

Planner/Organisers Comments Dudmaston WEE 02/02/2017

Excellent turnout, hope you all enjoyed the event. Several from WRE and a contingent from the army added to the numbers.

Thanks for all who let me know they were coming, it makes it much easier to estimate the number of maps needed, I just had enough! Well done to David again, and to Ivor Powell and Ben Rauffet who managed to clear all controls. On the ladies the army took first and second with Kerstin coming in first HOC. Great battle in the middle ranks with actual times needed to sort ties.

Dudmaston is not a very big area, so to try and get 6+ km without crossing the course (hate doing that, I always follow the wrong line!) was always going to be a struggle. I managed by doing the loops around the finish area, which also gave plenty of opportunity for cutting if you were running out of time. I think it worked, but it did mean I had a long leg from 3 to 4. I did not think the brambles were too much of a problem this year except maybe in the northern section where I did do a bit of bramble bashing to help. The bike trails were the way to get through these areas.

I saw from the printouts that there were lots of variations in route choices. One common theme was to cut from 5 to 11. Personally I probably would have missed out 1 to 3 and gone straight for 4 and attempted the rest. This is assuming that I could stop myself just running off so I could spend a bit of time checking the map first. Many thanks to Kerstin and Alex, Robert V, Rob Rose, Peter, Andy H and Andy J who collect the controls in record breaking time to so we could get to the pub before last food orders time.

Thanks again for making it worthwhile, see you at the next one. Barry Houghton