

Manx Easter Festival 2008

Sunny but cold and windy conditions greeted runners for the 46th Isle of Man Easter Athletics festival. After three hard days of competitive action, Trafford AC's Tom Minshull and Emma Waterhouse of Leeds University/DOSS AC took the individual honours. Overall team awards went to Liverpool Harriers and Waterhouse's Leeds University/DOSS AC.

The action started in Port Erin on Good Friday evening in extremely windy conditions. The pre-race favourite James Walsh had elected to withdraw following his selection for the World Cross Championships next weekend. Last year's winner Jonny Mellor of Liverpool Harriers was



a comfortable winner from Tom Minshull and Paul Rodgers of Crawley AC. A record field for the women's race and there was an extremely close finish with just four seconds covering the first three - Emma Waterhouse taking the verdict from Fiona Thompson (Aberdeen) and Victoria Finch (Solihull and Smallheath).

On Saturday afternoon the action moved to Peel in the west of the Island, the lung bursting climbs being made even tougher by the strong winds. Rodgers and Minshull were again battling it out, this time for the win, with Minshull prevailing in the last 100m. The women's race over a slightly shorter route provided a surprise victory for Emily Klee of Leeds University/DOSS AC.

Sunday morning and the action moved to Douglas Promenade for the - 4 x 5k relay for the men and a 5k race for women. Although the wind had dropped a little, conditions were still tough on the flat out and back route. First off were the women with Emma Waterhouse doing enough to win the race and secure the overall title. Liverpool Harriers, including a super-quick leg of 14.54 by Jonny Mellor, had a comfortable win from Manchester University and Hunters Bog Trotters. [Results](#)

