

Fell Race Championships 2013

Winners: Matthew Grainge and Arwen Makin

At the beginning of this year I asked at a committee meeting if it was worth continuing with the fell race championship due the almost complete lack of interest last year, the ladies trophy has resided in the cabinet this year as there was no winner. It was decided that the championship should continue so I put out a request for any ideas to change the format. Ironically the only suggestion came from last year's winner William, who asked if we could include points from all races rather than best 3 from 5. This was adopted but I said ironically because after the first race William picked up an injury and took no further part, glad to see he is now back running.

The series started with Wolfs Pit which included the county championship. Ten HPRC membership took part which consisted of 5 men and 5 women so we were off to a good start. Cressbrook Crawl followed, with 11 members all in club colours, even the organisers commented that we only had 1 less than the local fell running club. This race proves what good value fell races are, where else can you do a 10k race for £5 that includes a pint at the end?

Race 3 at Grindleford with its 2 river crossings (I always forget about the stream at the top) provided a good evening race at the end of which the ladies championship was taking shape and 1 man had made his intention known, but with all 5 races to count anything can happen.

Kinder Trog the long one, 6 brave souls made it to Hayfield including Debbie Smith who was using this 26k race as her fell running debut. We drove over in pouring rain, we sat in the car waiting for the start in pouring rain. Just before the start the rain stopped but this did not last, so we ran along the edge of Kinder Scout in low cloud and pouring rain. Then controversy, Matt stormed across the finishing field to pip Thomas on the line, or did he? Apparently too close to call and with various opinions and evidence I called it a draw and split the points. All arrived back wet but safe after their adventures.

The last race at Hathersage on a warm sunny evening and again 11 members representing HPRC. Matthew continued his dominance while Ruth prevented Arwen's clean sweep.

So my early doubt was proved wrong we had a good series and even made new friends from Tideswell RC. I'm sure those that took part will spread the good word that fell running is for everyone, just a few simple precautions required, and best of all good value.

Name	Wolfs Pit	Cressbrook	Grindleford	Kinder	Hathersage	Total
Matt Grainge	0	4	4	4	4	16
Thomas Brittain	2	3	3	2.5	2	12.5
Matt McFarlin	0	0	2	2.5	3	7.5
Glyn Sawford	1	2	1	1	1	6
Anthony Squires	4	0	0	0	0	4
Phil Makin	0	1	1	0	1	3
Graham Moffatt	3	0	0	0	0	3
Frank Makin	0	1	0	0	1	2
Tony Barry	0	1	0	0	1	2
Bernard Jarvis	0	1	0	0	0	1
William Scott	1	0	0	0	0	1
Arwen Makin	4	4	4	0	3	15
Gina Granger	0	2	3	4	2	11
Ruth Jones	3	0	0	0	4	7
Vicky Collins	1	1	2	0	1	5
Mary Mills	1	3	0	0	0	4
Debbie Smith	0	0	0	3	0	3
Nadia Vodopevic	2	0	0	0	0	2