

Cross Country Championship Report 2022

Hampshire's Cross Country Championships went ahead on Saturday 8th January in torrential rain and driving wind. Many thanks must go to Colin Goater, Jon Osman, Malcolm Price, Malcolm Rogers, Steve Gallaway, Kath Bailey and members of Eastleigh RC who had given up time on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday setting up the course and to Mary Goater who helped me get the Race HQ marquee ready on Friday. Without this level of commitment we would not have been ready for Saturday.

Numbers of entries was down on previous years, only to be expected in the circumstances, but for those who did come and run, they experienced a true cross country course. This lack of entries was reflected in the finances, as reported by the Treasurer, but we must realise that it was a leap of faith for many.

I must thank others concerned in this enterprise:

Fairthorne Manor staff, who believed in us, and our ability to hold a Covid-safe competition, and who provided more than was expected in the way of support and refreshments.

Alton Sports had approached me to come again to sell merchandise and with whom I now have a new contact.

The County President, Peter Newton was on hand to present the prizes. Many thanks for that.

Richard of course was as ever unflappable in any crisis, putting results on the County website before they were even presented to athletes.

Our County officials, who stood out in all that the weather threw at them, were truly professional as ever, and with good humour, managed to keep the competition flowing, much like the mud!

Members of Eastleigh RC, who provided all the marshals, and again they were in position encouraging the athletes through all the bad weather and with smiles on their faces.

Pam Rogers- Championship Secretary