

SHOE CLINIC BELL HILL CHALLENGE 2017

RACE REPORT

Saturday morning, 4 November, produced hot and warm conditions for a near record entry of 300 runners and walkers who lined up for a mass start at Baldoon Farm near Sheffield.

First to the summit of Bell Hill was Flavio Vianna almost 2 minutes ahead of Silas Carey, followed by previous champion Vajin Armstrong.

The women's field was led to the summit by Freyja Prentice, followed by Kirsty Sclater.

Both leaders maintained their lead for the rest of the event. But the race for minor placings was hard fought among both men and women.

Silas Carey held onto 2nd place down off the tops, but in the final 5k Vajin Armstrong over the last 5kms. But Flavio Vianna's lead was never threatened and the Christchurch-based multi-sporter and Coast-to-Coast finished strongly to come in 1st.

The women's race was a lot tighter with only seconds separating all 3 women over the summit and to the 10km mark. But Freyja Prentice proved fleetest of foot coming off the tops to take the win. Behind Prentice, standout-runner-turned-triathlete, Nicki McFadzien, passed Kirsty Sclater to nab second place.

Race Director Chris Cox said it was a very successful day and was very pleased with the entry and standard of running. The Bell Hill Forest Block is proving to be a very popular venue for this challenging hill race.