



## ***Maginson Church and Fit Clare Cav Victorious at the CUAC College League 2020***



To ensure we could operate as a club on the highest level of safety for all our athletes and officials, our winter Cuppers this year had to be cancelled. But far from abandoning college rivalry and competition, CUAC set up a brand-new College League, featuring 10 'super colleges' to compete throughout Michaelmas term. Results of these official competitions included many a personal best (PB) displayed online in full Power of Ten glory!

### **The Storm before the Calm – 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 – High Jump and Middle Distance**

As I cycled to the track to set up the first of the matches of our college league, I enjoyed the spells of sunshine running in between the clouds. I had decided to wear shorts to compete, as this may have been the last sunny day in a while. But very quickly I started regretting my naïve optimism for weather that I should by now know not to trust... As sun gave way to clouds, and clouds to drizzle, warm up jumps were quickly cut short to start the high jump competition as the weather started turning. Just as Izzy Wood and Ilya Carey had started the festivities, the downpour became so great the bar would no longer stay up. The rain was so thick in the air that it was near impossible to even see the bar other than its reflection on the ground which was now one big puddle. We had to stop there and find shelter under the bed covers, waiting out the worst of the storm. In the meantime, the middle-distance runners, no doubt more accustomed to pain, kept going. Louise Shanahan had organised the heats with pacers to try and get the best times out possible. C&C guests and CUAC athletes alike ran throughout. The women's and men's 800m were won by Ellie Loosley and Jonathan Nash and the 1500m by Maya Hodgson and fresher Rian McCawley (with a great time of in 4:04.8).



As the rain died down, it became clear that the priority was now to get as many points for college as possible, and the high jumpers returned to the bed. Strange progressions, out of order jumps, this was nothing like a normal competition. Although, it did end with a new scissor jump PB of 1m71 for our squad leader You Xuan, who had by some miracle managed to stay dry from not landing fully on the bed.

As the competition ended, athletes and officials alike warmed up with a hot chocolate before recovering, ready for next week!

### **The Need for Speed** – 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 – *Sprints and Hurdles*

Much nicer weather welcomed our sprinters that day, which was essential given their rain tolerance... The 200mH kicked off the festivities, with two head-to-heads between inseparable training partners Sam Clarke and Joe Mitchel and our Women's Captain Martha Stevens and new addition to the hurdles squad Penelope Batty. Fresher and veteran alike then all took part in the 100m sprints, with PBs and SBs for many. The 100mH saw a dual between myself and Martha, and a chance for the both of us to redeem our LICC performances that had started off so well before the final hurdle! No falls this time, and a very close race, despite the added cold of an October morning! But who needs warmth or competitors when you are Sam Clarke and you can run a season's best and comfortable blues standard of 15.3s in the 110mH with no one else to race? And whilst you're at it, why not add a Long Jump victory and PB in the mix? The long jump itself was a very fun event, with many competitors taking to the sand pit, probably the closest many had gotten to a beach holiday this year (RIP Tenerife)... The 200m saw a 66% PB rate, whilst the men's 400m was won by a Caius fresher Isaac Parker.

Highlights of the day included the amazing contributions of Paul Wilcox as starter's assistant and former Men's Captains Sam Day and Tomas Marino as track judges.



**Spear dodging by Doc Thorne and Keith Clarke** – 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 – *Javelin and Triple Jump*

This day was entertaining and challenging both for athletes and officials alike!

The women's javelin competition kicked off the festivities, with a very binary competition between returning champions Johanna Schoenecker and Andrea Nóvoa Martinez and the rest of us... After both throwing well over 32m despite training earlier that day, they decided to spice up the competition by throwing with their non-dominant hand. A late entry from Joy Lisney saw the cricketer try and bowl the javelin, a technique that propelled her to 3<sup>rd</sup> place. After all 6 throws, the ladies hung around to exchange stretching/strengthening exercises but also and mainly to watch the men's competition.

Jude Compton-Stewart, javelin squad leader, led by example with a 51.90m throw that won him the competition. Sam Clarke, PB hungry, whilst maybe also a bit confused as to whether he was still racing, went for the speed over control, adding javelin dodging to the skills of his father Keith and of Doc Thorne. Nevertheless, the strategy paid off with a PB of 42.54m and a second place. The third place was heavily contested by two CUAC freshers, Daniel Roffey a high jumper/pole vaulter and Rian McCawley, winner of the 1500m two weeks prior. Whilst both achieved PBs, Daniel took the podium with a throw of 37.77m.

Triple jump saw Morgan Treasure bring 15 points to Robinson with a 13.11m jump, whilst Irina won the women's event for Trinity Hall.

#### **A festival of throws – 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 – Hammer and Discus Throw, Shot Putt**

Another beautiful day for a competition, and a great number of competitors tripling up to maximise points for their college. The highlight of the day included PBs for Marley Young in both hammer and discus, with yet another discus throw well above blues standards at 43.86m. A season best for Robin Croft won Robinson the men's hammer, whilst Cara James ensured a comfortable victory in the women's hammer and the shot. Bridget Fryer maintain an 11m lead in the discus to win the event. Our coach Malcom Fenton also entered the competition, achieving a season's best, bringing with him the most elaborate fold up seating I am yet to see!



All in all, the college league was a real success with 129 entries spread over the four week ends. Given the small number of experienced vaulters, Pole Vault was held as an internal competition to add to the final results. Fit Clare Cav (Fitzwilliam, Clare and Lucy Cavendish) came out victorious for the women in 141 points whilst Maginson Church (Madgalene, Robinson, Churchill) won the men's match with 157 points. Thank you to all the officials and helpers who made this possible before lockdown 2.0, memories to look back on to get us through the next 4 weeks!

Léa Wenger  
CUAC President 2020-2021

Women's match results

Rank	Team	Points
1	Clare, Fitz, Lucy Cav	141
2	Peterhouse, Queens, Trinity	71
3	Christ's, Jesus, St Edmunds	70
4	Emma, Hughes, Selwyn	50
5	Girton, Newnham, Pembroke	48
6	Corpus, Darwin, Downing, Homerton	39
7	Clare Hall, Causis, St Catz	30
8	Sidney, Tit Hall, Wolfson	23
9	Kings, Murray Edwards, St Johns	22
10	Churchill, Magdalene, Robinson	10

Men's match results

Rank	Team	Points
1	Churchill, Magdalene, Robinson	157
2	Corpus, Darwin, Downing, Homerton	71
3	Emma, Hughes, Selwyn	70
4	Christ's, Jesus, St Edmunds	67
5	Girton, Newnham, Pembroke	65
6	Peterhouse, Queens, Trinity	62
7	Kings, Murray Edwards, St Johns	55
8	Clare Hall, Causis, St Catz	54
9	Sidney, Tit Hall, Wolfson	35
10	Clare, Fitz, Lucy Cav	22