

Weird British sports

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Man vs horse marathon

- Man versus horse marathon is a welsh annual sport held in Llanwrtyd Wells.
- It consists of a race of 35km, where runners compete against horse riders.
- Usually, the race takes place on the 2nd Saturday of June.
- The highest number of competitors ever was 500 runners and 40 horses



History

The history of the marathon began in 1980 in Neuadd Arms Hotel. Landlord, Gordon Green, overheard two men arguing about whether a man can run faster than a horse in mountainous terrain. His desire to test if that was actually feasible was born. Therefore, wanting to promote his town (Llanwrtyd Wells) , as well as his business, he created the Green Events where the man versus horse marathon was featured. Now the race is internationally recognised and the most known out of all the events. Two years later, in 1982, the race was slightly changed to provide more chances of winning between humans and horses.

Winners

- Because of the nature of the race it is understandable that it took 25 years for a man to win. However, more often than not, runners and horses came very close, sometimes so much, that the difference was of one a few seconds.
- The first man to ever win the race was Huw Lobb who won in 2004 with finishing time the best yet, 2:05:19, beating the first horse by 2 minutes. Three years later, Florian Holzinger finished first with finishing time 2:20:30, less than a minute faster than the first horse.
- However, there hasn't been any other human to win the race, ever since.



The End

A neon sign with the words "The End" in a stylized, multi-colored font. The word "The" is rendered in pink, white, and orange. The word "End" is rendered in blue, yellow, and orange. The sign is mounted on a black metal frame against a dark blue background.