

Cumberland AC Handicap Series 2012

(3rd Run - 'Autumn' Event)

Names (Order of Registration)	Start Time (Handicap)	Finish Time	Adjusted Time	Positions (Scoring)	Pace (min/mile) & Position (Non-Scoring)
Chris	8mins 30secs	20mins 37secs	12mins 7secs	5th	6min 4sec 1 st
Christine	1min	17min 22secs	16mins 22secs	2nd	8min 11sec 7 th
Ian	9mins	22mins 59secs	13mins 59secs	10th	7min 0sec 4 th
John	6mins	20mins 27secs	14mins 27secs	4th	7min 14sec 6 th
Mark D-S	8mins	20mins 59secs	12mins 59secs	7th	6min 30sec 2 nd
Melanie	7mins	20mins 52secs	13mins 52secs	6th	6min 56sec 3 rd
Rich	1min	15mins	14mins	1st	7min 0sec 5 th
Sarah E	4mins 30secs	22mins 6secs	17mins 36secs	9th	8min 48sec 8 th
Sue D-S	Scratch	20mins 1sec	20mins 1sec	3rd	10min 1sec 9 th
Tina	Scratch	21mins 38secs	21mins 38secs	8th	10min 49sec 10 th

3rd Handicap run Evaluation

And so to the final run of the Cumberland AC Handicap series pilot. When setting up the proposal to run a handicap series, I initially suggested a themed approach to the runs, complete with daft headings. Therefore, to say the chickens came home to roost in the 'winter woolies R 4 whuses' title is something of an understatement – and this was supposedly the autumn run! Freezing rain sluiced down blown by a bitter wind, so some agreement as the intended direction of travel became necessary. The consensus sensibly opted for an anti-clockwise circuit.

We'd already converged on the Westlakes Science and research park as a necessary concession to the shortening days. With permissions sought and granted, a basic recce of the circuitous road around the park revealed the reason for common use by other sports clubs with running leanings: it offers excellent running for more clement days.

As throughout the series, a number of generous individuals left the cosiness of their respective homes; and on this night of all nights, I would not have managed the basic organisation without Craig, Keith and Sheila – Many thanks.

That being said, ten brave souls turned out and ran an agreed two laps with John showing a 'tough of the track attitude' in his shorts and Ian 'we'll just go down here' McDoudal showing scant regard for the risk of hypothermia when trying to run further than he needed!?

He wasn't the only one; as new-comer Christine flew back toward the starting position rather than carrying on for the second lap. It did her little harm; after collective yells back

and forth she duly completed her run for a second place finish and, being preceded by her partner Rich, it was a great result for their household.

All were heroes on the night; but particular mention must go to fast improving, Chris, who on the evidence of his fastest time tonight, will no doubt prove a real handful in the championship next year. Similarly, despite concerns regarding foot pain, Sarah Edwards finished off the series with another excellent run; an improvement which began for her by joining us from the 'learn-to-run' course.

Overall, I believe we may have the makings of a fun-to-do series next year. Clearly this event has been our 'pilot series' from which the necessary information will pitch into 2013, with an improved appreciation of structured handicapping. For reasons of varying participation, handicapping this year has had a healthy tongue-in-cheek character with resultant spread of individual times!?

Never-the-less there has to be an outright winner, who is....
.....Well
that would be telling!! Watch out for forthcoming presentation night tickets.

Until then, thank you to all who have taken part in any capacity. I hope you believe we achieved the objective of having some fun by re-instigating this handicap series.

Shaun Cavanagh