

EQUAL TRACK RIGHTS, GOAL OF GIRL ATHLETES



Equal rights has invaded the field of grammar school athletics, and the girls are out for boys' track suits and boys' events in their track and field meets.

Next year a standard uniform for all girls in grammar and high school field and track meets will be adopted, and the baggy bloomers and middles of other years will be discarded.

The first use of the new suits was in the high school girls' meet at Codd field, Friday, when several girls of Southwestern high school, taking time by the forelock and the instructors by surprise, appeared in the uniform to be used universally next year. They used the colors of their school, which probably will be the method of all schools next year.

The uniform consists of a garment resembling the boys' track pants, reaching nearly to the knees, topped by a rather close-fitting short-sleeved jacket that buttons down the front and reaches to the middle of the thighs. It gives the athlete complete freedom of movement, and at the same time is a slightly garment calculated to meet all the demands of modesty.

Girls in the high jump in the field meet found that to clear the bar safely in their baggy bloomers they must jump three inches higher than the distance marked on the standards. In the hurdles the bloomers caught over the knees, shortening the stride, and in the dashes they wrapped around the leg in a manner most exasperating to the contestants. So the bloomers will be passe next year.

Events in the first high school girls' track and field meet approximated those of the boys' meet, but even then were not entirely satisfactory to the girls. Instead of the broad jump the girls did what is called a running leap, which resembles somewhat an exercise for pupils in an aesthetic dancing class, but which is judged on the distance covered and not on the grade of the jumper. They would rather jump the broad jump as the boys do, but someone believes it is dangerous and they must do the leap.

As to the other events, they are quite similar to those on a regular track and field program. There are two dashes, a 50 yards and 75 yards; a quarter-mile relay; 50-yard hurdles and the baseball throw. The tendency in Detroit schools, however, is to continue to approach the program laid down for the boys.

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