

Junior Newsletter

No. 1 ½



Welcome

to what we hope will be a useful addition to our communications with Families and Juniors in Happy Herts.

This newsletter will have the primary aim of identifying the up coming events which newcomers to orienteering may wish to attend.

Our aim will be to spot events that are not too far away and to try to tell you a little bit about the area and what to expect when you get out there.

One of the joys of orienteering is experiencing the variety of areas that are used for orienteering events – from parks to small woods; from moors to sand dunes; from city centres to remote hills.

So let's start with some events coming up in the next few weeks that you may wish to consider attending.

We'll try to give you some idea of the location of the event – but all clubs will have on their web site much more detailed information about the venue, parking, the costs and courses.

Our aim is also to start adding photographs (without names), perhaps quizzes, bits of maps and news about other juniors in the club.

Yvette Baker heat



For this edition we'll start off largely with some details of events .

Courses

Just a word before I start. Most events have courses which are identified by colour – so white, yellow, orange etc.

The difficulty of the course is a standard across orienteering so if you run yellow at Happy Herts events (Other than Schools League) then you should probably enter yellow at events at other clubs.

You will soon get the hang of it but if you have any doubts or need advice then please get in touch.

As you probably know the Happy Herts Schools league works on a slightly different basis and is based on school years rather than your age. This means that often you will run an easier course at Schools League than you would in the average club orienteering event.

Events

Explanation of Event levels

Major events are Major Events such as a British Championships, **National** events are high quality competitions that will attract people from far away, **Regional** events attract participants from around the local Region, **Local** are usually low key events in a 'localised' area. Local events are ideal for newcomers to try the sport.

March 30th – April 2nd

Organised by West Midlands Region

Level; Major

Four days of orienteering events based on and around Cannock Chase in the west Midlands. It comprises a sprint, a middle distance race, a long distance race and a relay. You can run some or all these events.

The JK Festival is arranged every Easter and organised by a different Region each year. (South East organised in 2017). The JK attracts about 3000 competitors and for more information try JK2018

JK Orienteering Festival

Venue; Cannock Chase

April 7th

Club; DFOK (Dartford Orienteering Club)

Level; Local

Small parkland area near Westerham in Kent. Westerham Estate, former home of Winston Churchill, is nearby and is now owned by National Trust. Well worth a visit and has a tea shop to refresh you after your exertions.

Venue; Hosey Common

April 8th

Club; LOK (London Orienteering Club)

Venue; Hampstead Heath

Level; Regional

Well known area in north London. Much open park land with wooded areas. Great views over towards the City of London.

April 8th

Club; BADO (Basingstoke Orienteering Club) Venue; Butterwood

Level; Regional

A nice open woodland area just off the M3. Well worth a visit.

April 15th

Club; TVOC (Thames Valley) Venue; Great Hampden and Whiteleaf

Level; National

‘The Chiltern Challenge’ close to High Wycombe on the Chiltern Hills. Typical wooded area with lots of features and naturally hilly. Another area worth visiting as it is similar to a number of areas along the Chilterns.

April 22nd

Club; SAXONS (Saxons (Kent Orienteers)) Venue; Eridge Park

Level; Regional

Large privately owned woodland near Tunbridge Wells.

A fairly long drive but an event in the **South East League** where all club members score points for their club. (Currently HH are top of the League but needs as many people to attend as possible to maintain their place.)

After the event Tunbridge Wells is an enjoyable place to wander round and relax.

Many curious little shops in the Pantiles area.

Useful web addresses

For clubs in the South East see www.seoa.org.uk for links to clubs web sites.

Clubs in East Anglia can be found through www.eaoa.org.uk and for those in South Central try www.Scoa-orienteeing.org.uk

If those fail try British Orienteering at www.britishorienteering.org.uk

And if that fails, or you have any questions, try e-mailing Frances (see the end of the newsletter)

Yvette Baker Trophy news

We will be competing for a place in the Yvette Baker national final, at the heat on 13th May at Danbury Park in Essex. More details will be sent to the team as they become available. We have an excellent team, with a good mixture of the experienced and those newer to orienteering. It's not too late to join in – let Frances know.

Finally

We hope you find this newsletter of use in choosing which events to attend.

As always please feel free to ask for more information; we're only too pleased to help. And if you have suggestions of how we could improve the newsletter please do let us know.

Frances – Junior Training Officer hgoldingay@aol.com
Keith Marsden – HH Training Officer

Club summer training