

2012 Male Masters Runner Of The Year

Agustin Hernandez

Agustin Hernandez at 41 hardly has slowed in the past several years. In fact, he won at least seven overall victories as well as challenging in several others in 2012. He added at least seven masters titles along the way.

Agustin won the 1999 Cowtown Marathon and has continued to be a top runner in the Dallas-Fort Worth area after moving from Mexico to the Dallas area.

Among his overall 2012 victories include the Snowman Shuffle 5K, the Cupid Dash 10K (32:14.8), Cowtown 5K (15:53), Longview Half Marathon (1:12:52), Forest Hills Lions Club 5K (14:53), FWRC Labor Day 5K (15:58.7) and the Cool Seasons 10K (32:51.96). Masters victories include Sprint for Cancer 5K, Patriot Half, Hustle For Health 5K, Tour des Fleurs 10K, WOKC Octoberfest, Komen Race For the Cure and the Jingle Bell Run.

At the Tour des Fleurs in Dallas, he once again was among the 10K leaders. Though Enoch Nadler a speedy 30:23 to edge Kipkirui Ruttoh for the overall title, Agustin placed seventh overall in the talented field with a 31:59.

And speaking of Nadler, he will no doubt be among the top candidates for the 2013 Male Runner of the Year. At the Dallas Komen Race For the Cure, Agustin won the masters title with a 15:31, but Nadler sped to a 14:49 to hold off Barnabas Kirui (15:02) and the newest Male Runner of the Year Logan Sherman (15:11).

2012 Female Masters Runner Of The Year

Cathy Buchanan

Ever since being tutored by Laura Nelson, Cathy Buchanan has consistently dropped her times by at least three minutes the past couple of years.

Besides racking up masters victories, Cathy, now 50, also has notched overall victories. She won at least 12 overall titles and 21 masters titles in 2012 and beating her mentor in some of the races.

While Cathy won several overall titles, her best performances came in her masters victories. November particular was a good month for her. While posting several 5K times in the mid- to low 20s, she dipped to 19:46.7 at the Puzzle Scuttle on Nov. 3, and came back on Nov. 22 to run a 20:06.8 at the Fort Worth Turkey Trot.

While Cathy might not be the fastest female masters runner in the area, she constantly posts good times, including PRs, while logging a heavy schedule. Usually when runners reach 50, they start losing a step or two. Cathy, however, seems to be gaining more than just a few steps.

Cathy was one of the Runner in the Spotlight in 2011. She credits much of her improvement from tutoring by 2010 Female Runner of the Year Laura Nelson.

2012 Special Recognition

(Some of these runners have been featured in stories and/or have been Runners in the Spotlight. See the Archives for more information about them)

The D-FW area has so many outstanding runners, that many don't get the recognition they deserve, whether they are winning or are regular participants. Here are some of them (alphabetical order):

Joe Beisner....probably not as good a year as the former Male Runner of the Year would have liked, but he won at least seven overall titles.

Bill Berenson....a masters runner who has quite a list of Boston Marathon-qualifying achievements. As of early January, he had logged his 30th BQ in his past 40 tries. The 58-year-old also has posted several 3:25 or better times.

Jacob Bradley....racked up at least 14 overall victories.

Fiona Green....The outgoing Fiona, who travels to her homeland at least once a year to compete in races in Scotland, is another consistent masters challenger. She posted at least 16 masters titles and at least 13 overall victories. Fiona also is a major contributor of reports and photos to this website.

Linda Kelly...At 60, Linda continues to challenge for masters titles, and at almost any distance. She also has notched overall victories, including at the Five and Dime 10Mile and Vibha's Dream Mile 10K. She posted at least 15 masters titles in distances ranging from 5K to 10 miles.

Frances McKissick After overcoming some health problems

2012 Road Warriors

There are runners in the D-FW area who seemingly just can't pass up a weekend to run, often long distances. Here are some of who many consider Road Warriors:

Bill Berenson....he logs eight marathons every 10 months for the past three years as he racks up Boston Marathon-qualifying times in his quest to run a marathon in all 50 states by his 60th birthday in 2014.

Kim Gray...Kim has never met a marathon she doesn't want to run. When she did three back-to-back marathons in 2011, it exemplified her will and stamina, especially since her fastest of the three was the last one.

T.O. Okazaki...Not afraid to run back-to-back marathons, travel and sleep in his car to run marathons. He's been a former Runner in the Spotlight.

Laura Nelson....the ultimate Road Warrior. Just note what she did in 2012 under the Special Recognition.

Rene Villalobos...Rene might not be know to regular road-race participants because he concentrates on marathons and ultras. However, many know him because he has helped them and encouraged them with their running.

Todd Reynolds....He might not log as many races as, say Laura Nelson, but he usually is running somewhere several times a month, and he likes distances. The former Cowtown Ultra runner-up again won the Ultra masters title in 2012, and took masters titles at the Honored Hero 20-mile and Fort

Frances has returned to become one of the top female masters runners. She racked up at least 18 masters and nine overall victories. She was another strong candidate for the female Masters Runner of the Year. Worth Marathon.

Enoch Nadler....Look for Enoch to make a strong bid for 2013 Runner of the Year. The former University of Florida runner won several SEC and South Region honors, and then took some time off after college. He moved to Dallas in 2012 and began training again. He finished in the top three in his first two races back in early March after about a month of training. He continued to make a big impact and posted the fastest 5K and 10K times in the area. His goal is qualifying for the 2016 Olympic Marathon Trials.

Clint Bell...Clint didn't run in many events in 2012, but when he did, he was impressive. He won at least eight overall titles, including the Mayor's 5K that kicked off the Dallas Marathon. He also won the Millet Mile, which he has dominated over the past several years.

Maria Martinez....Maria kicked off 2012 by winning the second marathon of the New Year's Double in Allen. She went on to win at least six more female titles, including the Tyler Rose Marathon. She also had won the Fort Worth Marathon at the end of 2011 (November).

Luis Rojas....notched almost 20 overall victories, many coming at the Jogger Summer Series.

Kolin Styles....a strong candidate for Runner of the Year as he won at least 10 overall titles, including the Cowtown Marathon, the El Scorcho 25K, the Labor Day 15K and the inaugural No Limits Half at TMS.

Foyland Franco... a masters runner who took home at least 14 masters

titles.

Michael Fussell...a masters runner with impressive speed who won at least 14 masters titles, including the Lake Joe Pool 5K and Four Seasons Cool 10K.

David Holtsford....a masters runner who continued to improve and notch at least 12 masters titles.

Jesus Lopez...a masters runner who won at least nine titles, including the usually competitive xSIGHTment 5K.

Sheila Natho....She said 2012 wasn't a great year for her, but she still managed to win at least nine overall female titles and 10 masters titles.

Laura Nelson...a true Road Warrior and former Female Runner of the Year, Laura continues to run at least one race a weekend and rack up masters and overall victories. She won at least 19 overall titles and incredibly more than 30 masters titles.

Todd Reynolds...a masters runner who likes longer distances and who dominated the Trinity 5000 masters division as he posted at least 18 victories. He also won the Lake Benbrook Half, the El Scorcho 50K and Fort Worth Marathon masters titles.

Bob Smeby....a top candidate for Masters Runner of the Year, Bob rang up at least 16 masters titles and often against good fields. His impressive masters victory list includes the Wounded Warrior 10K, DRC Independence 5K, the Hottest Half 10K and the Mary Kay 5K.

Jessica Smith...After overcoming an injury, Jessica has enjoyed a rebirth of her running career and posted impressive times as she won at least 17 overall titles and was a finalist for Female Runner of the

Year.

Magaly Soto....Magaly is another top female challenger. She rang up at least 17 overall victories and should be another top candidate for Female Runner of the Year in 2013,

Kim Rogers-Tracy...Kim had another excellent year in 2012, notching at least 12 victories, including the Dash For the Beads, Trinity River Levee 10K, the DRC Rock 'n Roll 5-Mile and the Mary Kay 5K.

The above are the headliners, but there are so many runners who deserve mention because of not only their successes, but their camaraderie and promotion of the sport. They include Kim Andres, Priscilla Reese, Cora Turner, Robert Cunningham, Jan Richards, JJ Jenkins, Spareribs LaMothe, Greg Takacs, Lupe Rodriguez, Bill Shaw, Jim Engstrom, Wally Capps, Bill Richardson, Ken Brewer and Carmen Flores, and all the other thousands who deserve recognition.