



History

Simplyhealth Great Edinburgh XCcountry

The Great Run Company have staged a televised international cross country meeting in conjunction with the BBC since 1988. Since its inception the event has been one of the world's leading cross country meetings.

Olympic, World, European and Commonwealth champions and many other household athletic names have graced the meeting with their presence.

This event was first known as The County Durham International Cross Country and was held in Durham for a number of years using venues in Durham City, Beamish & Consett. The event moved to Newcastle in 2001 and was re-named the Great North Cross Country.

From 2001 to 2004 the event was staged in Exhibition Park (& the Town Moor). It was at this venue that the new Olympic 10,000m champion Kenenisa Bieleke first ran in the UK.

In 1992 the Durham Cross Country joined the IAAF World Cross Challenge Circuit ensuring even higher caliber athletes took part in the annual meeting.

In 1999 it was a founder member of the Energiser European Cross Cup where it linked up with the prestigious meetings of Brussels, Seville, Amorebieta, Tourcoing and Cinque Mulini to provide an exciting continental tournament offering generous prize money to contestants.