

Tyke, Atom Flyers race to fifth, eighth



Georgetown's AGSI Flyers Atom girls team of Hayleigh Bell (32nd), Lindsay McLaughlin (41st), and Lindsay Cameron (59th) turned in a strong effort to finish eighth at the recent provincial cross-country championships in Burlington. *Submitted photo*

Georgetown's AGSI Flyers Tyke and Atom girls cross country teams finished fifth and eighth respectively at the Provincial Cross-Country running championships, held in Burlington's LaSalle Park last Saturday.

Both teams, formed just a month ago from elementary schools in Georgetown, gelled as two strong teams and focused on taking a run for the medals.

The Tyke girls team of Mackenzie Cameron (15th), Julia Zebarth (19th), Hannah Scott (20th), Grace Watson (29th), Macey Auger (40th) had a strong performance in placing fifth.

"I was very proud and impressed by the way the girls dug in hard, executed the race plan and each racer had their season's fastest performance," said coach Chris Cameron.

"Grace (Watson) tumbled early in the race on a rough transition section from grass to pavement and although she was cut on both legs got up, refused assistance and showed the determined focus of an athlete ready for their event and ended up running a personal best by 35 seconds, really helping the team to our fifth-place finish."

The Atom girls team of Hayleigh Bell (32nd), Lindsay McLaughlin (41st), and Lindsay Cameron (59th) all had a strong performance where each girl ran a season's best performance by a minimum of a minute and 15 seconds.

"The performance improvement was unmatched by any team in the province and, although in such a deep field of competitors, these girls ran inspired and finished higher than expected," said Cameron.

"In this race we had some finish line fireworks as Hayleigh (Bell) ended up in a sprint and tangling elbows, bodies and trees with the other competitors as she showed her strength and prowess for next year as she remains in the

same Atom division. Along with Lindsay (McLaughlin) both have a strong chance at an individual gold medal performance and will be joined by our strong advancing Tykes Hanna and Grace."

Both teams are continuing to train and will run a one-kilometre non-championship race December 1 and later that day watch Canada's top cross-country athletes and Olympians contest for positions on the national team at the AGSI National Cross-Country Championships in Guelph.

AGSI is the lead corporate sponsor for Nationals and details can be found at www.guelphrunning.ca/news.php?id=7 and www.guelphrunning.com/events.php?id=1

The following are the flyers results from the provincial meet:

TYKE GIRLS (1,500m)
 Mackenzie Cameron (15th) 6:12
 Julia Zebarth (19th) 6:17
 Hannah Scott (20) 6:17
 Grace Watson (29th) 6:27
 Macey Auger (40th) 6:47
 Team—fifth

ATOM GIRLS (2,000m)
 Hayleigh Bell (32nd) 8:06.
 Lindsay McLaughlin (41st) 8:18
 Lindsay Cameron (59th) 9:03
 Team—eighth

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