

Tan Relays Report - Sat Sep 18, 2010



The Tan track is home to running in Melbourne but the Geelong team made it their home in the final round of the XCR10 series. On the line were season premierships for the Div 1 & U14 Men with many of our other teams looking to cement top 2 or 3 positions. With this excitement in mind, we had 9 teams entered (the biggest of the season). Our open teams looked incredibly strong and with a 3 pt lead going into the race over Glenhuntly, we decided to tempt fate & print t-shirts in the week prior to celebrate the Open Div 1 season premiership with the 16 names of those who had scored in Div 1 on the back.



And the results... superb! The open men convincingly won all their divisions (1, 4 & 7) with the Div 1 team of Scott Rantall, Brenton Rowe, Jason Woolhouse, Mark Fountain, Mark Tucker & David Carver winning by over 3 mins from Glenhuntly & recorded the fastest overall Tan Relay time (67.41) in the race's 6 year history by 41 secs! And so out came the t-shirts! These results secured 2nd for the season in both Div 4 & 7 that should see us promoted in those divisions in 2011. Mark Fountain clearly back in form ran the fastest leg of the day in a lightening 10.53. David Carver brought home the bacon as the anchor man that was very fitting given that he was the only runner scoring points in the Div 1 team in all 10 races this season. So keen was he to maintain that record that it was only post race that he admitted to having spent more than a week in hospital after his half marathon win 2 weeks before with a nasty chest infection & had only recently been allowed out!!



The open women were looking to improve on their recent first ever podium finish (3rd) at the Sandown Relays. They were led off by Kristen Wyatt, Coreena Cleland & Eliza Curnow. Cathryn Hoare came into the Div 1 team late to replace an injured Georgie Clarke & took off in 2nd place. She ran a great race to run 60 sec quicker than 2009 & held on to that place to secure our best ever finish in the Open Women's division & 5th overall for the season – fantastic!



The O40 Men enjoyed having their own age division & very much enjoyed their bronze medal at the end of the day. Stay tuned all those O40, we are hoping to make the O40 division a priority in 2011 & score well on the season table – speak to Jack V (who scorched round in under 13mins today) for motivation if required!



The U14 Men went into the relays with an 11 point lead on the premiership table & so just needed a finish to win the season – a great situation to be in! Harry Hockley Samon, Jack Verstraten & Isaac Hockey teamed together to finish 5th & very much enjoyed the premiership spoils – well done!



The U16 Women also had their 2nd place for the season sealed with 1st place too far away to catch & 3rd too far behind. We had 2 U16 teams (great depth!) with Holly & Ricci Curtis teaming with Claudia Verstraten to finish 3rd overall & the 2nd team (Jmara Hockley Samon, Darcie Verstraten & Matilda Skok) close behind in 5th.



Postrace the Tan enjoyed a relaxing BBQ by the Yarra. A big thanks to our officials (Lyn Taylor, Leslie Elms & Nicole Spehar) and to all of those who helped out with the timing & the BBQ.

Next Race: To the bar for a drink at The Barking Dog Presentation Night Sunday Oct 10, from 5pm – full details emailed & on the website soon.

Check the next page for our Round 10 prize winners.

Awards



The **Steigen Team Player Award** goes to **Nicole Spehar**. Nicole volunteered to act as an official at 3 of the 4 races at which officials were required. This is a fantastic effort & thanks Nicole on behalf of the whole team. Enjoy your Steigen prizes!



The **Barking Dog Award** goes to **Harriet Smith**. Harriet is still U20 but stepped up at multiple races this year to help fill our open women's teams. Many thanks Harriet for adding to the much improved depth in the women's team this year & enjoy The Barking Dog.



The "**Complete Meal Award**" goes to our officials (Lyn Taylor, Nicole Spehar & Leslie Elms) & to those who most closely predicted their times. And an unbelievably close contest today requiring 6 awards - lucky we had a few extra! And these were ... Matilda Skok (1sec), Harriet Smith (2sec) & Brenton Rowe, Jason Woolhouse, Brett Coleman & Coreena Cleland (all 4sec). Congrats to all!



The **Steampacket Lunch Award** was again enjoyed by **everyone** present. A big thanks to Steampacket for their ongoing support & generosity.