

NSL – JQ 13/2/2014 Results

Short	time	notes	Penalty	Adjusted Time
Russ Fauset	36.54			36.54
Bob Scott	39.44	Wrong 15	1.00	40.44
Jane Campbell (DEE)	38.09	Illegal route to finish from last control	3.00	41.09
Christine Collins (WCH)	42.52			42.52
Jean Payne (DEE)	46.59			46.59
Colin Spears	51.47			51.47
Colin Palmer	55.20			55.20
Jacky Embrey	58.32			58.32
Lin Page (OD)	59.00			59.00

Medium	time	notes	Penalty	Adjusted Time
David Williams (NC?)	43.18			43.18
Ray Collins WCH)	52.05	Wrong pt2/2	0.30	52.35
Adrian Bailey	55.55			55.55
Mike Hampton (OD)	61.09			61.09
Brian Laycock	60.57	Wrong pt2/3	0.30	61.27
Andrew Payne (DEE)	62.09			62.09
Kerstin Mitchell	66.10	Msg pt1/5, wrong pt2/3, pt2/6	1.30	67.40
Barry McGowan	69.00	Wrong pt2/1	0.30	69.30
Fred Miller (NATO)	71.59			71.59
Robert Vickers	91.38			91.38

Long	time	notes
Iain Embrey	43.32	No torch!
John Embrey	53.07	
Adrian Pickles (WRE)	54.22	
Peter Langmaid	64.20	
John Howell (OD)	67.36	
Martin Skinner (WCOC)	76.58	
Robert Rose	77.49	

Comments

Firstly, we had a good turnout. I was a little worried when Marian was approached, at Sandwell, by 3 folk from DEE, who had spotted the event on the BOF website and booked their train tickets. Concerned that the event might attract more competitors that I could cope with I amended the details on our website to 'set expectations' for anyone coming from afar. Even so we had a fair number of non-HOC competitors.

Secondly, if that week's weather put you off then, judging by the feedback, you missed a treat. The rain held off for almost everyone, Marian's cakes lived up to expectations and the pub of the night did us proud by letting us use their function room for no charge – and they ran a 2-for-1 Pizza deal!

I'm really impressed with Ollie O'Brien's Open Orienteering Maps, they make life so easy for novices to maps and planning like me. I used the "pseud-o map" option and had to go to 1:5000 to get the detail necessary for my plans. I selected my map area and created a PDF. Marian then converted that to a JPEG file which I was able to update in MS Paint and then import into Condes. I struggled to get a dot in the centre of my control circle but Bob Scott put me right, advising me to use the Ski-O setting in Condes.

I'm sorry that the short course competitors didn't get into Brindley Place / Gas St, but it was really difficult to make a sensible loop as it would have had the same crossing point going out as coming back. Any other option would have made the course too long

I wanted all the courses to start in the Jewellery Quarter as it's fairly quiet at that time of night and contains enough interest for a decent night street event. However the short course did have a canal run route choice with a non-canal option if the canal was deemed too dark and rough. As it was, all courses got to sample the cemetery and some spooky cut-throughs, familiar to those who may have done the Jewellery Quarter Ghost Walk.

The medium and long courses had 2 maps. The Medium course went from the Jewellery Quarter to Brindley Place/Gas St and then back through the business district whereas the long course went the opposite way taking in the area around New St along the way. The change to the second map seemed to catch a lot of people out as the terrain and leg lengths changed quite dramatically between the two. The long was also planned to ramp up the decision making all the way through to the finish and there were a few who reported making mistakes and losing time in the last few controls.

I'm glad that everyone seemed to enjoy running it as much as I enjoyed planning it.

I have a handful of spare maps for each course, so if you weren't able to come but still fancy a go, then just drop me an email or a PM on the forum and I'll get one to you.