



**DEESIDE ORIENTEERING  
CLUB  
Summer Evening Event  
Delamere, Linnere  
27 April 2010  
Officials' Comments**



### **Organiser's Comments (Jill Barnes)**

A great start to the summer series, with beautiful weather for the evening and a bumper turnout of 189. Space was tight in the car park but with the efficiency of the junior helpers we managed to accommodate you all. There were many familiar faces and encouragingly also a few new ones who Came and Tried It, possibly due to the efforts of our Publicity Officer Joy Irvine; they all seemed to enjoy themselves and we hope they'll return for future events. The new system for SI card hire worked well despite the high demand and made Download smoother for SI helpers and competitors.

Many thanks to all the helpers whose hard work made the evening a successful one and made my role almost superfluous, and apologies to the few who had to cut their own runs short to get back in time. The delayed starts for the junior helpers didn't seem to have an adverse effect on their performance as they all still managed remarkably good times! Thanks are also particularly due to our controller Steve Ingleby, and to Pete Owens for getting the results on the web so quickly.

### **Planner's Comments (Barry Barnes)**

The forest is about as good as it gets. That is, dry and firm on the paths, deep brashings and brambles just about everywhere else. At least we are ahead of the bracken by a few weeks. The courses were always going to be fast for those able to take advantage of them and some excellent performances demonstrated this; the promise and prowess of Deeside juniors is particularly evident.

I hope the young man who observed that the Orange course was 'just for runners' will move on to Light Green next time. However he did put his finger on a planning issue for this type of event; a total of 3 runners on the Red course out of such a large entry questions the validity of providing the course as it always entails providing some extra controls not visited by other courses.

Your appreciation of the courses would have been much diminished without the involvement of Steve Ingleby as Controller. He provided me with a real Master Class in planning; he gave my first draft meticulous attention and introduced changes which improved it exponentially, gave similar attention to the precise siting of controls and gave

unstinting support on the day. No planner could ask more of a controller! I am also grateful to Andrew Williams, Norman Hall and Peter Hills for their help with hanging and collecting controls, especially collecting in failing light at the end of a busy evening.

I hope the event has got the Summer Evening series off to a good start and we will see you all again in the forest.

### **Controller's Comments (Steve Ingleby)**

I hope you enjoyed your evening in Delamere. Certainly the prospect of a fine evening seemed to encourage a large number of competitors to come along to the event. The forest does seem to be getting a bit rougher over the years - due no doubt to the increase in uncleared brushings and the greater degree of bramble cover. However Barry planned some challenging courses that hopefully tested your navigation without too much fighting through the undergrowth.

I encouraged a slight shortening of courses as this was the first evening event of the year and hence we had to bring forward the Courses Close time to 8.15pm in order to collect controls before it got too dark. As it was, Barry was still having to find the last controls well after 9.00pm when it was pitch black in the forest.

So once again our thanks go out to the Barnes duo for all the time and effort they put into planning and organising this very successful event - in addition to their normal "day jobs" of Club Chairman and Secretary. As always, it was a pleasure to work with Barry and Jill - they seem to cope with everything that is thrown at them, including their computer failing and leaving them without e-mail access just days before the event!