

Les Croupiers at the Gwent League All-Time

Analysis of Team Positions

Year	Senior Men	MV35	MV45	MV55	MV65	Senior Ladies	FV35	FV45	FV55	FV65
2023-2024	5	4	2	3	2	1	3	4	6	2
2022-2023	7	2	4	1	1	3	2	3	2	2
2021-2022	3	4	1	1	1	6	4	3	2	2
2020-2021	No competition - COVID									
2019-2020	5	2	1	1	1	9	4	3	2	2
2018-2019	5	1	1	1	1	9	5	3	1	2
2017-2018	5	1	1	1	1	9	3	4	2	2
2016-2017	3	1	1	1	1	9	4	3	2	2
2015-2016	3	1	2	1	1	8	3	2	1	1
	Senior Men	MV40	MV50	MV60		Senior Ladies	FV35	FV45	FV55	
2014-2015	3	1	1	1		5	3	2	1	
2013-2014	2	1	1	1		4	3	3	1	
2012-2013	1	1	1	1		5	2	3	1	
2011-2012	2	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	
2010-2011	2	1	1	1		2	1	1	1	
2009-2010	1	2	1	1		3	2	2	1	
2008-2009	1	1	1			4	2	2		
2007-2008	1	1	1			2	1	1		
2006-2007	2	1	1			3	1	1		
2005-2006	3	1	1			2	1	1		
2004-2005	2	2	2			2	1	1		
2003-2004	2	1	1			1	1	1		
2002-2003	2	1	1			1	1	1		
2001-2002	1	1	1			3	1	1		
2000-2001	1	2	1			3	1	1		
1999-2000	1	3	1			4	1	1		
1998-1999	2	1	1			2	1	1		
1997-1998	1	1	1			1	1	1		
1996-1997	2	1	3			1	1	3		
1995-1996	2	1	5			2	1	1		
1994-1995	4	3	4			2	1	1		
1993-1994	4	3	2			1	1	1		
1992-1993	3	2	6			3	1	1		
1991-1992	3	3	4			2	1	1		
1990-1991	2	3	8			1	1	1		
1989-1990	2	1				2	1			
1988-1989	1	3				3	1			
1987-1988	3	2				3	1			
1986-1987	5	1				4	1			
1985-1986	3	4				4	1			
1984-1985	3	4				5	2			
1983-1984	3	4				6				
1982-1983	4	6				3				
1981-1982	5	6				15				
1980-1981	20									

The above shows our respective teams' positions in the Gwent Cross Country League in each of the 43 seasons since the club formed in May 1980. The sport then was very different to what it is today. Most striking is the age of the runners. In 1980 there was very little veteran competition, unlike today. Gradually, over the years, more team competitions have been introduced to reflect this change.

1984-85: F35 Team Category introduced.

1990-91: M50 and F45 Team Categories introduced.

2009-10: M60 and F55 Team Categories introduced.

2015-16: F65 Team Categories introduced and mens changed to 10 year categories from M35.

During these 43 years, our mens teams have won 69 titles and our ladies 61. Our first team win was in 1985-86, since when we've won at least one category every year. Our most successful year was 1997-98 when we won all six titles on offer at senior and veteran (now masters) level.

Breakdown by age group:

F65: Category introduced 2015-16. Won the first season, runners-up ever since.

F55: Category introduced 2009-10. 8 team wins in 14 seasons.

F45: Category introduced 1990-91. 19 team wins in 33 years, but none in the last 11 years.

F35: Category introduced 1984-85. 25 team wins in 39 years, but none in the last 11 years.

Senior Ladies: Undoubtedly the success story of the season - we regained the team title for the first time since 2011-12.

MV65: Category introduced 2015-16. Team unbeaten for 7 seasons - runners-up this time.

MV55: Category introduced 2015-16. Team unbeaten in 7 seasons - third this time.

MV45: Category introduced 2015-16. 5 team wins in 8 seasons.

MV35: Category introduced 2015-16. 4 team wins in 8 seasons.

Prior to that:

M60: Category introduced 2009-10. Unbeaten in 6 seasons prior to age group change.

M50: Category introduced 1990-91. Winners for 17 of the 25 seasons prior to age group change.

M40: Category introduced 1981-82. Winners for 18 of the 34 seasons prior to age group change.

Senior Men: First won 1988-89, team winners 9 times in all. Title currently on loan to Bristol & West.

The other main factor has been the growth in ladies running. In the recent Cardiff Half Marathon the ladies outnumbered the men – unthinkable even a few years ago. And so it is the same with us – ladies matching the men for participation.

Traditionally, the first fixture of the new season is always the largest. Our strength has always been that as the season progresses, our numerical strength overtakes those ahead of us – classic endurance running strategy! Therefore, why not pencil the 2024-25 fixtures in your diary, when they become available and help us move up the Gwent League table. There's also the traditional apres-race cake too!