

Scottish Road Relay Championships

Livingston 3/4/2011

Referee's Report

Ron Morrison

This is one of the most difficult races in the Championship year to organise. The use of public paths and a bit of road means that the pre race risk assessment has to be thorough and extensive. Several visits to the course were undertaken and a constant eye, on the changing states of the route, had to be kept and any problems rectified where necessary. Without the extensive efforts of Martin Hyman, Alex McEwan, Alex Jackson and Ross Cunningham this race would not take place. Special mention should also be made to the course marshals from Lothian RC, Ferranti AAC, Hunters Bog Trotters, Lasswade AAC, Edinburgh AC, Corstorphine AC and Linlithgow AAC. Of course the effort is worth it. This is the 14th consecutive use of this course which gives stability for athletes, teams, coaches and clubs to monitor progress. West Lothian Council continue to support the event and the number of teams increases year on year. Indeed we had a record women's entry of 54 teams this year.

It was again a well run Championships with any minor incidents being handled efficiently. I make no mention of the officials since their combined efforts make the changeovers, timekeeping and recording work like clockwork. We were also blessed with surprisingly good weather.

- 1 The entries team put the entries on the SAL website in good time for scrutiny.
- 2 There were a few problems with the declarations that led to errors in the initial results. This was fixed by the results team before the results were put on the website.
- 3 It was good to see the new SAL CEO, Nigel Holl, in attendance.
- 4 From AJ: Clubs came up with around the number of marshals required, however two problems seemed to occur. On Lap 1 several back markers went off course 1 mile into the race at bottom of spiral ramp up to footbridge as the marshal was not in place, Alex McEwan sorted this. On lap 2 with just over 1 mile to go an athlete went left before the river crossing rather than where the marshal sends them left after the crossing. Unfortunately several athletes followed. This point has never been a marshal point and never been a problem before. Alex McEwan again sorted this one by procuring an athlete from EAC who had already run to marshal there.
- 5 AJ: 3 separate teams First Aid Teams were deployed to cover the whole route. There was only 1 casualty who went over on his ankle but was walking wounded and made his own way back to the start.
- 6 A mass start was employed at 2:24:00 with 4 teams starting. At 2.25.00 another team turned up to start and again at 2.26.00 yet another turned up. The tail cyclist was informed and the results team adjusted the time.
- 7 The results team put the results on the web almost instantly. This is very efficient and looks very professional.