MACCL EQUALITY

Case for keeping Womens distances as they are:-

1. Equality should be defined as equal effort and equal time taken. Ie winning times of Mens and Womens races should be equal, which they currently are.
2. Distances should be in line with Championships ie County, Northern, National, Inter-Counties. They currently are.
3. Timetable would be too long and unmanageable.
4. A lot of older veteran athletes wouldn’t want to run further. Some of the older vet Men are currently able to run with the Women, where would that leave them?
5. Historically cross country became a joining of middle distance track athletes and road runners, which is part of the fun. The middle distance athletes would not want to run any further. This would take away a lot of the quality at the front of the races.
6. There was a survey done at the National Cross Country Championships at Parliament Hill some years ago, where Senior Men and Women were asked the same question. From the Top runners then in the Country, it was thrown out.
7. Trafford Senior Women think raising the Womens distance, would result in a drop in numbers
8. The younger women, largely come through the age groups, with a Middle Distance Track background. They would generally not want to step up in distance. Already a number of them do not do the League, because of the distance. Traffords top U17 women declined to take part in the league this year because of the distance. They did all the Championship events, so it’s not due to lack of interest in Cross Country. I envisage, that as they move up in the next year or so, they probably will continue to avoid the league. The League is in danger of losing younger Senior athletes.
9. Increasing Distances, means more footfall on the Courses, which is more wear and tear. It is already difficult to get venues because of issues with the courses.
10. Other local leagues, such as the South East Lance League, run much shorter distances.
11. Not one Senior Woman at Trafford Athletic Club has come out in favour of increasing the Distances in the Manchester XC league

Sue Exon Trafford AC in consultation with Trafford AC Senior Women and Coaches

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