



DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB
Club Social-O
Beeston Castle
Saturday 21st June 2008
Officials' Comments



Organiser's Comments (Barry Barnes)

'We should have had swords, not dibbers' was the prize comment in the windblown castle keep. Thirty-eight Deesiders ignored the poor weather to experience Chris Smithard's downhill sprint in the grounds of Beeston Castle on Mid-summers Day. Twenty-four controls in 2k, with no danger of going off the map, sounds easy, but from what I saw some seasoned orienteers were distinctly stretched and bamboozled. A brew and a picnic to follow, perfect summer's day out really, apart from..... well, you know.

Also experimental was the use of Auto-download to ease the business of registration and race timing; I won't put my foot in my mouth by trying to explain its benefits, someone else can do that, but it was successful enough for the Treasurer to be persuaded to buy the licence for a copy.

Thanks to Mark Hodgson, Castle Custodian, for inviting us to map and use the castle grounds, and to his staff for their help. Also to Chris Smithard for the mapping and event, and to the Smithard family, the Beasants, Andrew Williams, John Padget and to Jill for help on the day.

Another time, we'll choose a date when the weather is more reliable...

Planner's Comments (Chris Smithard)

Having mapped in February I returned last week to find half the trees missing inside the outer walls and lots of newly sown grass that was out of bounds. It reduced the length of the course somewhat but hopefully was still an enjoyment to all. Most people seemed to have had fun in the rain and surprisingly nobody complained about the mapping!