

League action hotted up last weekend as Mansfield Harriers turned out for their first fixtures of the season in the Midland Senior Track and Field League and the National Young Athletes League.

With several athletes missing due to the British Universities Championships the seniors knew they were set for a challenge taking on some of the best clubs across the Midlands in Division One of their league at Coventry.

400 metres proved to be the lucky distance of the day with four of the clubs five victories coming over the one lap distance. Jess Grieves set the standard with the first track event of the meeting when she stormed to victory in the Women's 400m Hurdles in a new personal best time of 65.6 before going on to also set new PBs in the 400m and High Jump.

Martin Cook and Paul Wright completed an excellent double in the Men's 400m – Cook taking the A string race in 50.0 before Wright ran slightly quicker to take the B string in 49.7.

Cook and Wright were joined in the last event of the day – the 4x400m Relay – by Chris Brown, who had earlier won the A string 800m, and Danny Barks where they just missed the club record by 0.3 of a second scoring a fine victory against some strong opposition.

In the men's 400m Hurdles Stefan Wilcockson and Adam Sansom scored valuable points both taking second place, Wilcockson clocking 57.5 in the A string and Sansom 57.0 in the B.

Laura Bennett produced new PBs over 100m (13.0) and 200m (26.8) and Neal Baines returned to team action for Mansfield with a 4th place finish in the 100m and third spot in the 200m running 11.3 and 22.8 respectively.

Charlotte Gair added 8cms to the new PB she set a week earlier in the Discus taking her best to 37.85m, a distance that positions her third in the Under 17 UK rankings. Older sister Rachel took second place in the Hammer to the UK's best thrower Zoe Derham of Birchfield before going on to run an impressive 13.4 over 100m.

Chloe Elphick improved on the new club record she set a week ago for Under 17 Girls in the Triple Jump with a leap of 10.12m whilst Steve Woolley produced a ew PB of 30:48 in the Men's Hammer.

Mansfield fielded 4 athletes in the guest 100m keeping competition hot for places in future fixtures. Ancell Maxwell and Adam Sansom led the way with times of 11.5 with Martin White clocking 11.6. These three dragged Chris Ashmore along to a new PB of 11.9. Ashmore, White, Maxwell and Alex Lloyd later made up a guest 4x100m relay team, beating 3 of the competing clubs to finish in 4th spot in the race in a time of 45.7.

OTHER MANSFIELD MATCH RESULTS: 100m – Matt Wolley: 11.6, 200m – Matt Woolley: 23.5, 400m – Jodie Bestwick: 67.0, 800m – Mike Mumford:

2:06.0, Jodie Bestwick: 2:35.0, Laura Brown: 2:34.4, 1500m - Danny Barks: 3:59.2, Daniel Ward: 5:03.0, Amie Grainger: 5:07.0, Laura Brown: 5:29.6, 100m Hurdles - Gina Radford: 21.5, 110m Hurdles – Stefan Wilcockson: 16.1, Alex Lloyd: 19.7, 400m Hurdles – Gina Radford: 81.3, 2000m Steeplechase – Steve Grainger: 7:08.7, 3000m - Hannah Wragg: 10:54.5, Kate Raynor: 12:08.3, 5000m – Doug Ross: 17:06.9, Mike Mumford: 17:28.8, Long Jump – Richard Woolley: 5.82, Ollie Fell: 5.55, Laura Bennett: 4.93, Chloe Elphick: 4.57, Triple Jump – Martin Cook: 13.15, Richard Woolley: 12.26, Laura Brown: 9.69, High Jump – Alex Lloyd: 1.65, Ancell Maxwell: 1.65, Shot – Matt Woolley: 11.50, Steve Woolley: 9.72, Rachel Gair: 9.47, Claire Beaumont: 5.99, Discus – Matt Woolley: 28.9, Steve Woolley: 26.7, Rachel Gair: 24.36, Hammer – Paul Gair: 33.88, Charlotte Gair: 29.87, Javelin – Lee Peters: 50.47, Chris Ashmore: 36.15, Chloe Elphick: 25.11, Claire Beaumont: 13.67. 4x100m – Men: 43.0, Women: 53.1, 4x400m Relay – Women: 4:32.7.

Derby was the venue for the first Young Athletes League fixture where the opposition was to come from Derby AC, Cheltenham Harriers and Rugby & Northampton.

Mansfield's domination of the female middle distance events continued with the club taking 11 of the 14 available victories. Caelidh Ross and Abigail D'Aguair secured double victory in the Under 13 Girls 800m clocking 2:39.8 and 2:48.7 respectively whilst Molly Johnson and Claire Norris did likewise over 1200m with times of 4:12.4 and 4:13.9.

Keira Abbott and Jess Smith recorded 2:37.9 and 2:48.7 in the Under 15 Girls 800m for another double victory with Demi-Jade Jakymelen's big personal best time of 5:00.1 only being good enough for second spot in the 1500m. Hannah Hardy took the B string in this age group in 5:25.5.

Christie Childs won the Under 17 girls 800m comfortably in 2:23.3 with Rachel Brandham taking second in the B string with a time of 2:31.2 before going on to take victory in the B string 3000m in 11:19.7. Claire Talbot followed up victory in the 3000m A string (11:03.4) with a second place spot in the 1500m in 5:18.6. Shannon Boardman made her debut for the club with a win in the B string 1500m in 5:19.9.

Charlotte Gair nudged her PB a little higher in the Under 17 Girl's Discus, adding another 14 cms to take victory with a best throw of 37.99m. Gair also won the Hammer with 32.09m and was third in the Shot. Lucy Harrison was first in the B string Shot and second in the B string Discus throwing 5.23 and 15.58 respectively.

Christie Childs and Jess Grieves completed a double in the Under 17 Girls 300m with times of 43.1 and 45.1 and Chloe Elphick and Laura Massey did likewise in the Pole Vault, Elphick clearing 2.00m and Massey 1.90m.

At Under 15 level Becky Woolley and Lucy Banner took maximum points in the Javelin, Woolley throwing a season's best of 36.76 and Banner 26.15m.

Beth Mortiboy completed the line up of winners on the girls side, taking the Long Jump A string with a best jump of 3.90 metres.

Sam Johnson and Alex Riley ran to a double victory in the Under 13 Boys 1500m, Johnson recording 5:02.6 and Riley 5:13.2. Over the shorter 800m, Bailey Wardle was second in the A string in 2:39.7 and George King first in the B string running 2:45.1.

Chris Clarke gained useful points at Under 15 level with wins in the Shot (11.66) and Discus (32.42) and third in the hammer with 17.67.

Jack Cabourn jumped 4.47m to take victory in the Under 15 Boys Long Jump and also took second in the 80m Hurdles A string in 15.1 and third in the High Jump clearing 1.45m.

At Under 17 level Ryan Childs took the 400m in 52.2 with Will Stone second in the B string recording 58.1. Greg Miller threw a new PB of 51.26m to take victory in the Javelin also picking up third in the Hammer and Discus.

Richie Talbot and Tom O'Mara picked up good points in the 3000m with Talbot finishing second in the A string in 10:12.7 and O'Mara winning the B in 10:55.1. Conor McHale and Alex Lloyd did likewise in the Pole Vault, McHale clearing 2.30m to take second in the A string and Lloyd 2.20m to win the B.

OTHER MANSFIELD PERFORMANCES: **Under 13 Girls:** 75m – Rachel Norris: 11.6, Holly Shaw: 12.3, 150m – Rachel Norris: 21.8, Beth Mortiboy: 23.0, High Jump – Abigail D'Aguiar: 1.10m, Caelidh Ross: 1.10m, Long Jump – Holly Shaw: 3.69m, Shot – Beth Mortiboy: 5.93m, Claire Norris: 5.18m. **Under 15 Girls:** 100m – Robyn Foster: 14.0, Jennifer Stowell: 15.0, 200m – Robyn Foster: 28.7, Jessica Smith: 30.6, Long Jump – Keira Abbott: 3.61m, Hannah Hardy: 3.54m, High Jump – Demi-Jade Jakymelen: 1.30m, Alice Mortiboy: 1.25m, Discus – Rebecca Woolley: 20.05, Lucy Banner: 14.02, Shot - Rebecca Woolley: 9.25, Robyn Foster: 5.78m. **Under 17 Girls:** 100m - Christie Childs: 15.0, Megan Roche: 15.4, 200m – Amy Porter: 30.1, Megan Roche: 30.1, 80m Hurdles – Amy Porter: 15.9, Chloe Elphick: 16.7, 300m Hurdles – Jess Grieves: 48.7, Beth Farr: 52.5, javelin – Lucy Harrison: 24.22, Rachel Brandham: 11.86, Triple Jump – Chloe Elphick: 9.90m, Long Jump – Beth Farr: 3.47m, Laura Massey: 2.66m, High Jump – Jess Grieves: 1.40m. **Under 13 Boys:** 100m – Ben Hardy: 15.7, Michael Read: 16.3, 200m – Jack Foster: 31.1, Jordan Boam: 31.6, 75m Hurdles – Andrew Frettingham: 17.4, Alex Riley: 17.9, Shot – Bailey Wardle: 4.34, James O'Mara: 3.96, Long Jump – Alex Riley: 3.50m, Michael Read: 3.09m, High Jump – James O'Mara: 1.15m, Jack Foster: 1.15m. **Under 15 Boys:** 100m – Jordan Boam: 16.7, 200m – Jordan Boam: 33.1, Sam Raynor: 33.7, 400m – Sam Raynor: 73.3, Jake Lancaster: 75.0, 800m – Sam Raynor: 2:45.7, David Wilkinson: 2:49.9, 1500m – Jake Lancaster: 5:18.4, Jonny Brown: 5:47.9, Javelin – David Wilkinson: 20.92, Mark Ellis: 17.30, High Jump – Jonny Brown: 1.25, Pole Vault – Mark Ellis: 1.80m. **Under 17 Boys:** 100m – Tom Lowery: 12.4, Ben Leivers-Riley: 12.8, 200m – Tom Lowery: 24.4, Ben Leivers-Riley: 29.5, 800m: Ryan Childs: 2:09.3, Will Stone: 2:14.8, 1500m – Tom O'Mara: 5:19.1,

100m Hurdles – Alex Heath: 20.1, Conor McHale: 20.5, 400m Hurdles – Alex Heath: 68.9, James Hicks: 75.5, Hammer – Will Stone: 8.47, Discus – Tom O’Mara: 10.81, Shot – Tom Lowery: 10.19, Ben Leivers-Riley: 4.36, High Jump – Richie Talbot: 1.50, Conor McHale: 1.35, Long Jump – James Hicks: 4.75, Richie Talbot: 4.32, Triple Jump: Ryan Childs: 10.47, James Hicks: 9.43.

Harriers’ highest placed finish at the British Universities Championships came from Sean Ledger, running for Oxford, in the 10 000m. Leger finished 8th in the race in a time of 32:13.65.

James Mee, running for Birmingham, ran 14:53.50 to finish 3rd in his heat of the 5000m before running 15:59 in the final the following day.

Stuart King (Leeds Met) and Sam Cordin (Leeds) both progressed to semi-finals before being eliminated from the 1500m and 400m respectively whilst Lucy Spray (Cambridge) didn’t progress beyond her heat with a time of 65.01 in the 400m Hurdles.

Jonny Newell produced PBs of 16.63 and 59.40 over the 1110m and 400m Hurdles running for Sheffield Hallam.

Trevor Hiscox turned out at the Uttoxeter Half Marathon, finishing 65th in a time of 1:31.49.