

Blackstairs Adventure Race Expert 2016 Formguide

The Blackstairs Adventure Race this Sunday is a new event on the National Points Series calendar but has been successfully held for several years.

Their “7 Steps” is on the Expert Series, “5 Steps” is on the Sport Series whilst their 23 steps” is aimed at the entry level competitor.

Following on the recent his most recent outing when an impressive winner of the Quest Glendalough race, Dessie Duffy who has been Expert Series champion for the past 2 seasons has to be foremost amongst the favourites to win here again if properly recovered from last weeks exertions.

On known form his clubmate Killian Heery seems likely to be the only one that might be able to put it up to him and this pair look to put some daylight between themselves and the other competitors based on the provisional entry list available.

David Power who won this event several times and his conqueror of last year Barry Cronin both look set to miss out this year and local hope Ben Hill will be looking to step up to the podium in their absence.

He had a very strong kayak leg in particular last year and has been training hard with event in mind for a long time and this should reap rewards here after his 4th place in 2015 as he seeks to reverse the placings with Paul Mahon who was 3rd here last year once his running has improved as seems likely.

James Skehan has shown some good form last year and this course could well suit him if his kayaking is up to scratch as some of the top contenders will not be found wanting in this department with Hill the one most likely to set a scorching pace in his K1 boat .

Of those on the current ladies entry list Emma Hand is the stand out favourite though she missed out on racing last week so if she recovers in time to start then she will be hard to beat.

With entries still open there is still the chance to join in what promises to be a great event in a not so often visited beautiful place with a unique aspect being that the race takes place in 3 different counties 😊