



**DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB**
Cheshire & Merseyside Schools
League
Delamere East
8 February 2014



Organiser's Comments (Siân Calow)

Despite the tempestuous forecast, the weather on Saturday was thankfully mostly dry if not a little cold and blustery. Like the preceding Merseyside and Cheshire League Events, this was a very well-attended event and I hope that you all enjoyed your run. Hopefully conditions out there in the forest were not too muddy. I would like to thank all the people who volunteered to help on the day whose efforts made the event run smoothly. Apologies to the Start team who discovered that the Start was actually in the car park – thank you for organising the Start lanes in such a safe and efficient way. And a special mention to Peter Hills and Martin Pickering who manned the Finish in what was possibly the coldest spot in Delamere that morning! Finally, may I stress that it is vitally important that all competitors download their SI card at the end of their run regardless of whether they have completed their course or not. The organising team had a worrying half hour attempting to locate a young lad who was still showing to be out on his course. Fortunately, he was safely on his way home in the school bus – so no search was necessary. Please remember to download in future.

Planner's Comments (Liz Jackson)

Will appear here when available.

Controller's Comments (Jon Hateley)

At a school's League Event competitor safety is a critical, so the priority at Delamere East was to keep the kids well away from the road and any (really) deep water. That didn't leave an awful lot of forest left for Liz to work with, but I think she did a great job squeezing in some good interesting courses. Practically everything went well on the day – the weather mostly behaved and I believe eagle-eyed Alan Mullock even spotted the one Green map that wasn't double-sided at the start before it caused any disappointment.

But back to safety; and EVERY orienteer has to know the one golden rule of the sport; you must report to download, even if you retire! It's written on every final details sheet and appears on every map. We all know it ... so how frustrating (and worrying) to find one lad unaccounted for at the end of the day. After a lot of scrabbling around for phone numbers Sian was able to contact the teacher concerned and find all was well and he hadn't knocked himself out in the wood. But we were within an ace of sending out our own search parties, and probably 30 minutes from contacting the police for a full-on flashing-blue-lights response. ***Please drill this simple message into the kids that you are responsible for!***