



Harlequins Orienteering Club Winter Evening Event

*Thursday 13th February 2020
Hope End, Wellington Heath, Ledbury*

At first glance the Hope End / Oyster Hill map looks fairly benign with lots of open spaces split by small woodlands making navigation apparently straightforward.

But then there are the contours, such that in his 7.6km winning run, Alex M recorded 264m of climb.

So it is a deceptive map, tempting runners to go for those extra controls which on reflection may not, for some, have been such a good idea.

The lack of winter frosts meant that the brambles made the option of fine orienteering in the woods unattractive, as some route choices would have unfairly penalised some competitors. Instead, the planning objective was largely to provide some challenge in terms of which controls to avoid. This is particularly the case on this map, as some route choices would have been unacceptable due to lack of suitable fence crossing points.

Results

	Name	Club	Class	SI no.	Time	Pens	Controls	Score
	Men							
1	Alex Mitchell	HOC	M18	8170502	60.11	2	160	158
2	David Williams	HOC	M55	9050362	61.10	12	140	128
3	Chris McSweeney	Ind	M50	889790	62.26	25	150	125
4	Richard Davies	HOC	M55	261876	63.18	33	150	117
5	Peter Langmaid	HOC	M50	333762	62.20	24	130	106
6	Robert Taylor	NGOC	M50	202117	59.32	0	100	100
7	Barry Houghton	HOC	M70	8333623	61.01	11	110	99
8	Steve Chiverton	HOC	M65	221494	60.50	9	100	91
9	Sebastian Mitchell	HOC	M16	8090404	56.44	0	80	80
10	James Thomas	HOC	M21	8300788	63.18	33	90	67
11	Clive Caffell	NGOC	M55	260366	55.07	0	50	50
12	Greg Best	NCOC	M55	8180362	69.18	93	130	37
13	Robert Vickers	HOC	M75	50138	74.06	141	60	0
14	Paul Hammond	HOC	M55	2177154	67.43	78	50	0
	Ladies							
1	Mandy Mackereth	HOC	W55	1425850	57.59	0	110	110
2	Tereza Maria Rush	BOK	W40	8070579	62.28	12	120	108
3	Kerstin Mitchell	HOC	W50	8011366	60.38	7	90	83
4	Jenny Uff	HOC	W70	33356	72.38	127	20	0

Analysis of the controls visited suggests that I may have been over optimistic by adding the 11 - 14 loop to the south of the map, but I am always wary of a super fast M21 appearing, so tend to be relaxed about having some “discard” controls. I had expected more runners to avoid the loss of height to control 4, but accept that it is preferable to collect as many controls as feasible early in the run and discard others when time is beginning to press. Nevertheless, I anticipated that more would have opted to cut from 3 to 6, but this choice was only taken by five runners.

It was also interesting to note the less risk averse, by comparing those who opted to divert from 18 to 19 rather than run for the safety of 19 to 21.

Control No.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Time: C21 to finish
	Score	Late Pens																						
1 Alex Mitchell	158	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.31
2 David Williams	128	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1					1	1	1	1	1		1	2.08
3 Chris McSweeney	125	25	1	1	1			1	1	1	1						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.31
4 Richard Davies	117	33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					1	1	1	1	1		1	2.46
5 Peter Langmaid	106	24	1		1			1	1	1	1	1					1	1	1	1	1		1	2.47
6 Robert Taylor	100	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										1		1		1	2.32
7 Barry Houghton	99	11	1	1	1			1	1	1	1												1	2.31
8 Steve Chiverton	91	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											1		1	1	3.41
9 Sebastian Mitchell	80	0	1	1	1			1	1	1	1												1	5.27
10 James Thomas	67	33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								1						1	3.16
11 Clive Caffell	50	0	1		1		1												1	1				6.24*
12 Greg Best	37	93	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					1	1	1				1	3.53
13 Robert Vickers	0	141	1	1	1		1	1															1	11.57
14 Paul Hammond	0	78	1	1	1			1													1			6.15*
Ladies																								
1 Mandy Mackereth	110	0	1	1	1		1	1	1									1	1	1	1		1	3.35
2 Tereza Maria Rush	108	12	1	1	1		1	1	1	1													1	3.42
3 Kerstin Mitchell	83	7	1		1			1	1									1	1	1	1		1	5.23
4 Jenny Uff	0	127	1																				1	17.13

* From control 18.

Colin Palmer. 15th February 2020