



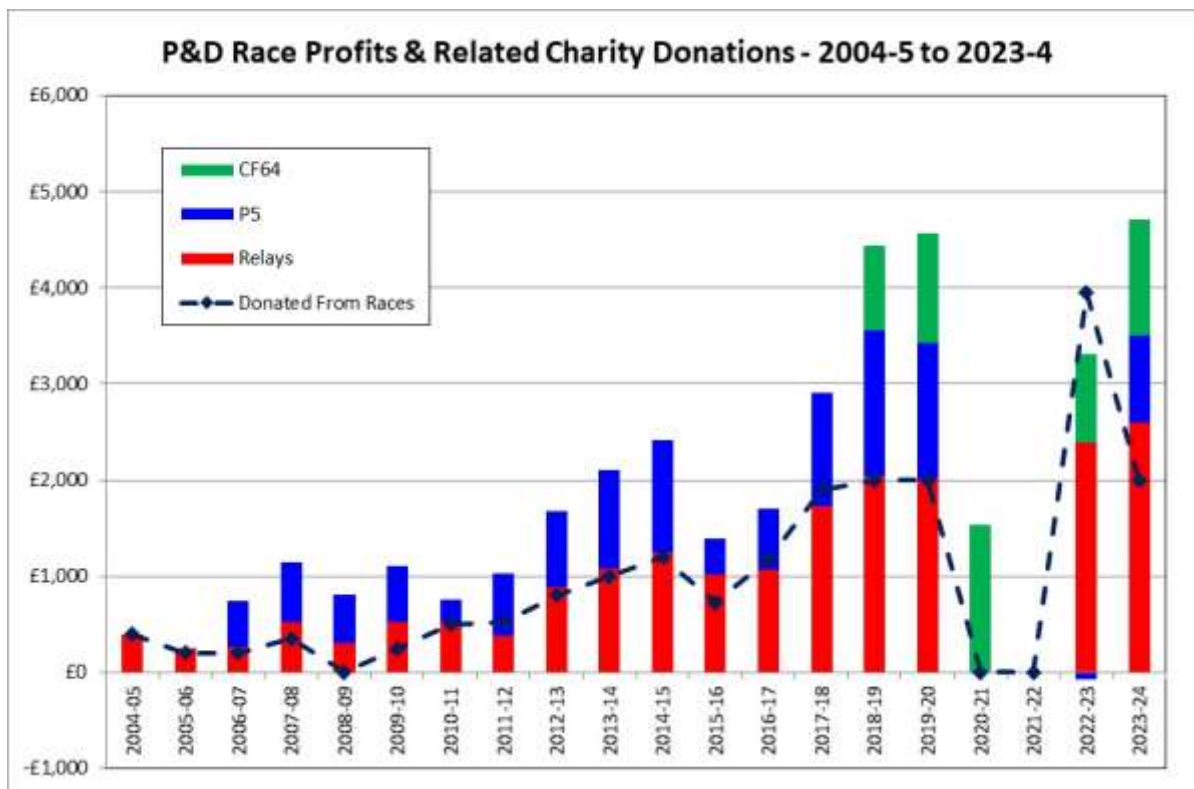
# Race Director's Report

## 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

### 1. 2023-2024 Club Races

#### 1.1 Summary

- For only the second time in recent years, all three club races were held in their regular slots in May, July and January respectively. The 2024 CF64 Winter Race and 2023 Cosmeston Relay Race both sold out quickly and returned their typical profit levels. The 2023 Porthkerry 5MT sold 80% of places.
- We continue to get fantastic feedback on all our races from a wide range of participants - due in no small part to:
  - Our brilliant P&D (and 'P&D adjacent') volunteers.
  - The professional organisation behind the scenes and on race days.
  - Our low cost/'no frills' approach.
- Participants seem to be continuing to get more sensitive to entry costs - choosing smaller, cheaper local races in favour (or in addition to?) larger 'commercial' races.
- Profits from the 2023-24 races totalled £4,707 (a new record). These are used to purchase a charity entry into the London Marathon for a club member, with the remainder contributing to club running costs.



## 1.2. Commentary

### 2023 Porthkerry 5MT Race

- 80% of race entries were sold (239 of 300) vs 45% in 2022.
- This was the second race on the revised 'in park' course - great participant feedback, especially our low cost/'no frills' approach (after reducing prices in 2022).
- Full marks from the race adjudicator.
- The race generated a profit of £913.

### 2023 Cosmeston Relay Race

- The race was another very quick sell-out (250 teams) - under 1 hour - but not quite a new record!
- There was a record number of teams starting (244 of 250) enjoying another great night's relay running with very good participant feedback.
- After a very heavy 'on-the-night' workload dealing with a lot of late team changes (and a related lack of runner/medical information), we plan to fix teams 48 hours ahead of the race in future.
- Full marks from the race adjudicator.
- The race profit was (a record) £2,594.

### 2024 CF64 Winter Race

- The 2024 race sold out (350 places) in a record 29 hours (vs. a previous best 5 days) - it's now become a very popular race for competitive club runners and social runners.
- After dealing with the 'glacier' in 2023, we were faced with a late, significant change to the 2024 course after the Council started a 'conservation grazing' scheme at Cosmeston in December. This affected a large part of the race course, which had to be re-designed.
- The 'low-cost/'no-frills' approach for CF64 and the course/location continue to be popular - receiving great feedback on social media about both aspects.
- A new cut-off time of 1:30:00 was introduced without problems.
- Full marks from the race adjudicator.
- The race generated a profit of £1,200.

## 2. 2024-2025 Race Outlook

- We are planning on the 3 club races going ahead as normal in 2024-2025:
  - 2024 Porthkerry 5MT - Sun. June 2<sup>nd</sup> (moved from May to avoid clashes with other local races - the local race calendar is getting very busy between late April and late June).

- 2024 Cosmeston Relay Race - Weds. July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 2025 CF64 Winter Race - Sun. Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (tbc).
- Cut-off times (advisory in the first instance) will be introduced for both Cosmeston Relay Race and Porthkerry 5MT in 2024.
- Costs are increasing across the board - we'll need to keep a close eye on this. There are no plans to increase race entry fees at this time, however.

Please get in touch if you would like any further information about previous or future races.

**Lyn Evans (Race Director)**

**February 2024**