

DPFR Juniors Annual Report

Lewis Ashton

Leaders

It is important to recognise the effort put in by some key people. Kris Groome has led a large number of the runs. Proactively offering to lead on a regular basis. Other people new to taking the groups this year include Paul & Rosie, Mark Whitworth.

Members

We currently have 27 members.

U9 – 5

U11 – 4

U13 – 3

U15 – 7

U17 – 5

U19 – 3 (although some U19 are Seniors)

Boys 12

Girls 15

The overwhelming majority are children of Senior Members.

Championships 2019

After the first two races in the 2019 Junior Championship, the following Dark Peak runners are recorded:

U11 Maxwell Groome 51st (only 1 race of 2)

U13G Isobelle Groome 42nd (only 1 race of 2)

U15G Ffion Patton 19th, Amelia Theobald 30th

U19G Emily Barnett 2nd

U15B Eddie Fitzpatrick 23rd, George Doyle 52nd

U17B Euan Patton 5th, Thomas Bradley 32nd

In the Club Standings, Dark Peak are in 11th.

Best 3 runners at each event score for the team.

The Next Race is Coiners (Mytholmroyd. Calder Valley) on 6th May.

Current information can be found at: <https://www.dpfr.org.uk/pages/view/juniors>

Commendations

Emily Barnett has been a stalwart of the juniors since the outset. Making the effort to turn out to Sunday runs to ensure they kept going through the early lean sessions and consistently racing hard. That is paying dividends in the championship this year.

Eddie Fitzpatrick has been a consistently enthusiastic participant. The step up in championship racing has been hard but he's plugging away.

Affiliation

There is no longer any conflict with Hallamshire Harriers being affiliated for fell running. They have withdrawn that aspect of their affiliation. In local races runners take their pick as to whom they wish to run for; Dark Peak, Hallamshire, Hope Valley Hurricanes, & etc. There are no team prizes.

Sunday runs

We do regular Sunday runs, every other week. Locations vary. There are two nominated leaders for each run. The groups are usually split into under 10 and over 10. The under 10s typically play some running games – a bit of tig and hide and seek. The over 10s do a mix of drills and a run.

It has been suggested that a steady senior run could also be initiated at the same 9:30 start on a Sunday. If anyone were keen to drive this forward, please speak up.

Numbers over the last three months have been roundabout 10 kids per session. Summer numbers are usually a little higher.

Over the last year, there have also been some additional runs to address specific groups – Teenagers & Girls. Both of these were well attended and judged a success. Hopefully, we'll find time to run a number of specials again in 2019.

Rucksack club young person's running meet

May 11/12 is the Rucksack club young person's running meet at High Moss, in the Duddon Valley. Dark Peak is overwhelmingly represented. There are still spaces available. Being a member of the Rucksack club is not compulsory... neither is being young! Lewis is the Organiser, with Ian Fitz being back up.

May is not a very good time for anyone in education, so I'm open to suggestions about a better time of year for a future meet.

Graduation to the senior ranks – the way ahead!

We now have a successful and functioning Junior section. As a club, we now have to give some thought to how we wish to support and receive young adults into the senior ranks. Its not reasonably to support them and lead them on Tuesday and on Wednesday throw them out of the car and tell them that Personal Responsibility is theirs. Experience of Dark Peak, of the mountains, senior championships and of our esoteric club races are all there to be gained and built upon. We as a club have responsibility to support that... otherwise, the Junior section is just window dressing.

It is notable, that we are already showing a poor capability to bring Bradfield runners through from the Junior to Senior ranks.

So the open questions are: how do we wish to take this forwards and what do we wish to provide?

There are a few great aspects being formalised. Club race organisers allowing 14 & 15 year old to race with an adult (based on FRA navigation race rules) and 16 & 17 year old racing solo. Cap'n Andy is a stalwart of support for these requests in his races.

Current information can be found at: <https://www.dpfr.org.uk/pages/view/juniors>

U23 trophies are slowly being added to open races. Burbage has them. I've discussed it with Kris about Longshaw. What's the position with Edale Skyline? Wolf's pit? What about any other open races that our members are involved with organising?

Captains, I'll make every effort in supporting you to welcome younger runners into the senior ranks.

Do we wish to take the radical step of introducing a Youth Development post on the committee?

I would welcome your views and discussion.

2018 Junior Championship final positions

U15 boys

Eddie Fitzpatrick – 40th

George Doyle – 44th

U15 girls

Alyssa Lowrie – 52nd

U17 girls

Emily Barnett – 13th

U19 boys

Kieran Loombe – 5th

Clin Din Htoo – 30th

U19 girls

Eve Crownshaw – 5th

Club 2018

Position	Club	Score	Avg runner score
1	Rosendale HAC	862	47.9
2	Ambleside AC	851	47.3
3	Wharfedale Harriers	835	46.4
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12	Clayton-le-Moors	721	40.1
13	Dark Peak	662	36.8
14	Settle Harriers	606	33.7