



The Doynton **HARD HALF** *Marathon*

19 January 2020

Emersons Green Running Club



Canicross at DHHM

Dear cross-country runners, plodders, sprinters, trotters, wanderers and meanderers,

A few of you have asked about Canicross entries for DHHM in previous years and we said we would go away, have a think and a chat with a few people and get back to you with our considered response. We at EGRC are a helpful lot and we want to make DHHM a great day out for as many people as possible.

Well, we've done a good deal of thinking and chatting about this over a good few beers and, on the subject of Canicross at DHHM, the answer remains 'sorry doggies, but no'.

The land used for DHHM is made up of a mix of public footpaths, permissive paths and paths granted by special agreement with some private landowners. The land used is mostly farm-land and the animals we have encountered during our route planning include cattle, horses, alpacas, geese, ducks, donkeys, sheep, goats and chickens. Most of these creatures should be safely tucked away and out of sight on race day however this isn't something that we at EGRC can insist upon and the presence of animals on the race route remains a possibility. Some of these creatures also have better temperaments than others and the addition of other 'alien' animals into the mix was regarded unfavourably by some of the landowners we talked to.

Our relationship with the land-owners is of utmost importance and at this time, DHHM is not a Canicross-friendly race. While we understand some of you may be disappointed, we also hope that you understand the rationale for our decision. At this time, all efforts are focussed on making DHHM a little bit more fun, a little bit tougher and far more generously supplied with an amusing variety of jelly sweets.

With the very best and kindest of our regards,

The DHHM race organisers at
Emersons Green Running Club
www.emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk
www.doyntonhardhalfmarathon.co.uk