

Lindsay's ScottishAthletics Short Course Cross Course Championships
Kirkcaldy High School, Dunnikier Way, Kirkcaldy
Saturday 09 November 2019
Referees Report – David Cairns

Introduction:

- The National Short Course Cross-Country Championships now alternates between East & West Districts and returned to Kirkcaldy following a successful Championship there in 2017.

Event Information:

- Competition information, start lists, timetable and course map together with tent & gazebo guidance were published on ScottishAthletics website.

Entries:

- **Female:** U15G - 103; U17W - 82; U20W - 55; Senior/Masters Women - 291 => **531 total**
- **Male:** U15B - 131; U17M - 96; U20M - 89; Senior/Masters Men - 515 => **831 total**
- **Total entries = 1,362**

Race HQ & Facilities:

- Café, toilets and registration were available in Kirkcaldy High School adjacent to the course.
- Officials parking was prioritised at Kirkcaldy High School with coach drop off at the school/parking at adjoining Crematorium and general parking near the venue at NHS Car Park off Whyteman's Brae.
- An area for Club "tented village" was designated to the west of the start/finish area.

Entries/Declarations:

- One entrant under Strathclyde University Harriers contacted Ron Morrison regarding his eligibility, confirming that he had transferred last year from Springburn Harriers to SUH but was not a full time student at the University. As referee, Ron passed this to me and I duly confirmed that under UKA Rule 21 S5 (3) he was not eligible to compete for the SUH team but I would allow him to compete as an individual, which he subsequently did.
- One U15B and one U17M from Dundee Hawkhill Harriers reported to declarations but were not on the entry list although insisting that they had been entered. They were therefore asked to check with their team manager and provide evidence of entry but didn't return to declarations.

Event Risk Assessment:

- The event Risk Assessment was submitted to the Referee by the "Clerk of Course".

Weather:

- Generally clear early winters day provided good cross country conditions.

Chip Timing:

- FR Systems provided Chip Timing
- The Chip timing team were located some distance from the start with a restricted view of the Start/Starter. The Referee questioned how they would synchronise timing with the start and was advised that they had concerns over the range of their equipment and that their system might malfunction if they tried to go over to the start. The Starter was therefore asked to wear a Hi-Viz sleeve to aid visibility for the timing team. The Referee also started a manual watch as backup for each event and immediately went over to the Timing Team to check their times against his watch. These were generally in agreement other than the U15B race, where the timing team missed the start but easily adjusted manually by inserting the Referees time.
- The above is a major concern for chip timing of future events and arrangements for synchronising start times should be confirmed ahead of the event.
- It was noted that the front mat "beep" was louder than the second mat but it was confirmed that volume could be adjusted and that the mats were working.

First Aid:

- Ambulance Scotland provided cover for the event and were provided with radios.
- There were no major incidents reported.

Lindsay's Scottish Athletics Short Course Cross Course Championships
Kirkcaldy High School, Dunnikier Way, Kirkcaldy
Saturday 09 November 2019
Referees Report – David Cairns

Race Start:

- There was a discrepancy in the programme for the Men's race and it was therefore agreed to go with the later start time of 13:40.
- The start/finish area was located to the west of the course, off the main 2.0Km lap.
- The Starter provided 5 minute and 3 minute warnings ahead of each race and synchronised starts with the referee.
- An assembly line was marked approximately 3m behind the start line and the starters' assistant encouraged teams to line up behind each other in pairs to avoid "hogging" the start line prior to the teams being called forward to the start. The start width was adequate and all races started smooth and clean, with no trips/falls observed.

The Course:

- The referee walked the course with the "Clerk of Course" prior to the event and accepted the layout and course marking.
- Underfoot conditions were generally good and generally stood up to the event usage, with only an area around the southwest corner cutting up fairly badly.
- Generally considered to be a good, varied and challenging course with no adverse feed-back received.

Marshalling:

- Marshals were located around the course at critical lap change points and at the head of the finish straight.
- There were no incidents reported from the course.

Communications:

- Radio contact was maintained between Race HQ, start/finish, first aid and the course.

Race Finish:

- In order to ensure correct finishing order of medallists, a line judge and manual place recording were provided as further back-up to the chip timing system and video.
- There were no incidents reported from the finish.

Results:

- Following the senior men's race one Motherwell AC man reported that he had run with the wrong chip on, this was subsequently rectified in the results
- Provisional results were posted on Scottish Athletics website, these have now been amended to reflect the above.

Finishers:

- **Female:** U15G - 84; U17W - 62; U20W/Senior/Masters Women - 251 => **397 total**
Male: U15B - 100; U17M - 75; U20M/Senior/Masters Men - 435 => **610 total**
Total finishers = 1,007

Comment:

- My thanks to Lindsay's, Ambulance Scotland, Ron Morrison (Clerk of Course) & his Fife AC course set-up/marshalling teams and all Officials/Volunteers for their support, enthusiasm and contribution to a very successful day

David R Cairns
Referee (UKA License No. 2659560)
18/11/2019