

Tod Blossoms in Red Rose League

Red Rose XC League Rossendale – 6 Dec 2014



No shortage of mud at Marl Pits

Todmorden Harriers sent their strongest squad of 2014 to Marl Pits in Rossendale for the final race in the Red Rose Cross Country League. Team spirit and desire has grown from race 1 where a skeleton men's squad performed well enough to be in the mix for honours, which inspired greater commitment in races 2 and 3 to close the gap on Blackburn and Rossendale.

In the 4th and final race of the season the big winners were Todmorden's male Vets team who produced their finest performance in the series to overhaul Blackburn and win the Red Rose XC League Vets team title. The ladies vets team had built up a head of steam over the 4 races to secure 3rd place overall in the veterans team category.

Mel Blackhurst capped a fantastic year in being crowned the Tod Harriers Ladies XC champion. The race for the male equivalent title went right down to the wire with Andrew Wrench finishing in front of Nick Barber for the first time in the league, but it was Barber who took the title scoring 183.6 points to Wrench's 183.1, which equates to just a 10 second gap in the whole competition. With Wrench and Barber driving the Tod train it was Ivan Gee, Dwane Dixon, Robin Tuddenham, Paul Brannigan, Chris Goddard, Craig Stansfield and Dave Garner down in the engine room who powered a procession of red, white and blue Tod vests across the line to a superb Men's Open team 2nd on the day and 4th place in the overall team competition.

Paul Brannigan won the overall Red Rose title in the age 50-54 category. Nick Barber finished 2nd overall in the age 35-39 category. Mel Blackhurst finished 3rd lady overall in the age 45-49 category and Moyra Parfitt missed out on overall 1st place in the age 65-69 category by just 1 point.

Jack Crummett finished 11th overall in the U17 competition and Jamie Lannagan finished 58th in the U11 boys race.

Red Rose prize presentation is at Horwich RMI Club on Friday 27th February 2015

If you would like to attend then put your name down on the forum or let Nick B know.