

Leicestershire Orienteering Club
New Year's Day Bike - O and running event
Forest Hills Golf Club, Botcheston.

Organiser's comments and results.

This was most definitely a low-key event, with 17 entrants. The courses laid on were a Yellow and 60 minute score for runners, and 60 or 90 minute score for cyclists. The weather was very poor which probably reduced the numbers and it was also very close on the calendar to the well-attended event on December 28th. So far, both events I have put on for the club have had awful weather, so a 100% record there. However, the Golf Club, apart from allowing us to use their car park and giving a small piece of access permission, also provided a very pleasant soup and mince pie snack afterwards and were most welcoming. Thanks to Roy Denney for seeking this permission for us.

The Bike-O was planned by myself and Laurie Fluck, to allow possibilities for both on-road and off-road biking, though the off-road areas are really interesting. The Ratby Burroughs area has a good number of legally usable tracks and bridleways and is suited to this event. Our thanks go to the two brave cyclists who did the 90 minute course and tested the event out for us! The running courses were planned by Peter Hornsby, and incorporated a number of the Bike-O controls and were well received.

It is worth noting that both events used newly constructed maps, drawn up by Peter, with the Bike-O being based on OS 1:25,000. For the running event, we have used some completely new areas along with the more familiar, this being possible due to the start/finish venue being different, so members had the opportunity to see some new land. A lot of work went into planning this event, and we'd like to think that now this has been done, the areas could be used again for a further club event should members wish it.

We did annoy one local landowner, who was upset at our putting out controls along the rights of way on his land, though he agreed that we were perfectly within our right to use the paths as we did. We had a long chat with him after the event, and he seemed largely to be concerned about things unconnected with us (like travelers), but we were a good opportunity for him to relate all sorts of problems with land ownership. Fortunately (or perhaps not) this took place in the warmth of the Golf Clubhouse. Obviously we do not wish to upset anyone with our sport, and we can contact him if the area is used again – it seems that he would then be happy.

Finally, thanks to those hardy souls that turned out to this event, and particularly to Laurie for help with bike planning and Peter for planning the running, making the maps and increasing his stock of milk container controls, some of which appear to have been confiscated by the landowner.

The results are below.

Bob Haskins.

Yellow Course:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Dominic Leake | | M4 | LEI | 57:12 |
| Isabel Griffiths | Missing 4,5,6 | W55 | LEI | 41:07 |
| Margaret Anderson | Missing 4,5,6 | W65 | LEI | 66:05 |

60 Minute Score (Run)

| | | | Time | Pts | Pen | Total | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----|------|--------|-----|-------|------|
| Roy Denney | | M60 | LEI | 58:88 | 180 | 180 | |
| Roger Edwards | | M50 | LEI | 59:11 | 160 | 160 | |
| David Anderson | | M65 | LEI | 59:05 | 150 | 150 | |
| Ursula Williamson | | W40 | LEI | 59:59 | 140 | 140 | |
| Vernon Davis | | M60 | LEI | 58:43 | 120 | 120 | |
| Roger Williamson | | M55 | LEI | 61:57 | 130 | 20 | 110 |
| Roger Kelly | | M65 | LEI | 57:52 | 90 | 90 | |
| James Hornsby | | M15 | LEI | 54:32 | 80 | 80 | |
| Sheila Carruthers | | W50 | LEI | 63:45 | 120 | 40 | 80 |
| Bob Titterington | | M60 | LEI | 69:00 | 160 | 90 | 70 |
| Geraldine Davis | | W55 | LEI | 64:18 | 110 | 50 | 60 |
| Vance Family | Out for a walk | | LEI | 112:15 | 150 | 530 | -380 |

90 Minute Bike-O

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|-----|
| Howard Alcock | | M21 | LEI | 88:52 | 200 | 200 | |
| Ian Wells | | M50 | LEI | 106:38 | 110 | 170 | -60 |