

Feb. 10 -- the annual (37th or so) VALENTINE'S MASSACRE 3-MILE BEVERAGE-PREDICTION RUN

Finishers in order of "least amount of time spent enjoying the course"

1. Marty Wacker, 18:24
2. Gannon Seagren, 20:21
3. Jay Valentine, 20:32
4. Suzie Steel, 21:30
5. Taylor Valentine, 22:06
6. Ashlynn Squires, 22:06
7. Bob Thome, 23:01
8. Andy Winnefeld, 25:33
9. Tom Ela, 26:00
10. Marshall Steel, 26:00
11. Ernie Langelier, 26:06
12. Max Barnstead, 27:26
13. Lara Schneider, 28:54
14. Yvette Valentine, 28:57
15. Tabitha Kissne*, 30:05
16. Teri Shecter, 31:04
17. Liz Norris, 31:27
18. Judy Barnstead, 34:48
19. Sheryl Douglas, 35:35
20. Achmed Harmash*, 38:01
21. Conrad Cole, 47:41
22. Kim Cole, 47:41
23. Diana Agilong*, 63:06
24. Cliff Moore, 63:06

This race has got a sort of "cult-like" following, and the organizer/director? probably couldn't handle a field of 40 or more! This race (as you probably know) is not "to the swift" necessarily, but to those who predict the closest to their actual time for the 3-mile course.

ANDY WINNEFELD was 3-seconds slower than his predicted time to carry away a large share of the beverages (each entrant donates 2 cans or bottles (and in some cases, boxes) of something to drink as their entry "fee"). YVETTE VALENTINE's 9 second "miss" from her prediction enabled her and her partner in the "Sweetheart" Division (Jay, who was 13 seconds fast) to win another large share of beverages for their win in the "Team Division."

Judy Barnstead not only was the 3rd-closest predictor (12 seconds) she also was one of two course age-group record setters for this year. Suzie Steel lowered her age-group record set in 2015 by three seconds. Tom Ela (13 sec.) and Marshall Steel (15) also won back more drinks than they brought, and the duo of Gannon Seacrest and Ashlynn Squires were the 2nd-place team. The team competition was pretty tight this year – with the Steel's and Taylor V./Bob Thome recording 55-second or better combined predictions. Finishing within 30-seconds of their predictions were Gannon Seacrest, Taylor Valentine, Ashlynn Squires, Bob Thome, and Achmed Harmash.

*May have some names mis-spelled (all sign-in and results sheets were pretty wet due to the drizzle which commenced after the runners were off. Fortunately, the wetter and heavier stuff didn't begin in earnest until we were all done!)

Runners (and walkers) in order of close-predictions:

Andy Winnefeld (25:33) = 3 seconds Yvette Valentine (28:57) = 9
Judy Barnstead (34:48) = 12 Tom Ela (26:00) = 13 Jay Valentine (20:32) = 13
Marshall Steel (26:00) = 15 Gannon Seacrest (20:21) = 22
Achmed Harmash (38:01) = 24 Bob Thome (23:01) = 24 Ashlynn Squires (22:06) = 24

Taylor Valentine (22:06) = 26 Sheryl Douglas (35:35) = 35 Liz Norris
(31:27) = 37 Suzie Steel (21:30) = 40 Ernie Langelier (26:06) =
43 Marty Wacker (18:24) = 81 Kim Cole (47:41) = 2:57 Conrad Cole (47:41) =
2:57 Diana Agilong (63:06) = 3:06
Cliff Moore (63:06) = 3:06 Lara Schneider (28:54) = 3:06 Tabitha Kissne (30:05) =
3:15
Teri Shecter (31:04) = 3:26 Max Barnstead (27:26) = 4:04

The race (mis)director joked with Max B that if this was the Turkey Trot prediction run, he would have won a can of turkey noodle soup! Note that over half the runners were fairly close to their pre-run predictions, and that Cliff and Diana walked the course, coming in at about 3 minutes off their (gu)estimated hour – pretty close, considering. Andy was also 3 sec. off in 2012 !