Fantasy XC League 2017/18 – Race 4 Blog

We leap on this week to Race 4 coming as it does straight after Race 3. No jokes this week as I don’t want to offend any minorities; I’m from a much maligned minority myself, in that I’m from Essex, so I know what it feels like.

First some disappointing news; both our FL 100% ers - JT and Lucy Kingston, have fallen off the wagon, with school and parents respectively failing to recognise that nothing is more important than FXC League. So Bede P-K takes over as our longest running streaker; in fact Bede’s run stretches back to the Xmas Pud race of 2015 so is now 17 races; and like Lucy and JT he has only missed one FL race ever. Watch this space as this gripping saga unfolds over the rest of the season. This season’s 100% list has fallen slightly to 19- keep it up all of you.

This week sees yet another name appearing as top points scorer- R Driscoll with 181 points from first place in the SM race. Ryan also picked up the best average for the day with 36.2 to take him above 100 for the season from only 2 races which provides another example of my hopeless pricing (not as easy as I thought).

There were 7 more FL3 debutants this week taking the total to 170 so far for the year.

Another 10 athletes joined the Bullseye Club taking the total to 21. New inductees are I Ellis (U17W); J Bingham (U20M); D Schofield (U17M); O Breed (U13G); L Stewart (U13G); A Hales (U13G); A Roeder (VetM), R Kinloch (VetM); Bede P-K (U20M) and O Bowart (U13B).

Best performance in a new age group goes to D Seagrove with 32nd in the SM race running as a new U20M and J Kingston for 3rd in the U17M race. Step up in Class prize for the day, albeit a small step, goes to Dan Crush (VetM) who ***crushed*** (bad I know but I’ve been wanting to use it for ages ) all his rivals in the middle order of the SM race. Other Mentions in Despatches: probably the entire U17W squad which is I think larger and racing more than ever and hopefully will be rewarded with a number of county call ups this week.

Now to the main action – the teams. This week’s victor in the A team category (6 athletes; one athlete from each age group) was Harry Paton’s Pedigree 1 team comprising 6 chums: O Croll, F Gordon, S Coppard, A Kinloch, R Driscoll and J Rendall with 507 points. In the B team category (6 athletes from any age group) the best score of the day for the second week on the spin was from Adam Roeder’s Anything Goes Team 1 of J Goodge, J Puxty, A Kinloch, R Driscoll, J Bryant and C J-A with 458 points. This team needs watching as it is in fact the highest placed fully priced team so far. The best Player Manager for the third time was Jamie Bryant with his First Team of himself, L Stewart, S Coates, S Coppard, S Crick and G Saker with 282 points. And finally the best Bargain Team, again for the second week running, with 198 points was A Roeder’s Budget team comprising A Roeder, R Driscoll, L Reeves, L Slack, C Lee and R De Munck. At the other end of the table A Hookway, B Cole and M De’Ath all win Harvey Weinstein branded bathrobes for scoring zero on the day.

And again there is a change at the top. JT’s Sloggers have gone backwards faster than an Essex boy with a new Capri to be replaced by A Roeder’s Budget team on 2749 points.

Finally, the 4th nomination for the season defining, Terrible Team Names prize, to continue the music theme of last week, is Anthony Crush’s Hare Stile. Think about it and then groan!