



**DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB**
Local Event
Bryn Alyn
8th April 2018
Officials' Comments



Organiser's Comments (Pauly-D Jones)

Massive thanks to all who made the event possible:

- Everybody who volunteered their time and expertise to help.
- The tenant farmer and land agent re: Permissions
- Andrew Kent of Tarmac and the quarry security
- David Wynn from the White House
- The chap from the haulage yard
- Duncan Harris for sorting out the tent including reproofing after its ordeal at the JK
- Tim Palmer for the heads-up on the road race taking place on the route from Mold
- To you all for participating - It was great to see some newcomers having a go alongside regular DEEsiders and others from neighbouring and more distant clubs.

Last but by no means least I have to mention the great quality courses which made it all worthwhile and which even won plaudits from the notoriously hard-to-impress Jones contingent. They were of course entirely due to the considerable skill and effort of your very experienced Planner and Controller. It was a pleasure to work with them both.

Planner's Comments (Andrew Tarr)

When I suggested this event last autumn, John and I were to be co-planners, but as things evolved I worked on the courses while John took charge of the map, which I knew after controlling several SEEs still needed some work. It was John's idea to make full use of the area allowed in our permit, hence the small NW extension, which is fairly featureless but is very different from rough hillside. We hope you liked the result – it is the best time of year for Bryn Alyn if you dislike bracken and thistles.

Route choice here is often about where to cross the various fences, but I tried to find interesting legs to make you think. Several runners on Green or Short Green admitted

that they took the straight line from 73 to 53 despite considering the alternative via the southern gate which saved a lot of climb. There was also a worrying outbreak of carelessness after visiting the last control and assuming the Finish was at the Download tent, whatever the map showed (the Finish was chosen mainly to suit the Yellow course).

I decided to convert a weakness in the fence into a new crossing-point, which with a high-ish start offered relatively gentle first legs for the technical courses, which was a novelty. Earlier planners had found only one feasible Yellow course in the hilly centre of the map, and this new crossing made it possible to use the pleasanter SE corner instead. After our event the weak fence was a little stronger than before.

My thanks go to Pauly for his unflappable organisation, to the gang of helpers he shanghaied, and also to the willing group prepared to take a second foray onto the hill to collect controls. Everything was clear by about 2:30.

Controller's Comments (John Padget)

I hope everyone enjoyed Bryn Alyn at its very best i.e. no bracken to impede progress, a lovely morning and excellent courses carefully planned by Andrew who used his many years experience of planning and controlling to good effect.

I also hope those on green and blue thought the inclusion of the newly mapped wooded area brought enough interest to justify the extra climbing entailed. Thanks to Graham Nilsen who provided the lidar data which helped greatly in mapping the new area. Andrew and I made a significant number of corrections to the map which should be helpful to future events, although this process can never be regarded as complete and whilst the areas of gorse are in general well mapped there are a few areas in which this can be improved.

It is a pity that our license to use the area places a restriction on the number of competitors because the standard of organisation provided by Pauly and his team, the quality of the area and the quality of the courses would do credit to a much larger event.