Coburg Harriers 24 Hour Carnival 2008

Coburg 6 Hour Championships Sunday 30 March 2008 Harold Stephens Athletics Track, Coburg, Victoria

This year, responding to the increasing popularity of our event, we split the Coburg 6 Hour Championships off to a separate date – Sunday 30 March.

The day was perfect for ultra running with cool overcast conditions for the 9AM start and temperatures that stayed in the mid teens for the duration of the event. Conditions threatened to worsen at various times during the 6 hours but any rain and wind seemed to bypass us.

Of the 31 entries (21 in the runs and 10 in the walks), 24 made it to the start line and 23 finished the event.

Essendon Harriers runner Danny Hawksworth made his intentions clear from the start, heading out briskly and maintaining his form superbly through the early hours. He passed the marathon mark in just under 3 hours and looked set for a distance well in excess of 80 km. Unfortunately, he slowed in the second half but still won convincingly in the wonderful time of 77.802 for a new Championship record. Last year Danny won our 6 Hour event with 72.146 km so this year's winning distance was an improvement of over 5 km and pushes him right up in the all-time 6 Hour run rankings. Behind him, Garry Wise held second place ahead of Robert Boyce with lots of runners close on their heels. Eventually Garry slowed and that left Robert to come through and take second with 66.907 km. Third place went to Malcolm Gamble who had been back in 8th place at the 3 hour mark before storming home with a negative split second half to record 65.302 km. Although Garry Wise slowed to fourth, his distance of 64.253 (subject to confirmation) looks like a new Australian M60 record (the existing record stands at 63.600 km).

In the women's run, little more than 1 lap separated Jane Sturzaker and Michelle Thompson throughout the event but it was Jane who eventually forged the winning break and took the honours with 58.4300 km as against Michelle's distance of 57.596 km. Kaye Ervin, running her first track ultra, took third in 54.200 km.

In the men's walk, Terry O'Neill and Clarrie Jack battled it out for the first 3 hours before Terry eventually broke free. From then on, it was plain sailing for Terry as he powered home with 52.983 km for a new Coburg Championship record and a new Australian M50 walk record. Clarrie hung on for second with 47.046 km ahead of Steve Jordan who walked a big PB with 45.043 km

In the women's walk, Karyn O'Neill (used to be Karyn Bollen until she married Terry just two months ago) was another competitor to do a big PB with her winning distance of 46.182 km. That made a walking double for the two newly weds. Dawn Parris walked fantastically to take second place with 43.737 km ahead of AURA committee person Sandra Howorth with 38.491 km.

Results are provisional at this stage until we do our final reconciliation. Watch the Coburg Harriers website for updates. We expect final confirmation by the end of the week. Once this is done, individual lapsheets will be available for download from the website (http://www.coburgharriers.org.au/joomla1/)

Final results follow:

6 Hour 1. 2. 3.	Run Women Jane Sturzaker Michelle Thompson Kaye Ervin	Num 33 34 32	Laps 146 143 135	Distance 58.400 57.200 54.000	Extra Dist 0.030 0.396 0.200	Total Distance 58.430 57.596 54.200
6 Hour Run Men		Num	Laps	Distance	Extra Dist	Total Distance
1.	Danny Hawksworth	16	194	77.600	0.202	77.802
2.	Robert Boyce	11	167	66.800	0.107	66.907
3.	Malcolm Gamble	27	163	65.200	0.102	65.302
4.	Garry Wise	24	160	64.000	0.253	64.253
5.	Colin Brooks	13	15 4	61.600	0.148	61.748
6.	Allan Devine	14	153	61.200	0.027	61.227
7.	Ken Marsh	18	149	59.600	0.145	59.745
8.	Lawrie Lolait	17	145	58.000	0.106	58.106
9.	Trevor Marsh	19	142	56.800	0.332	57.132
10.	David Brelsford	12	132	52.800	0.208	53.008
11.	Paul Monks	26	121	48.400	0.104	48.504
12.	John Timms	23	59	23.600	0.000	23.600

6 Hour Walk Women		Num	Laps	Distance	Extra Dist	Total Distance
1.	Karyn Bollen	51	115	46.000	0.182	46.182
2.	Dawn Parris	53	109	43.600	0.137	43.737
3.	Sandra Howorth	52	96	38.400	0.091	38.491
6 Hour Walk Men		Num	Laps	Distance	Extra Dist	Total Distance
1	Towns O'Noill	45	132	52.800	0.102	E2 002
1.	Terry O'Neill	43	132	32.800	0.183	52.983
1. 2.	Clarrie Jack	42	117	46.800	0.183	47.046
2. 3.	-					
	Clarrie Jack	42	117	46.800	0.246	47.046
3.	Clarrie Jack Steve Jordan	42 43	117 112	46.800 44.800	0.246 0.243	47.046 45.043
3. 4.	Clarrie Jack Steve Jordan Alex Poore	42 43 46	117 112 110	46.800 44.800 44.000	0.246 0.243 0.165	47.046 45.043 44.165

Tim Erickson For the Coburg 24 Hour Carnival Committee