



HERTFORDSHIRE ORIENTEERING CLUB



Burnham Beeches & Egypt Wood

Sunday 28 February 2010

Event Report

Lost Property

One competitor reported losing a ladies watch. She thinks it was dropped close to her car parked in Park Lane. The watch has sentimental value. If anyone found it, please contact the Organiser on burnham-28-02-10@happyherts.org.uk.

All lost items handed in on the day have been claimed.

Planners: Jane and Barry Breed

Sorry about the weather. But we didn't write the script. The rain and depression which travelled up from The Bay of Biscay couldn't have chosen a more awkward time. All one can say is that at least we didn't get the 40 mph winds which had been forecast.

Sitting looking out of our window at a blue sky on a warm Monday afternoon following the event we prefer not to dwell on the conditions which prevailed on the day other than that the going was heavier than we originally anticipated and some areas were very wet!!

We favoured the use of loops in the courses in order to make the most of the more technical terrain, and long legs to give route choice.

We also tried to give runners the pleasure of running in what, in areas, is a lovely forest. Finishing times look about right, so we were happy with course lengths and technical difficulty. We liked the area and layout for the Start and Finish which we felt justified the longish walk from Assembly.

If only Spring could have arrived a day earlier!!

Organiser: Roger Moulding

As a result of working intensively abroad in the lead up to the event, this was never going to be an easy event for me to organise. Add to this a severe weather warning and ultimately finding the car park field unusable after heavy overnight rain and at 08h00 things looked impossible.

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But nothing was going to stop the HH machine and without further ado everything was set for an excellent event. Car parking evolved along the verges of the surrounding lanes and even the weather was far kinder to us than the forecasters predicted. Unfortunately we had to send the catering service away and competitors had a lot further to walk than expected, but otherwise everything went more or less as planned.

The only grumble I heard was from a passing local motorist who had had to drive against the flow in Park Lane. Even the Police only came by to warn us about the possibility of car thefts. (Some hope with so many fit orienteers around).

Just to add a little extra drama, I succeeded in losing the keys for the equipment van just as everyone was arriving. Fortunately the van was unlocked, so the equipment was accessible, but it meant the vehicle was immovable and blocked a possible location for the catering vehicle. After many hours of searching and just after I had resorted to calling the AA, the keys came to light in the sea of mud in the field entrance. I guess I had dropped them there and before anyone had spotted them, they had been squashed into the mud.

In spite of all the dramas and emergency arrangements, I hope everyone enjoyed their run and will want to join me in thanking the many HH helpers who made the event happen.

Controller: Neville Baker (TVOC)

This event was a pleasure to Control. Everything was planned and organised efficiently, and I had a lovely time wandering around some beautiful woodlands. Well done to HH.