

The words Hollybed, Winter & Dry are not ones that can be normally associated with each other, but on this occasion the gods were benevolent. Nevertheless the cold wind did bring home the advantages of officiating in front of a blazing woodburning stove rather than shivering adjacent to a draughty car window.....

I assumed around 10 minutes to get onto the main map, and this seemed to be the case, for most, so I hope you did not find the initial Outdoor Leisure section too onerous.

The shape of the map, and restrictions of extensive out of bounds areas tend to lead to planning two loops bordering the unrestricted central area, and I aimed to use this area without a myriad of crossing lines which can be confusing. I hoped that this would provide an option of remaining in the central area with a potential route of 41 / 42 / 43 / 44 / 52 / 53 / 54 / 55 / 56 / 22 / 23 / 24 / 25 / 26 / 27 providing a tolerable 150 point score. So it was gratifying that a number of runners did spot and pursue this option avoiding the loops and the attendant climbs - and providing a top half of the table score.

Congratulations to Matthew Whimple for managing to nearly clear the course - just running out of time to collect the penultimate control, also to Tereza Mariarush for heading the women's table.

Colin Palmer