DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB
Club Championships
Bickerton Hill
23rd November 2008
Officials' Comments

Planner's Comments (Pete Owens)

First of all, apologies for not managing to get the results out on the day, despite the heroic efforts of John Kewley and Bob Elmes, attempting to get Excel to cope with my absurdly complex handicap scoring system. Thanks to Chris Calow and Steve Ingleby for gathering in the huge number of controls I had left on the hill. It's all Jon Hateley's fault for suggesting that the club champs should be "something different" from a standard colour coded event - and poetic justice he will be arranging next years competition. Congratulations to Jon, and the other champions – I'm sure your trophies will reach you eventually.

I have always struggled to see the map detail in the complex area on the top of the hill. The idea of using an enlarged map came to me when I realized that I could hardly make out the knolls even when staring intently at the map in the comfort of my own living room at the armchair planning stage.

The map is now up on Route Gadget, and I would be really interested to see where everybody went. There are already some interesting route choices on the early parts of the blue and green courses that hadn't occurred to me when planning those legs.

Handicap Calculation

The aims of the handicap calculation was to:

- Be fair to all competitors,
- Allow anyone to run any course and be competitive in any class and
- Offer a similar dilemma in the bonus zone to runners of all speeds

The following formula was used:

$$T = (T_c \times C \times I - B) \times E$$

Where:

T = result

T_c = time to complete course

C = course factor

I = individual handicap

B = bonus points scored

E = embargo factor

The aim of the course factor was adjust runner's time to that they would have taken had they run the green course.

$$C = ((L + (10 \times H)) \times D) / C_g$$

Where:

L = course length

H = height gain

D = difficulty factor

C_g = course factor for green course

The individual handicap was based on BOF ranking points and age class, normalized to the running speed of a slower than average M45.

$$I = (1 + R \times (R - 1000) / 1000000) \times (S / S_p)$$

Where:

R = average BOF ranking points per event for competitor

S = average running speed for age class

S_p = below average running speed for M45L class