

Laurie Bradley Club Score Championships 2020

Controller's Report

It was a good idea to use Baggeridge and Himley for the Score. A reasonably central location, with a large car park and a cafe. And interesting, varied terrain. Ian chose good control sites away from most of the mud and brambles and even though the controls were gripped they were all visible.

Thanks very much to the mapper, Alison, for producing the combined map and making various changes. Although combining the two areas creates some dead running, it was more interesting (for those with the legs) to orienteer around Himley than to do a second loop of Baggeridge. Especially as the woods in Himley are great to run through at this time of year.

At first glance the 8.5k and 33 controls in one hour looked rather ambitious, but I did have a run round last month and since even I could get most of the controls in an hour I concluded that one or two runners should be able to clear the course, and so it transpired. Congratulations to Tim. In my view (though I'd be interested to hear others' opinions) the best strategy was to go to 101, 102, 114, 111, clear most or all of the Himley controls, and then see how much time was left. Leaving Himley to later in the race would make me rather nervous.

One small negative comment. The steps north of control 102 were marked as a forbidden route but several competitors went this way. No action has been taken but perhaps clubs should give more information to their members about what the overprint symbols mean. It is always competitors' responsibility to abide by the map, and there are no excuses.

Happy New Year!
Adrian Bailey (HOC)