

Pacific Association masters runners shine at 2014 USA Masters 8 km Championships in Brea

No one knows when California's current drought will end, but for California masters runners the 6 ½ year drought of no National Masters Road Championships on the west coast finally came to an end this last Sunday. The Brea 8K Classic became the first National Masters Road Championship to be held in the Golden State since the Heritage Oaks Bank 10K in 2007. Taking advantage of the race's proximity, a significant contingent of Pacific Association runners made the relatively short journey down to southern California and many were rewarded with prize money, bling and most importantly bragging rights.

The Brea 8K Classic, now in its 23rd year and one of the larger 8 km races in the US, provided an excellent logistical foundation for the championship event and the sponsorship and support of the SoCal Association insured the race more than met the standards for a National Masters Road Championship.

The race was held in near perfect weather conditions which meant the biggest challenges to the runners were the quality of the competition and an almost mile long hill in the 2nd and 3rd mile that punished those who didn't hold back a bit during the first half of the race.

Forty year old Magdalena Lewy Boulet, in her first masters race, was the overall female winner beating out former high school phenom Melody Fairchild, 28:16 to 28:22. Pacific Association runners also took both of the top age-graded awards. Newly inducted USATF Masters Hall of Fame member Christine Kennedy dominated the women's age-graded competition with a 98.45%, while Iain Mickle edged out SoCal standout Christian Cushing-Murray 92.37% to 92.33%. See the list below for all the PA runners and teams who made it to the podium

Individual Results

Overall masters female winner (\$300) – Magdalena Lewy Boulet: 28:16

Overall age-graded female winner (\$500) – Christine Kennedy: 98.45% (31:10)

Overall age-graded male winner (\$500) – Iain Mickle: 92.37% (26:53)

1st place F40-44 (\$100) – Magdalena Lewy Boulet: 28:16

1st place F55-59 (\$100) – Christine Kennedy: 31:10

1st place F65-69 (\$100) – Jo Anne Rowland: 37:24

2nd place M40-44 – Jaime Heilpern: 25:57

2nd place M50-54 – Iain Mickle: 26:53

2nd place M55-59 – Rudy Munoz: 29:21

2nd place F60-64 – Donna Chan: 37:09

2nd place M70-74 – Dick Chimenti: 37:12

Team Results (top 3 on each team score)

1st place Female 60+ (\$225) Impala RT (Donna Chan, Jo Anne Rowland, Maggie Fillmore, *Irene Herman, Dianne Anderson*): 1:55:52

2nd place Male 50+ (\$125) – River City Rebels (Iain Mickle, Jeffery Adkins, Ronald Souza): 1:27:41

3rd place Female 40+ – Team runcoach (Sharon Lemberger, Christine Kennedy, Ashley Grosse): 1:36:56

3rd place Male 60+ – Tamalpa Runners (John Hirschberger, Donald Porteous, Kenneth Grebenstein, *Len Goldman*): 1:38:17

3rd place Male 70+ – West Valley J&S (Dick Chimenti, Neal Chappell, Joe Hurtado, *Bill Dodson*): 1:56:54

Complete final results will be posted at:

<http://www.usatf.org/Events---Calendar/2014/USA-Masters-8-km-Championships.aspx>

Tom Bernhard