



**DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB
Summer Evening Event
Little Budworth CP
30 June 2009
Officials' Comments**



Organiser's Comments (Jill Barnes)

Despite the afternoon rain (while getting the tent up!) and then heat and humidity worthy of the tropics there was a very high turnout for Deeside's last summer evening event of the series. The car park field was almost full and there was a good crowd around to see Barbara Jones and Malcolm Irvine presented with their Service to Orienteering Awards. In the forest, the bracken was still fairly thin, the mosquito count was low and everyone seemed to have enjoyed Barry's courses.

It's been a long time since I've organised an evening event and found that the arrival of electronic punching has removed a major element of the organiser's role (although adding to that of the planner's) - for which I am very grateful. The results system, AutoDownload, seems to work effortlessly for 90% of competitors, but struggled a bit at Budworth with the demands of two large junior groups. Apologies for any delays this caused and my thanks to Barbara Majumdar, SI Co-ordinator, for her patience.

One thing about organizing that hasn't changed is the unfailing help given by Deeside volunteers to make car parking, registration, marshalling, start, finish and download operate as smoothly as possible - my thanks go to them all, especially to those who didn't manage to get a run. Thanks are also due to Simon Wood, the Countryside Ranger, and to Mrs Dobson of the Egerton Arms who provided the parking field (and food and drink for a fair few of us after the event).

Planner's Comments (Barry Barnes)

I waited anxiously at the finish for feedback on the courses and was relieved not to hear any raving about this control being in the wrong place or that leg being daft. I know some legs were a bit much for Red, and 242 caused some Orange headaches but, without spending excessive amounts of time hanging and collecting controls, courses were as fair as I could make them. I was impressed by the winning times, especially so given the heat. I hope you all enjoyed your runs as much as I did planning them.

I am very grateful for the assistance given by Jill and by John Padget in hanging controls, and for the help in collecting by Clare and Callum Crocker and Andrew Williams. Simon Wood, Countryside Ranger, was very supportive of the whole event and thanks also to the controller, Robin Tilston, for visiting all my control sites.

Controller's Comments (Robin Tilston)

Well! My weather record continues unblemished. It rained on Barry and John putting controls out and me checking them but cleared up for you lot.

Little Budworth is a pleasant area to plan, control and run in. It lacks technical difficulty but the path network, mapped and unmapped, can be the undoing of the unwary. Lots of little paths, some of which are less obvious on the ground than the map would have you believe.

Lots of runners ran around with the aid of a compass which seemed a bit over the top, particularly, when one thinks of the number of features that were mapped when magnetic north was assumed to be elsewhere. Maybe, as much as 5° different than it's true location at the time of mapping.

Barry set up nice little courses in which I found no fault but we did discuss the actual location of a couple of sites. I enjoyed my little tour of the area and was pleased to come across a four pony carriage traversing the tracks in the western part of the woods (they had a spare tyre in the form of another pony following behind).

The Fat Controller