

Cairns Road Runners Twin Bridges Half Trail Marathon, 13 October 2013

Race Director: Dave O'Brien

The Twin Bridges Trail Race was held on a beautiful, sunny Sunday with 29 starters. It was a real "girl power" day with 17 women and only 12 men competing. A number of runners were attempting their first race at the Half Marathon distance and all finished. Congratulations to all of you!

As a first time Race Director I scored a few more grey hairs when the bus to take competitors to the race start didn't show up at the appointed time. Thankfully for us, friendly substitute driver Mick, gave up his day off to get us to the start with only a 30 minute delay. Thanks a lot, Mick!

The track was in great shape; dry and shady with several picturesque creek crossings. Photographer Richie Gray told me he was fascinated by the many and varied techniques employed by runners when faced by the deeper Twin Bridges creek crossing!

First across the finish line was Damien Coad in 1 hour 44 mins 46 secs followed by Robert McCartney in 1. 51. 21 and Bruce Hansen arriving just over a minute later.

The first lady home wasn't far behind with Lisa Lodwick crossing in 2. 04. 50. Alena Scurrah crossed less than 10 minutes later and Dorothy Reeman and Stephanie Rea shared third position with a time of 2. 19. 17 Mother and daughter Sarina and Jessica Piercy finished within 5 seconds of one another and a large group of runners finished within 8 minutes of one another at the back end of the field. Mareeba runner Ken Cotterill shed buckets of sweat but finished to round out the race. Congratulations, everybody!

A post-race BBQ was held at the finish line and awards presented before the bus and private cars headed homeward.

Races like this are impossible to run without help and I would like to thank all those volunteers who made this race possible. The list includes my long-suffering wife Brenda, who not only had to put up with a stressed out husband for two weeks but also helped with catering. Allan Waller did a great job on the BBQ and helped with post-race pack-up. Doug English put out some much appreciated water and provided transport to and from the race and my friend and professional photographer, Richie Gray took plenty of action shots which will soon appear on Cairns Roadrunners Facebook page. He also helped mark out the track.

Thanks too to SES volunteers, Dennis and Jan and to the tireless Gareth Smith who rode his bicycle up and down the track as Sweep and to Lorraine Lawson for help with race organisation and mentoring. Last, but definitely not least, I'd like to thank Christine Bell for help with Registration, Timing and Recording pre and post-race; her cool head and reassuring words when I needed them. Congratulations also to Christine for taking out the inaugural Master Chef Award for "tasty trail tucker" with her legendary energy slice.

I hope everyone enjoyed being part of the event!

Results

Overall placing	Bib #	Name	Age group	Time	Category placing
1	510	Damien Coad	M 40-49	1. 44. 46	1
2	503	Robert McCartney	M 40-49	1. 51. 21	2
3	32	Bruce Hansen	M 50-59	1. 52. 39	1
4	402	Jeff Herbert	M 30-39	1. 54. 10	1
5	7	David Von Senden	M 50-59	1. 56. 48	2
6	376	Andrew Morgan	M 40-49	2. 04. 20	3
7	506	Lisa Lodwick	F 19-29	2. 04. 50	1
8	500	Alena Scurrah	F 30-39	2. 14. 10	1
9	99	Rod Fearon	M 40-49	2. 19. 0	4
10	175	Dorothy Reeman	F 30-39	2. 19. 17	2
11	507	Stephanie Rea	F 19-29	2. 19. 17	2
12	28	Laura Garner	F 40-49	2. 25. 41	1
13	505	Gerna Thompson	F 30-39	2. 26. 38	3
14	263	Tennille Farnsworth	F 30-39	2. 29. 25	4
15	53	Ryan Burnell	M 30-39	2. 31. 45	2
16	191	Sarina Piercy	F 50-59	2. 35. 15	3

17	397	Jessica	Piercy	F 19-29	2. 35. 10	1
18	251	Marian	Webster	F 40-49	2. 35. 55	2
19	504	Pieter	Taylor	M 40-49	2. 40. 23	5
20	365	Kelly	Gaudin	F 30-39	2. 40. 49	5
21	394	Steve	Comport	M 50-59	2. 42. 00	3
22	508	Sabbi	Grossmann-Phillips	F 30-39	2. 46. 45	6
23	509	Lisa	Essig	F 30-39	2. 46. 45	7
24	312	Darrelle	Taylor	F 40-49	2. 47. 28	3
25	502	Kath	Kinneally	F 40-49	2. 48. 45	4
26	511	Louise	Oliver	F 30-39	2. 48. 45	8
27	205	Sharon	Waller	F 50-59	2. 59. 10	2
28	501	Ken	Cotterill	M 60-69	3. 45. 45	1
29	95	Dave	Obrien (Sweep)	M 50-59	3. 45. 50	4