



Happy Herts Newsletter 274

September 2020

Note from the Editor

Some of you will be looking forward to the return to school. All of you will hopefully be excited about the return of competitive Orienteering on 5th September – only four more sleeps!

We look forward to seeing you all on 8 September for the HH Annual General Zoom Meeting.

Sascha, newsletter@herts-orienteeing.club

Saturday events restart! 5 September is on

You will have seen that we're running a limited event at [Highfield on Saturday 5 September](#). There may still be time to [enter](#) if you're quick - It must be pre-entry only and with no dibber hire.

Government Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted - a bit - and British Orienteering has issued guidance for how events can restart safely. The Highfield event meets [British Orienteering's guidance](#), but in doing so we've had to sacrifice some of the things that make our Saturday Series so good - in particular the full range of courses and the welcome and training we can give to beginners.

I say "limited event". We at first thought we might get 30 or 40, so set up an event with 60 starts and gave HH priority booking. At the time of writing we're on 65 HH and we've opened a second start as we can take a maximum of 120 people using double starts.

A new normal for events

We'll run another similar sized event at Ellenbrook on 3 Oct. The HH committee is very much of the opinion that these events are only worthwhile if they are part of the build up to something much closer to Saturday Series as we know it, so we're working on ways of doing that.

There are two challenges when preparing for events in the current circumstances. It is important we avoid the registration "scrum" - which would clearly break the 6 people meeting outdoors rule.

The other key feature and a real focus previously for HH is being open to newcomers. BOF currently advises against targeting events at novices "due to the requirement for additional support and guidance which is difficult whilst maintaining social distancing." If you have ideas that will help, please speak with me or any committee member.



We'll be keeping a close eye on Government rules and BOF guidance. There is a chance of influencing the latter! We'd love to see you on **Sept 5th at Highfield**, to show that we as a club and as individuals can act responsibly and put on a good event even in these difficult times.

Despite the sanitiser and the social distancing, Highfield will still be fun whilst challenging – just what you expect when Simon Errington is planning! Hope to see you there.

Mike (Chairman@herts-orienteeing.club)

HH AGM to be held 8 September

The committee agreed to hold the AGM as a virtual meeting, without a sprint in 2020. It will be held via Zoom, as that has 'reactions' button for voting. We are preparing a short review and discussion of the formal business to last 10 minutes or so, with reports circulated in advance. We will follow the formal affairs with an orienteeing-related quiz.

Club Officers on the Committee are Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Club captain and Event Co-ordinator. Anyone interested in standing should contact the Secretary.

- Hugh Wiltshire has reached the end of his three year tenure Treasurer.
- Ben Bardsley has offered to stand as Treasurer.
- All other Officers have agreed to stand for re-election.
- Keith Marsden is standing down as Training officer – this position is vacant.

We need a quorum of 20 members to attend, so do join us at 20:00 on Tuesday 8 September, using this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82873760412?pwd=QTNrMFBPdU9CRFdEWWZ2OWVicjhyUT09>

I will be circulating the AGM reports shortly. If you have any queries on the Treasurer's report, do feel free to contact Hugh on treasurer@herts-orienteeing.club

Sascha, secretary@herts-orienteeing.club

Competition corner

Answer: Last month's music video was animating Beethoven's Fifth.

You can still [follow this link to watch a short video clip](#) on the HH Website if you missed it last time.

[ends]