



Burnley Half Marathon Championship Sunday 4 September 2011

Victorian Half Marathon Championship, Burnley Sunday 4 September 2011

This year's half marathon was run in clear but windy conditions. We had a fair turnout of male athletes but a lower than expected number of female participants. The men's and women's races were combined and a big field set off when the starter fired his gun at 8.00 a.m.

Andrew White was jogging around before the start which gave cause for hope that he may be able to run in the Tan relays.

Steve Kelly, third, Daniel Clark, sixth, Steve Dinneen, ninth and Chris Hamer, 12th, were all prominent in the first loop. Adrian Vincent made up the Division 1 team, perhaps in 35th position. When the field was next sighted, Steve Dinneen had moved into third place when the field ran by the finish line, followed by Steve Kelly in fifth, with Daniel Clark and Chris Hamer in the same group several positions behind. After nearly 20 minutes, Steve Dinneen moved into second position, with Daniel Clark, fifth, Chris Hamer sixth and Steve Kelly, not looking his usual self, eighth. Two South Melbourne athletes were at the front end, *** and Wondwosen Geleta. Rowan Walker (Geelong) was running fourth. A quick mathematical calculation revealed that Box Hill was leading the team's race at this early stage, with our team score at 54 points to Geelong's team score of 80 points. Adrian Vincent held 33rd position at this stage. And Michael Dowel, commenced a forward move which lifted him a number of places.

Steve Dinneen cemented the silver medal in the concluding stages by increasing the margin over Geleta and Walker, although not able to peg back his South Melbourne opponent in the lead. Daniel Clarke surrendered several positions and was passed by Chris Hamer. Steve Kelly slowed and was not having his best day. Michael Dowel also was improving his position and moved into the first 50, with David Jimenez also moving into the top 55. Adrian Vincent was slipping back marginally, to around 44th position.

At the finish, ***, South Melbourne, crossed the line first in 66 m. 23. Steve Dinneen ran a respectable second in 67:22? This was one of Steve's strongest performances, and he looked solid all the way. Third was Geleta (Sth Melb) in 67:59, with Walker (Geel.) fourth. Chris Hamer finished on really well and showed why many athletes with experience believe he will make a great road and marathon runner in the future, placing fifth and looking really strong at the end. Daniel Clark also ran well, although surrendering a small number of places near the end. He should also be well satisfied with his run, placing tenth. Michael Dowel ran a very sensible race, not over-extending himself in the early stages and ran past many tiring athletes in the second part of the race. He claimed 37th position. David Jimenez also ran to the same strategy and placed 46th. Adrian Vincent crossed the line shortly after to come 51st.

The women's race was tight for the first half with five athletes in contention; Anna Thompson (Glenhuntly, the eventual winner, Bev Thomas, Essendon, who finished second, Sophie Barker, Melbourne University, Susan Michelsson, who finished sixth and an athlete running in an unmarked blue uniform, who finished fourth. Julie Norney was our first placed athlete placing 16th in 88:04.

Men (Unofficial) Placings

1.	*** Yared Temesgen ??	Sth Melb	66:23
2.	Steve Dinneen	BH	67:22?
3.	Wondwosen Geleta	Sth Melb	67:59
4.	Rowan Walker	Geel.	68:28
5.	Chris Hamer	BH	69:47
10.	Daniel Clark	BH	70:41

37.	Michael Dowel	BH	75:07
46.	David Jimenez	BH	76:22
51.	Adrian Vincent	BH	76:36
97.	Daniel Balassone	BH	80:56
103.	Bert Pelgrim	BH	81:43
111.	Steve Kelly	BH	82:44
	Andrew Hester	BH	84:26
	Graeme Olden	BH	86:55
	Chris O'Connor	BH	91:05
	Bill Dyer	BH	92:54
	Andrew Tunne	BH	99:51
	Peter Stefanos	BH	101:24

Division 1 Teams (unofficial)

1.	Geelong	72	
2.	Box Hill	100	
3.	Waverley	127	
4.	APS	172	
5.	Collingwood	238	
6.	Glenhuntly	249	

Women's results (unofficial)

1.	Anna Thompson	GH	79:06
2.	Bev Thomas	Ess.	80:16
3.	Sophie Barker	M. Uni	80:56
4.	Julie Norney	BH	88:04
40	Vanessa Stewart-Krstitch	BH	96:40
41	Amy Carrig	BH	96:51
	Talitha Crawford	BH	104:23
	Megan Sloane	BH	104:35
	Neetha Pai	BH	?