

Edinburgh to North Berwick Road Race

A record one hundred and thirty four athletes completed the annual Edinburgh to North Berwick Road Race last weekend in warm conditions with an unusual head wind which resulted in slow times for all the participants. From a start at Meadowbank Stadium the leaders reached the seaside town in 2 hours 16 minutes, almost twenty minutes slower than the record time set over 20 years ago. A sprint finish ensured that John McMillan from Kilbarchan Athletics Club just pipped Carnegie Harrier's Steve Ogg, by 7 secs in front of a large crowd of supporters in the Main Street. A more impressive performance was set by third placed Martin Ryan (2:18) from Perth Roadrunners who took the over fifty age category prize beating many younger entrants.

Hill runner, Kate Jenkins (2:27) from Carnethy Hill Runners in overall 12th place was a runaway leader in the lady's race 12 minutes ahead of the unattached Carole Fortune with Michelle Tham from Portobello Running Club 3mins further down. Another 29 females took part including Anne Hay (3:06) from Dunbar Running Club who admitted the conditions were very difficult especially in the last two miles from Dirleton.

Local clubs compete for the team prize which is calculated on the finishing position of the first three members. Portobello Running Club with 43 points beat top county club HELP into second place with Alan Proudfoot (2:33) in 22nd place, three ahead of Bill Watson ((2:35) and Sandy Wallace (2:38) inside the top thirty.

Race Director, Bill Gardiner thanked East Lothian Council, City of Edinburgh Athletics Club, Hunters Bog Trotters and HELP for their support in the organisation of the event.