

Tay race is a Ten for Perth runners



On their marks Runners at the Tay Ten starting line

SPORTS REPORTER

Hundreds of runners gathered in Perth for the highlight of their season as they took part in the Tay Ten open race.

Members of Perth Road runners were among some of the athletes who took part in the 10-mile event through the Fair City on Sunday, April 28.

The tough contest route follows the Tay and Almond from the George Duncan Athletics Arena, around the North Inch and along the rivers to Almondbank and back.

It increasingly attracts more of Scotland's leading runners. The 2024 renewal featured a slightly altered course - now even faster - mainly to avoid growing vehicle numbers at Ruthvenfield.

A total of 265 runners left the start at 11am in perfect running conditions: cool, still and dry.

Leading the runners home comfortably, in a new event record of 51 mins 54 seconds, was James Donald of Dundee Hawkhill Harriers. Dundee Road Runners made off with both team prizes and their leading lady, Mairi Littleton, was the first female finisher in 1:02:32.

Across the age categories, no fewer than five new event records were set.

New PRR recruit, Rose Ryan, took the Under-20 ladies title in its first year in 1:12:13, while Liz Johnston - running into fine form - was awarded the first 50+ lady prize in 1:10:35.

Eleven Perth Road Runners competed overall: these are comparatively small numbers owing to the need for club members to organise and marshal the race.

The Tay Ten is only possible with considerable support from beyond the club: Perth parkrun, Kinross Road Runners, Dundee Road Runners and PKC all made crucial contributions. The race requires a major planning and volunteering effort from well over fifty club members, joined by a delegation of fourteen Police Youth Volunteers. The understanding of residents along the course is also much appreciated.

Race planning will now turn to the club's best-known open race, the five-mile Brig Bash, held through and from Bridge of Earn on the evening of Wednesday, July 3.

Perth Road Runners welcomes experienced runners and newcomers alike, meeting on Tuesday evenings at Bells Sports Centre, and on alternate Wednesday/Thursday evenings for track and hill training.

Full details can be found at www.perthroadrunners.co.uk.



Under-20s title Rose Ryan



First female Mairi Littleton