

Well then, what a year 2020 was in regards to how we go about everyday life and to undoubtedly not take anything for granted!

I shall not mention that word that we are all tired of hearing by now but it certainly made 2020 a challenge in respect to organising, postponing and reorganising events that were within our calendar. Whilst on one hand, it was disappointing that athletes couldn't get off the island to participate in sporting events, on the other, it had an exceptionally positive effect on the local athletics community and clubs.

- The IOM Marathon / Half Marathon had record 374 local competitors
- No Rest for The Wicked had a record 108 competitors
- End to End Walk had 217 walkers
- The Syd Quirk Half Marathon had a record 400 competitors that had to be capped due to safety reasons
- Both Handicaps had record entries – 103 competitors in total

Not to mention the other events such as Park runs, Fireman's runs and Fell runs etc

With the above in mind, I would like to recognise the outstanding work that is undertaken by my exceptional Executive Committee, Sub-committees, marshals, timekeepers, first aiders, sweepers and anyone else who is involved in the organisation of such great events. Without all of your support and hard work (in your own time), there would be no club or successful events that we organise throughout the year.

One of the highlights of 2020 was giving the Syd Quirk Half Marathon the love and attention that it had been missing. It is one half of our two official half marathon events that we put on each year and was always viewed as the poor relation. After going out to the public via social media it was confirmed that we would have t-shirts and medals for the first time. The entries speak for themselves and the feedback was fantastic and has set the precedent for future races.

On the subject of social media, our Facebook page went from 240 members to 444 members. We still continue our social media presence to advertise upcoming events and these also go across multiple club groups to so nobody misses out.

I would like to conclude by wishing all of our members every success in all of their respective events in 2021.

Thank you

Lee Johnson,
Chairman IOMVAC

10 February 2021

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