



Club Championships



The **Chippenham Harriers Running Championships** (Championship) is an annual series of races open to the paid-up athletes belonging to Chippenham Harriers Running Club.

Championships (Categories)

The Championships shall be organised into four specific groups, which will be:

- Chippenham Harriers Open* Championship
 - Open to all members regardless of gender (we would expect predominantly male)
- Chippenham Harriers Female Championship
 - Open to all female members
- Chippenham Harriers Open* Masters** Championship
 - Open to all members regardless of gender (we would expect predominantly male)
 - Race finish times adjusted according to current WMA scoring calculations
- Chippenham Harriers Female Masters** Championship
 - Open to all female members
 - Race finish times adjusted according to current WMA scoring calculations

Any member wishing to abstain from the annual Championships may do so by sending a request to the committee or membership secretary.

* With an increasing emphasis on tolerance and especially inclusion in all sports, we are following the general lead of using the category of Open. This means that any gender may enter the Open category. We would expect this to be mostly male entrants, but this adjustment will allow for any entrant of any gender (or non-gender) to compete in our club championships. The female category is unaffected.

(** The Masters competitions are open to those aged 40 years or older - see below for meaning of WMA)

Summary

The detailed rules follow, but here is a quick summary:

- Four Championship categories
- Score based on position to other Harriers (start at 30 pts, min 5 pts)
- Best race scores accumulated (drop worst two scores)
- Selected races from WRRL, WORL plus parkrun
- Prizes for category winners



WMA (World Master Athletics)

Many athletes will have a competitive view to their racing, whether this is just a personal time-based desire or a desire to do better against other athletes.

In recognising that everyone's abilities will change with age, the athletics community have formed a specific group to support the older athletes. This group is generally labelled Masters. There are Masters categories at most athletics events and even specific masters' competitions with international teams.

Further to this desire for a comparative way of measuring performance, the World Master Athletics support calculators across many athletics events to enable younger and older athletes to directly compete against each other. This is achieved using a calculator that adjusts the results of each athlete according to their specific age. The calculator is applied to the results and gives a new WMA scoring. There are variations on this whereby you can have a % scoring instead. These calculators are created mathematically using the world record results for athletes at various ages. These are also regularly reviewed and updated.

For the purpose of the Chippenham Harrier Championships, the current WMA calculators will be applied to the original race times (according to age), giving new finish times to each athlete. These will then be used to generate the WMA Championship scores, in a similar fashion to the non-WMA scores.

WMA was formerly known as WAVA.

Races

Races for inclusion in Championship shall be selected and/or approved by the club committee. The Championship shall be run over a series of races hosted within the geographic boundary of the county of Wiltshire, or in adjacent counties. An exception to this will be for the inclusion of parkrun events. The committee shall try to ensure a balance of distance events ranging from 5K to Half Marathon distances and a mixture of Road and Off-Road within the Championship.

The Championship races will run during a calendar year (January to December). It will be a recommendation that any event selected for inclusion in the Championship is identifiable through the issue of a race permit by either UK Athletics or Association of Running Clubs and that any minimum standards attached to the issue of the permit be met.

If a series race is included (such as 5k series each month over several races), the best times from the races, for each individual, shall be used in a single race result. The single race results will then be used to calculate the individual scores, as per other races.



Race Cancellations

In the event of a race cancellation, the following steps shall be taken to mitigate, in order of preference:

- a) The rescheduled event if within the current year and avoiding date clashes with any other race would be its replacement.
- b) An alternative event within the current year and avoiding date clashes with any other Championship race would be its replacement.
- c) If six or more races had been run then the race would be removed from the Championship.

Full or 'Mini' Championship

A full Championship year will consist of at least 6 eligible races in the calendar year.

- a) If less than three races are held in the Championship (i.e., 1 or 2) then the Championships will be deemed null and void for that year
- b) If less than six races take place and at least three races, the Championship will be deemed a 'Mini-Championship' for that year

Eligibility

It is the responsibility of individual athletes to ensure that they have entered the League race with the correct club details. In the event of an error, athletes will have no more than fourteen days to notify the Race Organiser and Championship administrator. In case of dispute the club committee will have final say.



Scoring

The total Championship points for each athlete will be calculated as follows:

Scores are determined by the finishing position of an athlete belonging to Chippenham Harriers relative to other finishing eligible athletes in the same category. Starting with a score of 30 for the first finisher, 29 for the second finisher, 28 for the third and so on. Every entrant in a race, who finishes, will have a minimum of 5 pts.

For a Mini-Championship (3-5 events):

- If a member completes all events, the worst scoring event will be dropped
- If a member does not complete all events all scores will be counted

For a Full Championship (6+ events):

- If a member completes all events, the worst two scoring events will be dropped
- If a member completes in every event except one, the worst scoring event will be dropped
- In all other cases, all scores will be counted

Prizes

An award shall be made to the individuals in each Championship category who score the most points. In the event of a tie, then the head-to-head scoring races shall be used as a deciding factor. At the discretion of the committee prizes may be also given for second and third places.

All awards will be typically presented at the end of year Christmas Party or soon thereafter.

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