



DEESIDE ORIENTEERING CLUB



Little Budworth Summer Evening Event 12 June 2007

Officials' Comments

Organiser's Comments – Sheila Hills

I hope you all had a good run. Fortunately, despite the bad forecast, the weather stayed fine except for a few drops of rain so it was disappointing that more people did not come to the event. Most things ran smoothly, thanks to the willingness and cooperation of the accomplished team of helpers, consisting of:- Pauline Ablett, Jill & Barry Barnes, Chris & Beatrix Calow, Barry Chambers, Simon Coppock, Shane & Sam Drinkwater, John Evans, Caroline Gregson, Jon Hateley, Barbara Jones, Malcolm Mclvor, Barry May, Mark O'Donoghue, William Stead, Graham Sutton, Matthew Vokes and Andy Williams.

Particular thanks go to Bob Elmes and Pat Moody who took on the responsibility of SI Coordinators for the first time. It ran very smoothly and they coped well with the glitch caused by missing controls.

Thanks to Cheshire County Council for letting us use Little Budworth Common and thanks also to Mrs Dobson of the Egerton Arms for the use of her field for parking.

Planner's Comments – Sian Calow

Despite dark skies earlier in the day, the evening turned out warm and sunny (if a little humid). The recent rain had caused a surge in bracken growth but most of the terrain was still quite runnable. This was my first attempt at planning and what a steep learning curve it has been! Using SI certainly made the planning of the longer courses easier but had the distinct disadvantage of adding extra stress - especially as the SI boxes were being used at the Twin Peaks event over the weekend. Programming the boxes was much easier than anticipated and I must thank Barbara Majumdar for her training session a couple of months ago. We had a few glitches on the evening - I do apologise to any early Light Green runners affected by the mapping error which resulted in the first control (227 tree) being shown at the incorrect location. There happened to be another control (236 earthwall) at this location to add to the confusion. Matters were rectified by asking subsequent runners to amend their control descriptions. Unusually for Little Budworth, two control boxes (171 and 242) on the easier courses were temporarily missing due to vandalism which affected 7 runners - I do hope that this didn't mar your evening's orienteering too much. I hope that those of you on the Blue course felt that you had good value for your money. This was the hardest course to plan as the area is not overly technical and the terrain is very fast - I was thankful that the winning time was not under 30 minutes. Finally, may I thank Sheila Hills for her excellent work as organiser and Peter Hills for all his assistance and guidance as controller. Finally, a big thank you to Jon Hateley and Andy Williams for their assistance in collecting controls at the end of the evening.

Controller's Comments – Peter Hills

Firstly, an apology to those of you on the Light Green course over the mix-up on the first control. The original intention was to use the Tree, as given on the Control Descriptions, but at some stage in the development, this got moved to the Earthwall, and I failed to spot it. As Controller I accept the blame for this. Thank-you to the competitor who pointed this out early on, which meant we were able to recover the situation.

We had a curious outbreak of control box removal, which is strange because Little Budworth is generally considered safe from such problems. Luckily no boxes were permanently lost, and the SI team were able to re-instate those who may have been initially penalised for absence of punches. I would like to thank competitors who pointed out the problems, and particularly those who found the disturbed boxes and put them back.

Judging from the comments that I received from competitors, you all enjoyed your runs and appreciated the courses. Sian is particularly to be congratulated, as this was her first attempt at planning, and I think she made a great job of the whole procedure.

Thanks to Sheila for all the organising that she does so well, in addition to her role of co-ordinating the whole Summer Evening programme.