



Jells Park Cross Country Relays Saturday 1 May 2010

Jells Park in Glen Waverley hosts the Cross Country Relays at present and the opening event of the Winter season was held there on Saturday May 1. This year, the season's commencement was a little later than usual. Box Hill entered three senior men's teams, an Under 20 men's team, an Under 18 men's team, three senior women's teams, a 40+ team, Under 18 women's team and an Under 16 women's team. The Under 20 Men's team did not contest the race, but all other teams performed well, with three placings. This was a serviceable commencement to the Winter season, and when a number of athletes, who were unavailable on Saturday, return from injury or other reasons, we will perform even more strongly.

Last year, Box Hill placed second in the Division 1 race, being defeated by Ballarat YCW, not quite being able to catch them in the last leg after a barnstorming finish by Chris Hamer. This year's race looked to be more open, though we hoped Box Hill to challenge for a medal. Opponents Glenhuntly, Knox, Geelong, Essendon and Ballarat YCW all looked to have chances.

The race commenced with Andrew White running Box Hill's first leg of the two lap course. It was clear that he was in dynamic form, and he opened up a strong lead after just 800 m. Each loop of the course measures 3000 metres. He completed his first lap in scintillating form, running 8:45 for the first circuit, a very fast lap. When he commenced his second lap he had a four second gap which he extended to 17 seconds at the conclusion of his leg. His second lap was run in 8:57 with a total elapsed time of 17:42, a great leg, and the third fastest leg of the, one of only eight sub-18 minutes legs. This placed Box Hill clearly in the lead. Trailing our team were Glenhuntly and Geelong a second apart, with Collingwood and Ballarat YCW (BYCW) a little further back.

David Jimenez was selected to run our second leg but he reported that he was caught in traffic, so Luke Yeatman was promoted to run the second leg, and he did an excellent job, recording a very serviceable leg of 19:29. At the end of his first lap, he was in third place, but he fought back to have the Division 1 team in second place at the end of his lap 39 seconds down on Geelong but 11 seconds ahead of Glenhuntly.

Steve Kelly ran third for Box Hill and started off purposefully to catch the team in front. He ran a swift first lap of 8:55. He was pitted against Toby Rayner, Glenhuntly, who ran the second fastest leg of the day and Steve held his form to record a very good leg time of 18:17 and held third place as he handed over to John Meagher. John had only arrived back in the country from Europe that morning after managing a very successful team competing in the School Cross Country Championships, so his efforts were quite extraordinary. John recorded the great time of 19:05 maintaining Box Hill in the bronze medal position, 77 seconds behind Geelong which held second. . In this leg, Steve Moneghetti competed for Ballarat YCW and ran an amazing leg of 18:07, bring Ballarat YCW to within 36 seconds of Box Hill in fourth place. Meanwhile, Glenhuntly had charged to the lead with a break of 58 seconds over Geelong, with Richard Everest (GH) running the fastest lap of the day in 17:30 and Ben Toomey (Knox) running 17:46 to improve his teams position substantially..

Barry Lynch ran our penultimate lap, recording a very solid time of 18:40, and improved our standing to second, passing his Geelong opponent in the second lap, opening up a 30 second break. Glenhuntly had an unassailable lead at the conclusion of the fifth leg, and Knox had also passed Geelong to hold third place. Daniel Clark set off as the anchor for the team and maintained a slender lead of two seconds over Sam Crowther (Knox) after the first lap. There was a very

determined duel in the concluding stages, and Daniel was overtaken by Crowther after running stride for stride with him over most of the last lap. Crowther recorded the time of 17:43. At the finish, there was a very narrow margin of only three seconds separating Knox from Box Hill so our Men's team won the Bronze medal. Glenhuntly won the race by 2 minutes 14 seconds, a substantial margin, and were clearly the best team on the day.

Box Hill's Division 2 team ran soundly and finished in 6th position. Strong legs were recorded by Daniel Balassone (20:04) and Steve Griffin 20:40).

Box Hill finished 14th in Division 5 with Dave Featherston (22:33), Chris O'Connor (22:25) and John Vaitkunas (22:29) being the standout performers in this team.

Thanks to club members and parents who assisted with officiating and managing teams.

Cross Country Relay Team Results 2009 Jells Park

Division 1	1 st Leg	2 nd Leg	Total	Leader's Time	B.H. Time	Position
Andrew White	8:45	8:57	17:42	17:42 (BH)	17:42	1 st
Luke Yeatman	9:37	9:52	19:29	36:32 (Geel)	37:11	2 nd
Steve Kelly	8:55	9:22	18:17	54:54 (GH)	55:28	3 rd
John Meagher	9:24	9:41	19:05	72:24 (GH)	74:33	3 rd
Barry Lynch	9:16	9:24	18:40	91:16 (GH)	93:13	2 nd
Daniel Clark	9:07	9:08	18:15	109:11 (GH)	111:28	3rd

Division 1 Team Results

1. Glenhuntly	109:11
2. Knox	111:25
3. Box Hill	111:28
4. Geelong	112:07
5. Athletics Essendon	113:30
6. Ballarat YCW	115:43

Division 2

Daniel Balassone	9:37	10:27	20:04
Graeme Olden	11:01	10:57	21:58
Bert Pelgrim	10:39	10:38	21:17
David Jimenez			20:43
Andrew Nagle			21:15
Steve Griffin	10:15	10:25	20:40

Division 2 Team Results

1. Waverley	115:24
2. Frankston	115:51
3. Glenhuntly	118:05
4. Melbourne Uni	119:06
5. Richmond	123:47
6. Box Hill	125:57

Division 4

Dave Featherston	11:11	11::22	22:33
Peter Stefanos	12:24	12:45	25:09
John Vaitkunas	11:11	11:18	22:29
Andrew Tunne	13:45	13:35	27:20
Chris O'Connor	11:15	11:10	22:25

Division 4 Team Results

1. Ringwood	101:34
2. Waverley	107:05
3. Casey Cardinia	109:42
14. Box Hill	119:56

U/18

Dylan Eeles	10:33
Jonathan Tree	10.34
Angela Crowley	12:15

U/18 Division Team Results

1. Knox	29:05
2. Croydon	29:33
3. Geelong	31:18
7. Box Hill	33:22

WOMEN

Division 1

Rachel Johnson	21:52
Brooke Condon	22:07
Talitha Crawford	26:37
Julie Norney	22:35

Team results

1. Knox	85:32
2. Glenhuntly	86:39
3. Athletics Essendon	92:15
4. Box Hill	93:09
5. Bendigo	93:16
6. Richmend	93:24

Division 2

	26:31
	25:12
Margie Conley	26:21

Team results

1. Frankston	91:08
2. Glenhuntly	93:34
3. Diamond Valley	98:21
10. Box Hill	104:54

Over 40

June Petrie	24:06
Amanda Harper	29:18
Megan Sloane	27:29

Team results

1. Box Hill	29:53
2. Collingwood	82:20
3. Richmond	82:55

Under 20

Grace Brown	11:12
Olivia Turnbull	11:28
Emily de Luca	11:47

Team Results

1. Ruyton	33:15
2. Box Hill	34:27
3. Knox	36:02

Under 18

Amelia Savige	12:26
Brigitte Wolhuter	11:58
Helen Tower	13:15

Team Results

1. Essendon	33:12
2. Ballarat YCW	34:27
3. Casey Cardinia	37:10
5. Box Hill	38:09