

THE SCHOOLS GAMES

By Neil Wood

The Schools Games is a multi-day, multi-sport event staged annually to give the best of British school-age athletes an opportunity to compete against one another in top level facilities and with officials and administration to match. Teams are formed on a regional basis and the competitors will have won selection through their achievements at school, district and county level. The standard of performance is always high and graduates of the games provided 56 members of the British team at the Rio Olympics and won 15% of the team's medals: gold medallists included Max Whitlock, the gymnast and swimmer Adam Peaty.

For the last 11 years the games have been organised by a charity, The Youth Sport Trust and the track and field teams compete for the Milocarian Trophy, a Georgian silver urn bought by the club in 1946 to commemorate its war dead and loaned to UK Athletics for as long as the games will take place. The chairman of Milocarian AC has the privilege of making the podium presentations for the athletic events and presenting the Milocarian Trophy to the winning team. In 2017 it was won by the North.