

## **Kent Fitness League Feb 2022**

### **Sevenoaks AC ladies one race from historic series victory**

Twenty-six Sevenoaks AC runners made the journey to Rough Common near Canterbury on Sunday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> for the 5<sup>th</sup> race in the Kent Fitness League series; and in wet, muddy and blustery conditions their efforts were well rewarded with the women's team now on the cusp of an historic back-to-back championship win.

Despite a season peppered with injury and sickness, the Sevenoaks women's team again excelled, scoring their third win in the series. The star performer was Andrea Berquez, who finished in second place, followed by Suzy Claridge in 8<sup>th</sup> with her best performance in the series so far. The other scoring members of the victorious team were Hannah Sangan and Pauline Dalton, while Cath Linney's top 20 finish ensured that Canterbury, the main rivals for the series trophy, could not accumulate enough points on the day to overhaul Sevenoaks.

Pauline Dalton, SAC women's team captain said; "Today was a brilliant result, and a credit to the ladies who have consistently turned up and put in strong performances."

The Sevenoaks AC men's team also were missing several runners with either injury or sickness, including team captain Dan Witt who is suffering from covid. However, the call to arms was admirably met with Darius Sarcher and Guillaume Nineven both making their first appearances for the club this season and both appearing on the score sheet despite a lack of race fitness. On the day the team was lead home by Ed Saunders (24<sup>th</sup>), Andrew Hutchinson (27<sup>th</sup>) and Michael Lohead (34<sup>th</sup>) with Daruis, Andrew Mead, Richard Alford-Smith, Guillaume and James Graham as the other scoring members. The fast improving 17-year-old Harvey Taylor again put in another fantastic performance to be only 10 seconds off a scoring position over the tough 8.5km course. The men's team finished 5<sup>th</sup> on the day, which helped to cement their 5<sup>th</sup> position in the overall championship.

The 6<sup>th</sup> and final race of the series will take place in Knole Park on Sunday Feb 20<sup>th</sup> where Sevenoaks will have the difficult task of organizing the race whilst still having enough competitive runners to maintain their position in the series.

Jim Knight  
Sevenoaks AC Feb 2022.