

Over the past 40 years our club (Loftus and Whitby Ac) has had the great pleasure of taking part in the Cleveland Way Relay Race. This race is like no other because it relies entirely on trust. Trust that everyone keeps to the Cleveland Way path. Trust that each team has at least one lady runner. Last year our "A" team had 4 ladies running in it. Trust that each team has one runner that goes to the top of Roseberry Topping and back down. Trust that each team has one runner who goes to the White horse and back.. Trust that each team has 16 runners for obvious reasons you can't have too many and you also can't have too few, because a club could ask it's best runners to do 2 legs each. The race must start on a level playing field. Last year in conversation with someone involved with organising the first ever Cleveland Way Relay confirmed the 16 runners rule. Its not that hard to get 16 runners, the hard part is getting 16 runners who know the exact route. At our club have a steadfast rule that any "A" runner may only run one leg, in the event of an "A" team runner having to drop out we replace Him/her with a runner from the "B" team. This system has worked well for us over the last 40 years. We are not a big club, (about 70 members) nevertheless we usually manage to get three teams out on the day. The trick is to start as early as possible.

In this race anyone can make a mistake, we usually manage a couple but I am pleased to say that in the 25 years I have been involved with the race, I can't recall anyone cheating and long may it continue to be a fair and trustworthy race.

Trevor Hardy (Whitby and Loftus AC)