

Tidworth Triathlon - Club championship

An overcast but warm Sunday morning greeted Andover Triathlon club members as they assembled at the Tidworth Leisure centre to take part in the Tidworth triathlon on July 26th. The sprint distance event, which is organised by concept sport and forms part of their Fast Twitch series was chosen by Andover to be used as the venue for this years club championship. With a significant sized entry from Andover of 22 members, the club was given their own wave start at the beginning of the day to add to the competitive spirit of the competition. For several members this was their first races this season and for Anthony Putt and Jan Van Der Woerdt this was to be their first ever triathlon event and all were keen to see the results of many months training.

The race got underway with a 400m pool swim which saw club swim coach Shaun Green exit the water with the fastest time of 6 mins 18 secs closely followed behind by Philip Went, Emma Hakes and Nicola Fleming. Onto the bike, which took the triathletes on an out and back 13 mile route around the Bulford Camp on some undulating but fast sections of roads. This saw the strong cyclists in the club make up time lost in the pool to the front runners and some fast splits were posted. First back for Andover and maintaining his healthy lead was Shaun Green but now followed soon after by Tony Ebdon, Paul Wills and Philip Went who put in strong rides to make up numerous places on the field. With the leaders in sight Club chairman Howell Reed had a good bike to run transition to start the 4.75 mile course which went out to Perham Down, onto the Somme Road towards Ludgershall and back into Tidworth on a testing hilly route. Reed, an ex 10k regional champion, put in an outstanding run, averaging a 6.13 minute mile pace to quickly pass Went and Wills in the first few miles and put Ebdon firmly in his sights. But Ebdon maintained a solid pace to keep Reed at bay finally finishing 2nd for Andover behind new club champion Shaun Green who in a time of 1:14:19 also took the 1st male veteran prize and 6th position in the overall race classifications out of 155 competitors.

First home for the Andover ladies in a time of 1:28:32 was Emma Hakes who led the women throughout, followed a few minutes later by Nicola Fleming and then Hannah Williams. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all not least by club secretary Fran Cortvriend who finished to a huge cheer having just completed her first event in almost a year.

Full list of results as follows...

Name	Overall Time (hh:mm:ss)	Club Position
Shaun Green	01:14:19	1
Tony Ebdon	01:20:03	2
Howell Reed	01:20:21	3
Paul Wills	01:23:40	4
Philip Went	01:26:00	5
Team: (Hall, Bridge, Lee)	01:27:25	6
Emma Hakes	01:28:00	7
Paul Holmes	01:28:41	8
Daniel Mason	01:28:55	9
Jan Van Der Woerdt	01:30:01	10
Nicola Fleming	01:30:04	11

Will Symonds	01:30:33	12
Dave Upton	01:31:43	13
Martin Brown	01:32:20	14
Paul Venus	01:35:42	15
Hannah Williams	01:37:52	16
Jason Briley	01:38:49	17
Stewart Roberts	01:39:08	18
Anthony Putt	01:42:29	19
Kieron Parnell	01:44:04	20
Katie King	01:45:59	21
Francesca Cortvriend	01:56:02	22



