

Jack Bloor Fell Race 9th May 2023 – Race Report

Once again the sun shone for the 36th Jack Bloor Race. This 8.4 km navigational fell race takes place on Ilkley Moor each year to commemorate the life of an acclaimed Yorkshire sportsman and to raise funds to support young Yorkshire people to develop physical and technical skills in outdoor adventure sport.

Applications for grants are OPEN all year, www.jackbloor.co.uk

First home this year was Nathan Lawson from Dark Peak in a time of 39:52 with Graham Rush from Leeds City AC hot on his heels in 39:54. Harry Kingston from North Leeds Fell Runners took third place. The Arthur Dolphin Trophy for the first man U23 was awarded to Jack Walton of Doss AC who was closely followed by two further MU23s, local lad Sam Bentham from Ilkley Harriers, and Max Bloor, Jack Bloor's grandson, who was competing for the second time. Alistair Richardson (another grandson, who flew in from New Zealand and competed for the first time)

Nathan Lawson wrote this after the race; *Fun racing at the Jack Bloor Fell Race last Tuesday. Happy to have fought back from a small mistake for a narrow win. Great to have finally been able to make it this year and good to be able to support a fund which helped me several times as a younger athlete fund racing for GB. They do some great work and I'd definitely encourage any young athletes from or based in Yorkshire to get in touch with them!*

Jenny Roberts from North Leeds Fell Runners led the females field home in a time of 52:52, followed by Lucy Piling (WV40) in 2nd place and Niamh Jackson (WV40) in third position. The Pat Bloor trophy for the first female U23 was awarded to Sarah Barker from Leeds University.

In the older veteran classes Aileen Baldwin from Stainland Lions RC won the LV70 category in an impressive time of 73:35.

The winning men's team was Doss AC formed of Jack Walton, Evan Bates and Ritchie Walton. For the women team event victory went to North Leeds Fell Runners Jenny Roberts, Niamh Jackson and Sarah Bannister.

Over 50 participants took part in the junior races earlier in the evening with impressive times and some close finishes, in particular the U11s race. In the U9 category Jack Luca from Keighley and Craven AC was first boy and Annabel Raven from Wharfedale Harriers first girl. The U11s was led by Jake Milner from Keighley and Craven AC and Penny Pinker-Hull, Bingley AC for the girls. For the U13s Robert Carter from Ilkley Harriers led the boys home, and Alice White from Keighley and Craven the girls. In the U15s Jacob Palmer from Skyrac was first boy and Holly Fitch from Wharfedale first girl home. Finally, in the U19s Alex Wolfenden took a clear lead for the males and Betsy Willis from Wharfedale was first female home.

As always we are extremely grateful to our generous sponsors Outside The Box and Complete Runner, both of whom provided race prizes alongside the coveted Jack Bloor trophies for winners. We are also grateful to members of the Gritstone Club, Airienteers, Ilkley Harriers and all our others supporters who make this sporting and community event possible.

Next year the 37th Jack Bloor Race will take place on Tuesday 14th May 2024.

Results

Men			
1	N. Lawson	Dark Peak Fell Runners	39.52
2	G. Rush O/40	Leeds City AC	39.54
3	H. Kingston	North Leeds Fell Runners	41.03
Under 23			
1	J. Walton (4)	Doss AC	43.02
Veterans O/50			
1	P. Darwood (10)	U/A	44.41
Veterans O/60			
1	I. Fergusson (44)	Bingley Harriers	54.04
Veterans O/70			
1	A. Cardinale (146)	Otley AC	115.32
Women			
1	J. Roberts (35)	North Leeds Fell Runners	52.52
2	R. Pilling O/40 (38)	Pudsey & Bramley	53.38
3	N. Jackson (56)	North Leeds Fell Runners	57.05
Under 23			
1	S. Barker (87)	Leeds University	60.56
Veterans O/50			
1	A. Weston (79)	Ilkley Harriers	60.16
Veterans O/60			
1	H. Cook (135)	U/A	84.14
Veterans O/70			
1	A. Baldwin (126)	Stainland Lions RC	73.35
Juniors			
Boys U/9			
1	J. Luca	Keighley and Craven AC	4.11
Girls U/9			

1	A. Raven (3)	Wharfedale Harriers	4.34
Boys U/11			
1	J. Milner	Keighley and Craven AC	3.40
Girls U/11			
1	P. Pinker-Hull (5)	Bingley AC	3.49
Boys U/13			
1	R. Carter	Ilkley Harriers	8.22
Girls U/13			
1	A. White (2)	Keighley and Craven AC	8.59
Boys U/15			
1	J. Palmer	Skyrac	7.41
Girls U/15			
1	H. Fitch (5)	Wharfedale Harriers	8.56
Male U/19			
1	A. Wolfenden	Ilkley Harriers	12.04
Femals U/19			
1	B. Willis (4)	Wharfedale Harriers	19.34