EckO Junior Report 2018

Another great year for EckO juniors both in The Uk and internationally!

Between our youngest junior Elliot age 2 and oldest junior Tom and Roanne aged 19 we have an enormous spectrum of juniors all Orienteering at different levels. At local events there is a strong contingent who attend regularly but haven’t as yet been tempted to try Orienteering at larger regional and national events. Hopefully this summary of EcKO juniors 2018 achievements will be inspiring and give a taster of the many opportunities available to juniors in Scotland and beyond.

The year started off with a good number of juniors attending the annual 4 day JK in the Midlands over Easter weekend. This is always a selection race for the British Orienteering Squad and International competitions, as well as JROS ( junior regional Orienteering Squad) summer camps . We had some fine performances with some top ten results from Iris 6th overall W14A, Eilidh 8th W18E, Louis 10th M16A and Tom 4th on M20E.

A fantastic result from Tom Lines in particular, especially in his first year M20E. This, which with some other strong performances in further selection races culminated in his selection to the British team for The Junior European cup held in Switzerland in October. An outstanding achievement!

The British and Scottish Championships were both held in Scotland in May .The British Championships at Balmoral top ten results from Louis 5th and Roanne 5th .

At the Scottish Championships notable performances from Louis 5th , Tom 1st , Iris 7th, Jura 3rd.

Top performances at national races meant selection to summer camps. Louis was selected to Deeside JROS camp but didn’t attend due to other commitments. Jura attended Gothenburg JROS camp and Tom The British Orienteering pre JWOC camp in Denmark.

4 juniors, Louis, Jura, Eilidh and Rona, members of ScotJOS, attended a sunny 2 week summer camp in Sweden on the Island of Gotland .

Post camps the junior Orienteering season culminates in home internationals : Louis joined the Scottish team for the JIRC’s and Junior Home Internationals helping Scotland to victories in both . Jura joined the Scottish team for her last JHI as a junior coming 2nd overall.

Tom took up his first international selection for the British squad at JEC in Switzerland in October. He had an outstanding result 21st in the long race as the best placed M20 British runner. Many congratulations to Tom and fingers crossed for selection to JWOC 2019!

Meanwhile Iris gained selection for The Scottish team for the World Schools Orienteering Championships 2019. She travels to Estonia for a week in April with schools teams from 25 countries from China to New Zealand.

Louis and Jura both took part in their first Mountain Marathons in 2018 – taking their Orienteering to greater lengths, Louis completed the C course on the LAMM with previous EcKO member Philip Price. They achieved 8th overall. Jura completed the GMC C course with Susannah, 3rd overall and 1st female team .

On the home front the last junior Orienteering competition took place in Inverness in October with 5 Juniors, Ruari, Iris , Louis , Rona and Eilidh taking part in the inter areas as part of the West team. A full report of this very inclusive annual junior competition is on the EckO website .

Finally congratulations must go to Tom Lines for selection to the GB talent Squad for 2019 and Louis MacMillan to the Scottish Junior Squad .