



## 2016 Leinster relay Championships

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

It was a dramatic day at the Leinster juvenile relay championships in Greystones on Saturday 21st May. The drama wasn't solely on the track with the weather changing from heavy downpours to bright sunshine and back again numerous times during the day. Dundalk St Gerards AC were represented by the girls u10 squad of Grainne Moran, Abaigh Moonan, Tara O'Connor, Enya Silkena, Meabh O'Connor and Lucy Mahon and the U14 girls squad of Ellen Murphy, Patricia Jumbo-Gula, Kerrie Hazzard, Ellen McBride and Ava O'Hanlon.

The u10 girls came into the race as reigning champions from the previous year and hopes were high for another strong performance. In the heat they set down a marker storming to victory from St Michaels of Portarlinton in a fast time. With the two top times having come out of their heat, the omens were looking good for the final. Once again from the gun the girls gave another polished display of speed and slick baton changes to storm clear of the field for an impressive victory. This was another great success for the girls who will now go forward to the All-Ireland finals with high hopes.

The U14 girls were having their first competitive outing together with the more experienced trio of the two Ellen's and Patricia joined by the up and coming Kerrie and Ava. Despite being drawn in a very tough heat with the 1, 2, 3 from last year's championships they showed up well with a strong run to finish 3rd and make the final. In the decider once again the girls put in another good show in to finish 5th just one place off All Ireland qualification. With some more experience together the team can only improve and challenge for honours.

After their exertions the teams made their way up the motorway with a well-deserved stop off at Burger King for a bite to eat. This was a great start to the championship season and the events will be coming thick and fast over the next month for the clubs young hopefuls and they can go forward with renewed confidence on their travels.

Training continues every Tuesday & Thursday in Young Ireland's GFC on Hoey's lane near DKIT at 6:30pm  
New members welcome.

Follow us on Facebook "<https://www.facebook.com/StGerardsAthleticClubDundalk>" and on our web-site "<http://www.stgerardsac.org/>".