

Ultra Hard Series 2021 Debrief

Firstly – as always – my hugest gratitude for your participation across the three events this year. It's always a gamble for entrants and organisers alike to take on new events. Especially with such a choice around. Ok so we didn't get anywhere near the 150 per event that I would have liked, but the events were still well worth the effort for all of us.

So just a few things to tidy up. Thanks to your participation and one postponed Worlds End event, the Series is back for 2022. The event lineup is slightly changed, with the Run Adelaide Hundred replacing Karrawirra. The courses aren't too dissimilar (the extra 20km in the RAH notwithstanding) but what an opportunity for runners to take on the brand new Adelaide 100 loop.

The website has been refreshed for 2022 and discount entries are currently in effect, so be sure to check it out at ultrahard.com.au

Back to 2021, and I can officially announce our Series placegetters. With Worlds End removed, runners were to take part in at least two of the remaining three events. If you ran all three (in the same course, full or half) then your worst result was removed. Points were allocated as per your gender position, so lowest amount of points wins. In 2022 it will be the same system, but you must compete in at least three of the four events, in the same course.

Our Series Placegetters were:

Long Course:

1. John Csongei
2. Jarrad Allen
3. Matthew Woodman

Half Course:

1. Jennifer Ritossa
1. Doug Weatherill
2. Katherine Marks

Full results sheet is available on the website homepage with all individual event results as well.

Congratulations to our placegetters! I have your trophies now being made up so once I have them we'll organise a presentation.

To the events themselves, I think the courses overall were a great challenge. No-one complained they were too easy (even though some made them look easy!) and I think it's formed a great base for 2022. There's always logistics to improve which I will work on for next year. But the Series is about focusing on the challenge; the strict cutoffs for the longer events does narrow down the field a little but that's the showcase side of the events. The shorter events still covered much the same ground and allowed nearly any runners to still

come out and experience the challenges. And experience the beauty of the courses as well of course!

Once again I'd like to highlight the work of our volunteers. It's not a series hugely reliant on support, but the support that is required is usually quite involved. So to everyone who contributed we all offer our most heartfelt of thanks! There were legends both on the courses and behind the tables – it is very much a reciprocal relationship between entrants and volunteers: we each get happiness from each other. So thank you once again.

With the shirt orders, we only had three or four so unfortunately it wasn't worth doing a printing run. If you paid for a shirt you will receive a full refund. Thanks for your support anyway!

And to everyone involved in the Series, thanks once again. It was great to explore new courses and I reckon we have definitely uncovered some gems. Hope to see you at Ultra Hard '22. But if not I look forward to catching up with you elsewhere on the trails. All the best for your running for the remainder of 2021.

Ben