

## Godshill planning 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Sitting down relaxing after a very busy weekend and now trying to write a report on the event.

Wimborne Orienteers have always been known for the good maps they have for an event and I tried my best to update the map where I thought competitors would need it most. That doesn't always work as Orienteers are a specialist breed and go where no one else would go! so sorry to anyone if they took a strange route that I was not expecting and hadn't updated that part of the map.

I made at least 10 planning and mapping trips to the area and was worried 3 weeks before the event that some of the controls were very difficult, then we had a short cold spell and high winds, then I thought flags could be seen a long way away and the event was too easy. This must have been the thoughts of a non-orienteer who removed 6 controls on the morning of the race, after I had placed them on the Saturday morning in a 15km walk, and they were all visited by the controller Ian Moran.

One of the controls was moved 400 metres to a thicket, the other 5 disappeared, 2 of which were gripped tightly to trees which they managed to remove leaving the gripples. Luckily I managed to replace them all before the event started and we suffered no further loss.

One of my mistakes I made on Saturday evening after quite a tiring day was in checking the control boxes timings I calibrated them all to a master control box set to British Summer time, all the times were the same but it meant when some competitors finished they had a minus run time and it caused the computer team extra hassle.

A lot of thanks should go to the controller, Ian, for his helpful suggestions with the courses and the map, sometimes you are looking at things so much you miss obvious mistakes and it shows that the system of separate planners & controllers works well.

Between the early morning and late afternoon I did manage to use the excellent facilities in the hall organised by Kirsty and tried my best to eat a lot of cakes.

I hope this, and your run, made the walk to and from the start worth it, or as some of the fitter orienteers said it was an ideal warm up and warm down distance.

Kevin Pickering (Planner)

### Download

The IT team had an interesting little problem to deal with because Kevin had inadvertently synced all the control stations to a master station which was still on British Summer time (my fault, I think). This didn't matter in that this still gave the competitor's elapsed times correctly on their printout, (but if you look, you've all got negative splits for Clear & Check!).

However, for anyone downloading within an hour of starting, this gave you negative read out splits between the time you punched the Start and downloaded. as the laptops, and the red download boxes at Download, were all correctly on GMT!

You can't download your results before you've run your course, so anyone downloading before 11.30 (which is 10.30 BST) generated an error message in the software and was put in the missing downloads section. At the end of the events, SITiming was telling us we had 7 missing people, all of who we knew were early starters, were safely back and we had download details for.

It's taken me ages to work out why this happened. You live and learn.

Dick Keighley (Entries/Download)