

Bonita Road Runner of the Year Honored

On Friday 9 January 2009 at the Bonita Road Runners' annual banquet, the 2008 runners of the year were awarded.

The passed three years have seen three different club members winning the award in the men's division. This year club member Manuel Ramirez earned the title of 2008 BRR Runner of the Year by scoring 118 total points in 8 of the 9 scoring races. In accumulating his points, Manuel ran 3 personal bests with a 30:08 at the Union Tribune 8K, a 1:01:32 at the Coronado Independence Day 15K, and a 12:22 2-mile at the BRR 2-Mile Stampede. He was the 1st BRR in 4 of the races, 2nd BRR in 3 of the races and 3rd BRR in the other race along with a 4th age group placing at the Coronado Independence Day 15K. Additionally Manuel earned two 2nd age group places, and one 1st place age group and masters win at the Silver Strand 5K. Although the Dirt Dog Cross Country Series is not part of the scoring for Runner of the Year points, Manuel ran very well with many personal bests for the various courses involved. Finally, he ran a half marathon best of 1:30:03 at the Laguna Hill Memorial Day Half Marathon.

2007 Runner of the Year Jane Aitchison repeated as Runner of the Year in the women's division accumulating 137 total points running 8 of the 9 races. Making Jane's award most impressive this year (in only her 2nd year of racing) was that she ran 5 personal bests in 8 of her races: 42:55 at St Patrick's 10K Run, 20:02 5k (3 minute plus improvement over last years race) at the Carlsbad 5000, 31:48 at the Union Tribune 8K, and a 5 minute improvement at the Coronado Independence Day 15K with a 1:06:16, and finally a 26:37 at the End of Summer 4 Miler. In addition, Jane had three 1st place finishes, four 2nd place finishes and one 3rd place finish in the Bonita Road Runner rankings. She also won her age group in 2 of the races, had two 2nd place finishes, and three 3rd place finishes. Just as Manuel competed in other races, Jane had a very successful year with an outstanding Dirt Dog Cross Country Series finishing as the 2nd place masters woman for the whole series moving up from 6th place last year. She also went on vacation to Scotland in the spring and ran a 10k personal best in 42:39 to win her age group and 4th woman overall, of course wearing her Bonita Road Runner singlet. Finally to cap off her very successful year, Jane ran her first marathon in November at the Inaugural San Antonio Rock n Roll Marathon. Running a very smart and patience race Jane ran to a 3:35:01, which qualified her for the prestigious Boston marathon by 15 minutes!