



2017 VANCOUVER ISLAND RACE SERIES

MEDIA RELEASE

Nick Walker Wins Sooke River 10K

(Victoria, BC – March 13, 2017) For the second year in a row Nick Walker is the Sooke River 10K champion. The 17th running of the event went yesterday which was highlighted by a partially flooded course at the turnaround. The 262 participants, all took it in stride, delighted to take part in the re-scheduled event that was postponed in February due to snowy conditions.

Walker won in 33:51 finishing two minutes ahead of Matthew Thomson (35:44) with Peterson Perrin third in 35:52. Top master was Felipe Eudora who was also 6th overall, finishing in 36:32. Walker was never threatened in the race. "I led right from the gun and had a bit of a lead right away so I was able to just run comfortably and use it as a tempo run," he said afterwards. "It was a great day out there and the weather finally cooperated so it was a nice moderate temperature."

The women's race was won by Julia Tschanz in 39:37, second was Kristin Smart (39:47) and third was Sara Kelly (41:12). Top master was Yanna Debelic finishing in 41:40. There were two age class records. In the W75-79 Maree Kennell (1:02:34) and M85-89 John Woodall (1:01:47).

Race Director, Cathy Noel from the Victoria Marathon Society was pleased with the race. "The flooded course certainly made it a memorable event for everyone. The "Puddle Pictures" will bring smiles to people's faces for sure," she said. "The Sooke Community groups and individuals came out to support the participants and the organizers including the new Fire Chief, Chief Ken Mount, the local Girl Guides club, the Sooke Lions Club, RCMP, and the STARR running club. Thank you to everyone for making this re-scheduled event happen."

In the club standings Prairie Inn Harriers lead with 2342 points, Comox Valley Road Runners second with 1292 and third is Ceevacs Road Runners with 1274.

Sooke River 10K is followed by Comox Valley RV Half Marathon on March 19, Port Alberni Paper Chase 10K on April 2, and Cedar 12K and Series Awards on April 9.

For race results go to: <http://racedaytiming.ca/vira/2017>

To register for the races in the Island Race Series go to: www.islandseries.org

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