

FROSTY'S DEESIDE TURKEY TROT

After a lot of chasing, Frosty's agent rang me in early December saying her client was willing to sponsor a Turkey Trot and even make a cameo appearance. His only conditions were lots of fun for all concerned, some mischievous exposure to muck and grime, a cunning plan to deny the best orienteers glory, and some gratuitous promotion of his latest single.

The west area was saturated with controls to ensure everybody got plenty of points whilst challenging the quickies to remember where they had been. I hoped the lure of Frosty's Lapland Outdoor Park ('FLOP') would lure the random speedsters to the far side of the road where they would run around acquiring not-very-many-points (26 available), leaving the mega-scoring items (hat at #22 and broom at #9) to some more deliberate plodders. This was a complete fail, as Dan was able to zoom around all the northerly controls and pick up the broom within 8 minutes of the start. Likewise, Colin Williams went south and nabbed the hat in 7 minutes. Drat.

The bonus snowman items made a big difference to the score and a number of runners lost out by missing the various buckets, bags and coal scuttles. Not sure how many times we heard "Where was the coal?" at the finish (it was # 12) and we were both astonished and revolted by the bodily crevices carrots were extracted from! A few of you who had done their Frosty research and were still mentally scarred from the 'Hannah's Perfect Xmas Meal' Turkey Trot were conflicted by the carrots. Unfortunately, I couldn't get any corn cob pipes, so you will have to excuse the vegetable substitutes.

Frosty apologises for his rather lean appearance on the day. Not a result of climate change on this occasion, but power failure. In retrospect, dragging a 12 V leisure battery on a sledge through the woods may have been one event finesse too many.

Many thanks to Frosty's team of helpers; Maggie on the road crossing, Bob for IT, Pat and Richard for security / extra control dibbing and Jane for just about everything else!

