

QUEENSLAND MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP.

(27.6.76)

By PAUL CIRCOSTA.

The 1976 Queensland Marathon Championship was our best ever in terms of improvement in standards and interest in the event. This year's 25 finishers was a significant improvement over last year's 7 finishers.

The tremendous lift in standard was headed by Gerrard Barrett who smashed Jack Marsh's 1968 record of 2.33.20 by over 9 minutes in recording 2.24.15. Gerrard led 4 others under the national qualifying standard and a further 8 under 3 hours a previously unprecedented event in the Sunshine State.

The Queensland Veteran's Club held their club championship in with the State title, many of them running their first marathons, won out over the distance. Joe Patterson who competed in the Australian Veteran's team in Toronto last year ran a P.B. of 2.39.38 in finishing 5th overall. Other good veteran performances came from ANDY SEMPLE (45-49) and GEORGE BUCK (Over/60). Andy backing up only three weeks after the Traralgon Marathon just missed breaking 3 hours with a run of 3.00.39, George a 800m age group record holder ran a steady 3.34.49 to be the oldest competitor home and add yet another marathon to his fine string of marathon and ultra-marathon performances.

RESULTS.

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|-----------------|--------|--------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| 1. G. BARRETT | (TWG) | 2.24.15 | 14. A. SEMPLE | (UNI) | 3.00.39(Vet) |
| 2. R. BOURNE | (S.S.) | 2.36.36 | 15. F. MALONEY | (UNI) | 3.03.26(Vet) |
| 3. K. CANNARD | (G.C.) | 2.37.16 | 16. J. WEEKS | (CAB) | 3.12.15(Vet) |
| 4. R. STONES | (TWG) | 2.38.37 | 17. D. STAPLETON | (A.R.) | 3.13.53 |
| 5. J. PATTERSON | (G.C.) | 2.39.38(Vet) | 18. B. BIDDLE | (NUN) | 3.14.11 |
| 6. P. REEVES | (UNI) | 2.41.24 | 19. S. BARRALET | (A.R.) | 3.20.59 |
| 7. L. COLBORNE | (NUN) | 2.43.02 | 20. G. RAYMER | (S.S.) | 3.23.41 |
| 8. D. TODD | (G.C.) | 2.49.28(Vet) | 21. N. NEILL | (S.S.) | 3.23.52(Vet) |
| 9. C. SMITH | (CAB) | 2.57.10 | 22. J. FARRE | (UNI) | 3.30.55(Vet) |