



ON THE START LINE

A Month Of Meltham AC Racing

December 2020

2020 - A YEAR TO FORGET?

It started well enough, if not a bit wet underfoot...racing conditions were grim, Championships were going to the wire and your editor was moaning about being injured (somethings never change...). The new Championship schedules were out, with exciting revamps from Giles, Graham and Mark H; relays were booked and the 50th anniversary of the FRA looked like providing some fun...and then it all changed.

What was a whisper, became a news item...wash your hands and it'll be reet...and then almost overnight, Lockdown, and cancelled club and races.

Reshuffle the diary, reschedule, we'll be back in a few weeks...but we weren't.

A virtual handicap was fun, with John G taking the spoils, but races were now being cancelled, including our own.

Committee kept things in order as best they could and, when restrictions were relaxed, a limited to return to club sporadically moved around temporary lockdowns and a constant, almost daily, change in regulations.

With Tier 4 now a reality, we will keep an eye on Govt, Council and England Athletics guidance and work out when we will restart Tuesday nights (in whatever form). Committee will meet and we'll work with EA on what's going to happen with annual registrations for both individuals and the club itself; we'll also stay in touch with the clubhouse about access for the future.

And that's it really...I'll keep you informed via email and (for those that do) Facebook; any questions or queries just get in touch and we'll help as best we can.

Keep running, eat mince pies and let's see what 2021 brings....

Jeff

Winter Virtual Handicaps

As promised, we're running two Virtual Handicaps:

December - Road Route

January - Off Road Route

The Road route is being run for the first time in ages, and with no races and little contact with members, the Handicapping was going to be a tall order...but amazingly once the times started coming in they were holding up...so confidently I locked them in and sat back to watch the positions change as people attempted multiple attempts to better their times.

As it stands the top 7 are within 60 seconds of expected time (not bad on a course with an average finish time of 38 mins) and the top three are separated by just 12 seconds! 11 days still to record a time (please let me know and don't just expect me to find times on Strava...) and there's no Christmas Day parkrun....

In January we'll be running the standard Off Road route - I don't need to tell you this route, so just run it and send me your times...

..and to finish this shortest of OTSL's may I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year...and so does Gilly Markham in her own specific way:

