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Summers second as sun sets on series

Thursday evening saw 270 runners line-up to take on the final race in the five mile Weston Athletic Club prom run series for 2017-18. After the heat of the week, light rain for the majority of the race provided some welcome relief for the runners.

With Chris McMillan taking it easy ahead of his weekend half marathon, Kieron Summers was favourite for first Weston AC finisher, and he didn't disappoint. Crossing the line in 27.49, Kieron was second overall, almost 30 seconds in front of the third placed runner, and also won his category.

Ben Haines was next from the club to finish, and fourth overall in 28.33. Ian Connock followed just 11 seconds later in 28.44 placing sixth overall.

Phil Richards was the club's fastest female on the night, and also second in her category, finishing in 33.28. Susan Duncan showed no signs of her recent injury troubling her as she crossed the line four seconds later in 33.32. Phillippa Stephens took third club female spot in 34.06.

The evening also proved profitable for the six members of the male vets team who won the vets team prize for the series, while the female team narrowly missed out to Clevedon Athletic Club.

Meanwhile in the junior one mile race, the younger runners finished the series with some blisteringly-fast performances. Winner Ollie Lock broke the five minute barrier to cross the line in 4.50. Another Ollie, Ollie Campbell, finished next in 5.24 with Louie Brunsdon preventing an Ollie 1,2,3 beating Oliver Andrews by three seconds to finish in 5.35.

No stranger to placings in the junior race, Poppy Burton-Dickie was the female winner, finishing in 6.03. There was then a battle for second and third spot between Mary Hemmings and Sophie Carratt, with Mary just edging ahead to finish a second faster in 6.22.

With no championship races being held over the bank holiday weekend, mother and daughter duo Jill Naughton and Michelle Fryer headed to Edinburgh to run the marathon - a first for Michelle, and second for Jill over 20 years after first tackling the distance. Despite battling with cramp for the last nine miles, Michelle still managed to finish in under four hours in 3.52.30 followed by Jill in 5.31.16.

Meanwhile, club whippet Chris McMillan took on the half marathon course, keen to put his current good form to the test. He ran a superb race and finished in a seriously-impressive time of 1.12.31 and fifth overall out of over 10,000 runners. Chris's result makes him the fastest current half marathon member of Weston Athletic Club, and fastest for over 25 years.

The next race organised by the club is the five mile Beacon Batch fell race on Tuesday 19 June. Entry costs just £6 with more details at www.westonac.co.uk/beaconbatch.

ENDS

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