

2022 Elk/Beaver Ultras Race Director's Report

An enthusiastic group of pandemic fatigued runners gathered at Hamsterly Beach on May 14, 2022. It was nice to see so many familiar faces returning to the starting line.

The weather was as it was forecasted – partly cloudy with a chance of rain. Temps at 9 degrees Celsius at 6 am with 14 degrees by midday with a short downpour mid morning. The course followed the CRD 10K loop, keeping out of the low-lying areas on the east side of Beaver Lake.

100K

Once again, we had the honour to host the 100K ACU National Championships. First time ultra runner Tyler Shaw from Victoria was the overall winner with a time of 9:06:29. A very inspiring effort! Second place overall was seven-time Elk/Beaver competitor Bonbon (Bonnie) Reszel with another victory in the MF category. Bonnie was back with a time of 10:11:28. Troy Forslund of Victoria came in third overall with a very respectable time of 10:22:25. This event is used to help determine the ACU Team Canada roster for 2022.

50 Mile/80K

Overall winner was Steven Cologne from Vancouver, BC with a 7:44:35 for 80K. Philippe Daigle from Becancour, QC came to visit us and came in second with a time of 8:36:48. Third place went to Wade Chisan from Strathmore, AB with a time of 9:54:26. OW winner went to Robyn Amerongen from Edmonton, AB with a time of 10:32:04. Thank you for travelling to Victoria for our event!

50K

The 50K event was dominated by two amazing master athletes. Gene Lecuyer from Delta, BC won our event with a great time of 3:49:59. Keith Wakelin from Qualicum Beach, BC placed second with 4:02:19. Greg Courtice from Kelowna, BC placed third with 4:22:23. Brooklyn Liefting was our MW 50K champion with a time of 5:02:50. A very fast 50K field.

40 Walk

The 40K Walk always has fierce competitors. This year Hilary Thomas from Calgary joined us again and won this event with a time of 6:02:18. Hilary was our MW 50 Mile/80K (running) champion in 2018 and 2019. Jan Goyette from Vernon, BC placed second in 7:21:25 and Bill Courtice from Calgary AB placed third with 7:33:23. Tough and determined walkers!

Special Mention

For many, our event is a personal challenge. Rose O'Neill from Quesnel came to our event to celebrate her return to competitive running. She entered the 50K to compete for the first time after getting hit by a car and losing her right leg below the knee. She completed 30K and earned the respect of all runners and crew. Great job, Rose! Hope to see you next year!

Volunteers

This show would not happen without the experience and expertise of our amazing Prairie Inn Harriers volunteers. Bob Reid: Bob, thank you once again for your help and guidance throughout the year in preparation for the big day. Christine Thate: Christine, thank you for shivering with me at the time-keeping table for another year. Joseph Camilleri: Joe! Thank you for your amazing photographs and talent. Gary Duncan: Gary, thank you for toughing out the weather for the official course measurement. Mike Emerson: Mike, thank you for your hard work with set up and tear down. The commitment to make this event a success by all our volunteers that day is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Our Sponsor

A special thank you to our sponsor, Phil Nicholls, and his local running store “2:18 Run” for his continued support – once again generously supplying volunteers and runners with souvenir shirts. Thank you very much, Phil!

Darcy Kernel

Race Director
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