

Orienteer of the Year Awards 2013

The trend to find and compete in events far and wide found MDOC members making sure that the club was well represented. From Rome, which replaced the Venice Urban, to Narbonne in France and the World Masters in Italy to the Hungarian 5 day and not forgetting Sardinia, the new MDOC orienteering tops were on show.

On the domestic scene a place in the CompassSport Cup final still eludes the club although it was only a matter of a few points that prevented us from qualifying for the final.

The Scottish 6 day, which used areas close to the forth-coming 2015 World Championships, provided excellent terrain where MDOC had many praiseworthy performances.

It is worth mentioning at this point that Alex McCann who has risen up through the junior ranks and has shown great potential in all aspects of the sport has been recognised with his selection for the British Orienteering Talent Development Squad. Alex is now at Sheffield University.

We begin this year's awards with the 'most promising orienteer of the year' which goes to a junior who competes with enthusiasm and determination and despite some setbacks comes back with more desire to do better as shown by winning the White Rose night score and sprint event. In addition he was placed 6th in the Northern Championships and just recently took 1st place in M14 at the Twin Peaks event.

The award goes to River Edis-Smith (M14)

The next award goes to the most improved orienteer. The winner this year is a senior whose improvement in fitness has enabled him to hold his own in his class. He has had many good results in both forest and urban events and in the club championships has scored 1000 points more than he did in 2012.

The award goes to Chris Kirkham (M65)

As in previous years the Team of the year award produced several contenders. This year the club had two teams that took 3rd place in the British Relay Championships, the M18 and W60+.

The award goes to the W60+ team which consisted of 2 W65's and a W70.

The team members who took the Bronze medal were Irene Crawshaw (W65), Jan Ellis (W65) and Rae Lomas (W70).

The junior awards this year go to two orienteers who have set the bar very high for any future juniors to aspire too. Both of them have had outstanding results not only in their age classes but also in open classes and have both represented their country.

Their commitment and dedication continued in 2013 and they are worthy award winners again.

The Junior Female award goes to Laura Hindle.

The Junior Male award goes to Matthew Fellbaum.

This year's senior female award goes to someone who achieved the following results - 2nd in the British Long Distance Championships, 4th in the British Sprint Championships, 1st place in the Midlands Championships and November Classic and 2nd W70 in the UK league while at the Scottish 6 day finished 1st Brit and joint 2nd on points.

The award goes to Rae Lomas (W70).

The senior male award is awarded to an orienteer who consistently shows a high level of performance across the full range of orienteering events and in particular those events demanding great stamina. This culminated in his incredible achievement in the 'Everest Marathon' where he completed the course in just over 6 hours and was the 2nd non-Nepali to finish and was 15th overall.

The award goes to Steve Lang.

Finally the special award which is given for consistently high levels of attainment in their class goes deservedly to someone who this year was 2nd in the JK, 3rd in the Northern Championships, 1st in the British Championships and 1st in his class in the UK league and 1st in Twin Peaks.

The award goes to Andrew Gregory (M75).