

Border League Race 1- Prestatyn, 16 October 2011

Fifteen Deestridders joined a field of over 300 to kick off the 2011-12 Border League season at Prestatyn, a flat 5.14 miler in warm windy conditions.

20 year old Andy Edwards opened his account in the senior division with a stunning 29.28 for 26th place. Next in was Mark Williams in his Border League debut who followed his excellent run at the Flintshire 10k with a strong 35.22, narrowly overhauling fell runner Chris Jones in the final stages who made a terrific return to the roads with 35.23. Not far behind were Pete Barraclough (35.50) and Fred Aird (35.57) showing the men's team has a powerful contingent. Martin Witty, normally one of the club's fastest, has been out with an Achilles injury for some time and made his return today with a steady 36.39, however he got round pain-free and now looks forward to being able to build back up. The always reliable Mike O'Brien made the long trip from Newton-le-Willows to complete the men's scorecard with a good time of 37.06. Strong support followed from Peter Rooney (37.56), Kev Burns (40.08) and Phil Taylor whose 40.35 reflected the fact he'd battled round the Munich Half Marathon the previous weekend.

In the women's race, an injured Jay Jennions struggled home 23rd in 37.30 but given she'd crashed out of the Flintshire 10k the previous week, to finish was an accomplishment. An unwell Linda Martin was next in in a brave 38.40. Becki Hall, recently back from the trip of a lifetime to America, made a quality return with 40.54. The women are currently second in Division 2 and if they can hang on all season will enjoy promotion. Border League debutantes Anouska Youds and Lindsey Bellis are a welcome addition to the women's team as they continue to make their mark with promising times of 43.27 and 45.26 respectively.