during the event. A great effort, in a team that supported each other brilliantly.

Pride of place goes to Luke Ball (Castle School) who came a magnificent 2nd so qualifying for the ESAA finals at Bedford in September. In his 5 events were 3 pbs including an unexpected 5m77 Long jump.

He also led the junior Boys team to a great 2nd place of the 7 counties. Jim Mitchell (Sidcot), Josh Schriever (Clifton Coll) and Adam Nolan (Abbeywood) supported well in 10th, 12th and 14th.

The Senior Girls also matched this 2nd place with Jenna Blundell (SGS) finishing a great 3rd and also qualifying for Bedford. In fact, it is likely all 3 Senior girls will go to Bedford by right. Rebecca Ousby (Kingswood) surprised herself with a fine 8th place , and Renee Jelf competing strongly in 11th place.

Jenna looked magnificent in her signature event the 100m Hurdles with a time of 14.31 to win the event.

The 2nd day saw the Junior girls in action finishing in Team 3rd with Bethan Morgan (Badminton) leading the team home in 9th place. Sophie Harrison (St. Gregory's) in 13th, Steph Brooks (Priory) in 14th and late replacement Phoebe Gooch (Gordano) in 20th.

The Inter Boys produced some memorable moments as ever with Jonathan Evans keeping everyone on tenterhooks with 2 no throws in the Discus. His third though was fine and the team carried on finishing 4th. Jonathan finished in 8th a great effort. Both Liam Hillier (Abbeywood) and James Casling (Ashton Park) had their moments with numerous pbs and lots of enthusiasm and also great team spirit.

Liam surprised himself with 11th place and James' 1500m pb by 8secs gave him 16th.

Elin Beaver (Nailsea) our only representative in the Inter girls impressed especially in the 800m with a huge pb and finished 13th to become Avon schools Champion.

Every athlete was supported by parents and families which made a huge difference to athletes' performances.

Team Managers Susan Jones and David Turner would like to thank all the athletes for their support of the Avon schools team and also thank their parents and families for making the weekend such a memorable occasion.

Mention must also be made of the valuable and essential work carried on by coaches, many of whom attended the event.