

Rd 3 Report Sandown Classic 26 May 2007

On a sunny but windy day the winter team travelled to Sandown Park for the annual 10km road race. The strong headwind as we ran up the hill along the back straight made conditions tougher than we hoped but this is pretty normal for this track.

The Juniors took the track first for the 1 lap 3km event. Uma had a slight lead over Ganesha at the 2km mark with Anissa and Rhys battling it out a few seconds behind. Further back Seema was trying hard to hang on to the group in front of her and Jessica had a great smile on her face as she ran past us on our warm up lap.

Madeline Pape fresh from some great performances over in the US also ran as an invitation in the 3km and flew around in 10min 34secs.

Other Times and placings :

Ganesha Muthia 11.47 22nd (M16)
Uma Muthia 12.11 20th (F18)
Anissa Muthia 12.40 24th (F18)
Rhys Cook 12.41 30th (M16)
Seema Muthia 13.26 27th (F16)
Jessica George 14.07 29th (F16)

In the 10km event all eyes were on the race for the club trophy which was currently held by myself. With no James Atkinson or Stevie Williams we thought it would be a battle between Martin Spiteri, Youngy and myself with Martin being the slight favourite due to his impressive form in the 2 earlier events. The race started with Youngy pulling slowly away from me during the first lap and gaining a 40m to 50m lead. Gradually I caught up with him and we ran together for a couple of km until I managed to gain a small lead. With just under 1.5km to go I was surprised to see Martin go past me as I thought he was well ahead. It turns out he had a dreadful start and was boxed in and lost a lot of ground early on. At this stage he was moving really well and was moving thru the field at an impressive rate of knots. I tried to hang on to him as best I could but even though I was overtaking other runners he got nearly 40m in front of me. My only chance was to keep as close as possible and try and outsprint him at the end. Unfortunately for me he was too far ahead despite my last ditched efforts he deservedly finished ahead of me and claimed the 10km trophy on his first attempt.

There were fantastic efforts from all the runners in the tough windy conditions and it was quite hot crunning up the home straight with a tail wind. Well done to the ladies, Shamila and Simone, for excellent runs over the 10km course. There was also a great battle between Matt, Harvs and Tim around the 40min mark with Matt just edging out the other 2.

Times and placings:

Martin Spiteri 25.01 91st New Club 10km Champion
John Hand 35.03 92nd
Michael Young 35.37 106th (PB)
Ash Snowden 38.07 184th
Warren Holst 39.14 219th
Matt Minney 40.19 256th
Michael Harvey 40.23 259th
Tim Albiston??? 40.26 261st
Tony George 42.08 305th
Johhny Nolan 43.13 318th
Shamila Muthia 56.26 125th
Simone Albiston 61.20 134th