



# NEWSTRACK FEBRUARY 2010



*Some people will go to any lengths to get a clean run!*

**Newstrack is the magazine of Derwent Valley Orienteers**

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## Editor's Opener

Welcome to the first issue of 2010 and the prospect of some great orienteering events ahead. Organisers have had to start the year with a challenge that has not been so evident for quite a while - to second guess the weather and then to make the agonising decision whether to cancel if it looks bad. It is a thankless task as even with deep snow- drifts and unusable car parking there will always be the intrepid orienteer who turns up and expresses disdain for the wimps who called the event off.

The last issue of Newstrack contained an article from "Dorothy Dibber" that (perhaps deliberately) provoked debate in the club. My own view of orienteering is to put it in the category of 'adventure sport' that should test one's self reliance and initiative. It allows you to get lost safely, to venture into the unknown within the constraints of the map and someone knowing you are out there who will worry if you don't return. Above all it is a learning experience, which is why people keep coming back. There are friendly club members at all DVO events who will gladly assist the newcomer and less confident.

The last two Newstracks benefited from 'Guest Editors'. As no new guest came forward for this one your default editor re-emerged. The offer is still on the table though for next time. Please contact me if you are interested.

Finally, if you have not renewed your club/BOF membership for 2010, please do so. Newstrack has been sent to last year's addresses but the next one will be to 2010 members. Also when renewing make sure you let BOF know you are happy to have your details passed on to the club!

*Neil Forrest*



*Chesterfield Scouts grab a control at Poolsbrook  
(Photo by Andy Pagett)*

## Chairman's Piece

After the snow and icy conditions it has been good to get back orienteering these last few weeks.

A novelty for me was the organising and planning of a night score event at Hardwick. Whilst numbers weren't great all seemed to enjoy it and it was good to see a number of youngsters not afraid to try their hand at orienteering in the dark.

Small informal events like these are needed to keep the interest levels up of beginners at orienteering. This will be particularly true if we want to keep those who are brought into the sport via the new Satellite Clubs. For newcomers interest levels quickly drop if they cannot get a regular dose of orienteering locally and we cannot expect them when starting out to travel long distances to get to events further afield.

Sadly, though a number of informal events are put on by DVO each year, they tend to be organised and planned by the same volunteers and we need more members to be willing to put this type of event on.

Don't wait to be asked but put your name forward. Help will be given and this way is an easy introduction to the admin side of the sport.

Talking of volunteers two longstanding members have volunteered to take over captaincy duties for the club. Graham Johnson is the new men's captain and Liz Godfree the ladies captain. My thanks to Dave Lawson for his duties in this role over the last year and a half. It is not an easy role from someone who is located so far from the centre of the club.

*Steve Kimberley*

### Club Contacts

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Coaching/Juniors : Val Johnson 01773 824754 { [Gmjandfam@aol.com](mailto:Gmjandfam@aol.com) }

Buxton Coach : Dan Riley <[danloveshills@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:danloveshills@hotmail.co.uk)>

Maps and permanent courses : Mike Godfree 01335 346005

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## News from Buxton

Like many people we had an extended Christmas break due to the snowy conditions. Several members were spotted training in the snow!

Among the activities planned for the coming months is an event at the Pavilion Gardens in Buxton on 24<sup>th</sup> April. We are hoping to attract newcomers but help and participation from established orienteers will be more than welcome. At the time of writing we are planning to extend the map to include the slopes (a bit of a hill) and will have courses from white to orange and a score (but probably not a Norwegian this time!)

Chris Owen is also planning an event at Brabyn's Park (an area he produced the original map for a few year ago). The date is yet to be arranged.

The second event of our mini-league took place in December. The results are up on the Buxton section of the DVO website.

Coach news: Congratulations to Dan and Michelle whose son Jack was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Dan has been joined in coaching duties by Rhys (NOC) who has run some great sessions for us.

Lauren and Hannah are working at the design of some basic kit to the Buxton group – details still to be worked out.

Sue, Rebecca and Louis went to their first national event at Cannock on 13<sup>th</sup> December. Here is their account:

“As relative newcomers to orienteering, having struggled to understand the new age category/course system, clicking the “proceed” button for our first ever national orienteering event was quite daunting. Then having to leg it to the (timed) start, having misjudged the length of the journey to the event at Cannock from Buxton seemed like a bad omen. But things improved!

“As with other events we have done at Cannock, the surroundings were great and the courses challenging. All three of us had our nightmare controls at some point; Sue – light green – 27 minutes to find control no 3, joined by quite a few others looking for the same one; Rebecca – W40S – over 12 minutes to find control 10, and Louis – orange – actually he faired better than we did! But we all enjoyed the day immensely; the camaraderie out on the courses was surprising for such a large competitive event, but very welcome; and it was nice to see familiar faces from DVO at the end to have chat and a moan to, and of course there were plenty of food and retail opportunities!

“We have naturally spent most of our time working out how much better we would have done, if only.....”

*Ro Cole*

*Improve*

*And*

*Apply*



*There will be a coaching day open to individuals and groups in the Lake District at Dale Park Woods (Graythorpe) on Saturday 13 May 2010. On the following day there is a quality regional event on Pike O' Blisco at the head of Langdale. Do the double and get some practice for the Lakeland 5 Days Event in August. Details for the coaching day are available on the British Orienteering website > Volunteers Support & Training > Coaches.*

*Ed.*

## Rootstock reports 2

**Swynnerton Training Camp**, not to be confused with the more familiar Swynnerton Old Park, was a new area for most club members. This is a military training area and former munitions dump with plenty of roads and tracks not to mention the slippery concrete bases of former huts. For those used to urban orienteering this was just Sheffield or Cambridge without traffic, bicycles or tourists. Some soldiers on exercise were spotted but there were no moving vehicles. A larger scale map eg 1:5000 would have been appreciated especially round the embankment surrounded concrete bases but otherwise it was a good run round requiring constant map contact on what turned out a beautiful crisp morning.

**Ramsley Moor** - love it or hate it, you certainly returned with wet feet. This was another new area in South Yorkshire which was known to be marshy and tussocky underfoot. After a night of torrential rain the marshes had grown in size and depth. Wading through knee high water, stumbling over tussocks I cannot believe that anyone failed to measure their full length i.e. up to the proverbial armpits. In contrast the woodland gave fast running and it was dry underfoot, but crossing of the final marsh led me to think flippers and a snorkel would have been appropriate. This is definitely an area to consider only after a long dry spell.

**Beaudesert** on Cannock Chase was the venue for the final National event of the year. The day dawned dry and still and the sun shone as several hundred competitors from all over the UK raced up and down re-entrants, through brambles, across marshes less man-eating than those on Ramsley Moor and through some very runnable forest before the final stretch around the ditch encompassing Castle Ring. A good event and excellent practice for the 2010 British Championships to be held on an adjacent area in May.

It was bitterly cold at **Shipley** making the Green Room doubly welcome as a thawing out area. The 40 competitors had sensibly eschewed the pleasures of shopping on the last Saturday before Christmas.

More people braved the snow for a run at **Walesby** the following day. Did everyone negotiate the humpback bridge safely? Winning times were low suggesting courses were on the short side but at least stayed mainly in the open areas missing the worst of the brambles. Thanks to the cancellation of an event down south due to snow there was an excellent turn out.

For once the Met Office got it right and although we drove through patchy fog en route by the time we reached **Beacon Hill** and had negotiated the lethal pay barrier any remaining fog had lifted and we were bathed in warm sunshine. Much of the snow had given leaving only icy patches on the main tracks trodden by visitors. As we were using the upper car park we were forewarned of more climb than usual, especially on the shorter courses. Those on longer courses are well accustomed to climbing up and over the Beacon at least once. Brambles were as man-eating as ever but did we really need the control in the middle of young trees accessible only via an entanglement of brambles? It was a good run round on a beautifully still morning alleviating any feelings of guilt about that extra mince pie!

The **New Year** brings with it new age classes for some – longer courses but seldom shorter ones! There is also DVO's traditional score event. Yet another new map of a new area – **Darley Dale streets**. Some 40+ members and friends discovered there is a lot more to Darley Dale than the A6 and we now know where BOF office is. It was a fast run round with seemingly more up than down with one eye on the watch for the 60 minute time

limit. However, John Hurley proved that you can win even if you are 11 minutes over time when the penalties are light.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> is MDOC's John o' Goat's Charity event at **Lyme Park**. Three courses are planned and according to age and sex you omit 2,3,4, or 5 controls from the appropriate course. Strategy is necessary as you decide which controls to miss –definitely ones on the uneven marshy moorland. Do you stick with the pack letting them do the navigation or do you strike out on your own? With a forecast of snow in the afternoon we set off blithely only to be confronted by heavily falling snow at 9.30 long before we were anywhere near the high ground of Buxton. Discretion was the better part of valour and we turned back. In the evening we checked MDOC's website and discovered the event had been cancelled at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour by the National Trust who closed the park but only after some orienteers had registered and collected their maps. That's an event to look forward to at a future date.

With the entire country blanketed under snow and no prospect of a thaw – unless the Met Office has got it wrong again! – there seems little likelihood of orienteering this month. However, I may be mistaken and you have run at Sutton Park and did venture to the Malvern Hills for DVO's round of the Compass Sport cup. Who knows you may even have competed in the first National of the year – an SYO event on Big Moor in Derbyshire. Will 2010 be your year?

## Dibbers

By common consensus the word dibber has been recognised as a better term for the SI Cards that we use going round our courses. But you may now be confused by the variety and colours now available so here is my attempt to explain what they all mean.

All the dibbers operate in the same way. They have no electrical power themselves so do not need any maintenance though they do have an electronic chip embedded in the tip of the dibber. Some of you may have noticed that the end of some dibbers have a plastic plug which has been known to drop out and you can see the chip. (Glue the plug back or if lost, seal it up with some araldite) The chip is activated by inserting it into the hole in the control box which transfers to the chip the number assigned to the control box and the current time. This information is retained indefinitely by the dibber in the order of dinging with the exception of dings for Clear, Check, Start and Finish. The Clear dib empties the dibber completely to allow the process to start again.

There are 4 styles of dibber available:-

Version 5 – The original dibber (currently costing £29.63) in a single orange colour is able to take 30 control site dings (plus 6 extra ones where the time is not recorded so not useful) and the time of Check, Start and Finish. The dibber works in all types of control boxes.

Version 6 – Multi –coloured dibber (currently costing £50.93) is able to take 64 control site dings plus the time of Clear, Check, Start and Finish. The dibber works in all types of control boxes.

Version 8 – Multi-coloured dibber (currently costing £29.63) is able to take 30 control site dings plus the time of Check, Start and Finish. Only suitable for the new small red or blue control boxes.

Version 9 – Multi-coloured dibber (currently costing £38.89) is able to take 50 control site dibs plus the time of Check, Start and Finish. Only suitable for the new small red or blue control boxes.

Why so many to choose from? There are two main reasons. Firstly the transfer time of the control site number and time has been improved significantly from 5 to 6 (twice as fast as 5) to 8 and finally to 9 which has a transfer time of 115 milliseconds. Secondly, there is a demand for more than 30 control sites on some courses.

So which should you choose and why?

This is obviously a personal decision but if you only have one dibber and orienteer outside of the East Midlands, where all of the control boxes are of the newer type, then Version 8 and 9 dibbers will not be guaranteed to work so do not seem a good choice. Version 5 is acceptable but if you want to do some types of event where more than 30 controls are used or if you are really quick (so the saving of the 5-10 seconds dibber transfer time is significant) then Version 6 is for you. I have ignored cost as a factor as that is definitely a personal aspect.

Two final points on dibbers. All of the dibbers have only one spot for start and for finish so if you dib more than once only the last dib is registered. Not so significant for the start perhaps but it is for the finish. Secondly, the transfer time is only significant if the control box is fully awake but you may come across boxes which use your dib to tell them to wake and that will take much longer (.5 to 1 second).

## **EMIT E-Cards**

I am not going to compare SPORTident with EMIT but you may have entered competitions where you used EMIT E-Cards, sometimes called Brikkes.

There are two available versions of the EMIT E-Card, Version 2 at £35 and Version 3 at £55 with the latter giving a display of a successful 'dib' and the next control. They take 48 control site 'dibs'.

The E-Cards have a battery and maintain the time within them unlike dibbers and only get the control site number from the control box. It takes about 125 milliseconds for this transfer and does not need to be fully inserted in order to register (25mm range though I always feel more comfortable when I register it fully)

*D e r e k*

*G a l i e*

# British Orienteering Event Rules and Guidelines 2010

All events registered with British Orienteering are governed by a set of Rules, and their associated Appendices, irrespective of the type of event.

Different types of events are regulated by a set of guidelines, each specific to a type of event, which give competitors and event official's information about what should be expected from particular types of events.

The latest versions of the Rules, the Appendices to those Rules and the Event Guidelines along with valuable information for Organisers and Planners can be found by following the links on <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/event/rules.php> under the following main headings:

- Rules of Orienteering
- Appendices to Rules of Orienteering
- Event Guidelines
- Event Rules and Guidelines 2010
- Competition Rules 2011
- Event Related Forms and Documents
- Protests and Complaints

Why is this important to everyone? Well, if you are a Planner, Controller or Organiser/Co-ordinator you should be aware of, and work within, the most up-to-date rules and guidelines.

If you are a competitor you should also know what the current rules are. For example, did you know that the rules state that you must wear full leg and torso cover, i.e. shorts are not allowed? Similarly, 'it is the duty of competitors to give help to an injured competitor even if it means abandoning their run', which I'm sure we would all do but it is a rule. It was a major issue at last year's World Orienteering Championship Relays where the likely gold medallist was injured during his run and three other podium contenders stopped to help him.

There have been some changes from earlier versions so it is worth going to the British Orienteering website to have a look.

I'll be raising some of the issues with Planners and Controllers over the next few months as part of our commitment to ensuring that we offer high quality events at whatever level they are staged. John Duckworth and Mike Gardner are supporting me in working with Planners and Controllers, respectively.

*Ranald Macdonald*  
*DVO Event Officials Co-ordinator*

**Editor's note:** *the following article has been sent to Orienteering Club Newsletter editors by Dick Towler with a request to include in their next issue.,It is the same as has appeared in the last BOF Focus Magazine. The club committee are aware of the issues but have not yet had a chance to discuss the matter so DVO does not have a formal view. Of course a contrary view is that irrespective of the merits of the proposal the new event structure, introduced this year, should perhaps be given more time before changing again.*

## **Why British Orienteering Needs a 4 Level Event Structure**

At the 2010 British Orienteering AGM, to be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 at the JK, we are tabling the following Proposal:

**That the current BOF Event Structure be amended, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011, from a 3 tier structure to a 4 tier structure, the Levels to become:**

- **Level 1 Events** - British Orienteering's major events, including the British Championships (Sprint, Middle, Long, Relays) and the JK.
- **Level 2 Events** - comprising a limited number of high quality events, including the best of the traditional age-class based cross country events, high profile city races and the Harvester Relays.
- **Level 3 Events** - comprising a wide range of typical Sunday morning events for competitors largely from within their Region, including colour-coded cross country events (former District events), urban races, etc.
- **Level 4 Events** - small scale events aimed at providing local competition (e.g. within a club) and increasing participation. e.g. introductory events, club summer evening events.

This Proposal, if carried, will have the effect of creating a 4 tier Event Structure, by the insertion of an additional Level to enable a clear distinction between those events aimed at attracting competitors primarily from within the Region, and those aimed at a wider audience.

Following the introduction of the new Event Structure, clubs are now being encouraged to register their former District Events in the new Level 2, as Regional Events, instead of in the New Level 3, as Local Events, as was initially intended. Merging the former Regional and District Events into a single tier of Events of widely differing qualities, has created a number of problems, all of which may effect the quality or cost of our orienteering, including:

- **Identification of Quality Events:** How is a competitor to decide which of these Events are worth travelling to if they are all now described as Regional Events?
- **Entry Fees:** If Clubs choose to register their former District Events as Regional Events, they may well be tempted to increase their entry fees for these Events.
- **Embargoes:** The requirement for a 12 month embargo on areas to be used for Regional Events has been dropped, to permit former District Events to be registered as Regional Events.
- **Controllers.** Level 2 Regional Events should be being controlled by Grade 2 controllers, but there aren't enough of them for all the former District Events, so now experienced Grade 3 Controllers are being allowed to control Level 2 Events. Newly qualified Grade 3 Controllers can only control Level 3 Local Events, many of which don't need a controller at all.

The creation of a separate Level for the best of the old Regional Events, along with other events aimed at a national audience, will enable all of these, and other, problems, which didn't exist under the old Event Structure, to be easily resolved.

To get our Resolution adopted at the AGM, we need your support, either to attend and vote at the AGM, or to use your Proxy Vote, details of which will be sent out to you by British Orienteering. Few members of British Orienteering have yet had an opportunity to express their opinions on the current Event Structure. Use your chance to do so now.

Mike Atherton	01539 531838	<a href="mailto:mike@atherton.go-plus.net">mike@atherton.go-plus.net</a>
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## JK and British Relays

Liz Godfree and Graham Johnson are DVO's new team captains and will be co-ordinating Relay teams for JK and the British Champs. JK takes place in North Devon (see [www.jk2010.co.uk](http://www.jk2010.co.uk)) over the Easter Weekend whereas the British Champs take place close to home on Cannock Chase (see [www.walton-chasers.co.uk/boc2010](http://www.walton-chasers.co.uk/boc2010)) over the May Day weekend. All club members are eligible to take part in the JK, but you should be a National member to take part in the British. We would like to encourage as many members as possible to take part in the relays – it's a great way of getting to know your fellow club members and the club will pay half your entry fee.

Liz will be co-ordinating the JK relay teams. Email her on [Liz.Godfree@btinternet.com](mailto:Liz.Godfree@btinternet.com) or phone her on 01335 346004 with age class, BOF number, SI card number (or you will be able to hire). Ring if you want more information. She will be at events with clip board and shocking pink hat, Blidworth 7<sup>th</sup> Feb., Allestree 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. PLEASE introduce yourself and ask any questions – she'll possibly be able to answer them.

Liz needs to have names for JK Relays by Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> at the very latest (to take advantage of cheap entries).

Graham will be co-ordinating the British Relay teams. Email him on [gjohnson@oclsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:gjohnson@oclsolicitors.co.uk) or phone him on 01773 824754 with similar information as above. He will not be at Blidworth (wild horses etc.) but will be at most future events inc Allestree – he's the one without the shocking pink hat but with the shocking performance. *(I would tactfully call it electrifying – ed.)*

The British Relays entries do not close until 6<sup>th</sup> April, so less urgent than the JK, but don't miss out.

## SOME FORTHCOMING LOCAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL FIXTURES

(Check the club and British Orienteering websites for changes and more events.)

<b>FEB</b>	<b>14 ALLESTREE</b>	<b>S. CHAFFEY</b>	<b>01773 825418</b>	<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	16 WESTERN PARK	C PHILLIPS	01162 550330	LEI	L
	20 SILVERHILL	R. BILLETER	01159 233529	NOC	L
	21 <i>LYDNEY</i>	<i>SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>		NGOCN	
	21 CHARNWOOD F. STH	L. FLUCK	01509 503107	LEI	L
<b>MAR</b>	06 <i>PENTLAND HILLS</i>	<i>BRITISH NIGHT CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>	<i>ESOC</i>	<i>N</i>	
	07 THIEVES WOOD	A. BEARDSLEY	01623 640094	NOC	L
	14 STAPLEFORD	S. HARRINGTON	01522 791344	LOG	L
	<b>20 MARKEATON PARK</b>	<b>T. BERWICK</b>	<b>01332 558998</b>	<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	21 <i>BELVOIR</i>	<i>MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>		LEI	N
	27 BRIERLEY	H. PARKINSON	01777 871762	NOC	L
	<b>28 CRICH CHASE</b>	<b>Z. GORDON</b>	<b>01332 835852</b>	<b>DVO</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>APR</b>	02/05 <i>JK INTERNATIONAL 4 DAY EVENT</i>	<i>DEVON</i>		<i>SWOAN</i>	
	11 NOTT CITY SPRINT	J. EVANS	01636 813058	NOC	L
	17/18 <i>BRITISH MIDDLE AND SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>			<i>NWOA</i>	
<b>MAY</b>	01/02 <i>BRITISH INDIVIDUAL &amp; RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP</i>			<i>WMOAN</i>	
	<b>09 CROMFORD</b>	<b>P. BERESFORD</b>	<b>01302 751549</b>	<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	16 CLUMBER	R. BILLETER	01159 233529	NOC	L
	29 <i>SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>			<i>SOA</i>	<i>N</i>
<b>JUN</b>	<b>05 ILAM</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	12 BRADGATE			LEI	L
	<b>13 DARLEY PARK</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	13 <i>BRITISH AGE SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS</i>			<i>SCOA</i>	<i>N</i>
	<b>19 ELVASTON</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	<b>20 LINACRE</b>	<b>P. BERESFORD</b>	<b>01302 751549</b>		<b>DVO L</b>
	<b>25 BAKEWELL STREET</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	<b>30 OAKWOOD STREET</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>
	<b>22 SHIPLEY PK</b>			<b>DVO</b>	<b>L</b>

(L Local; R Regional; N National)

## Rocky Knoll Recommends

Hopefully we will be past the snowy weather and subsequent cancellations by the time you read this. We could have a very crowded fixture list.

Are you missing out on what is going on in DVO? Don't be like Dorothy, join the e-group although you will need to take some of the messages with a pinch of salt. Go to [www.yahogroups.com](http://www.yahogroups.com) and under "Find a Yahoo Group" put in "Derwent Valley Orienteers". You may need to adjust your Spam filter so messages with that subject are allowed through. When replying remember that your reply will by default go to the whole group even though it at first appears only to be going to the originator.

Have you renewed your subscription to British Orienteering? Remember you may need your membership card to obtain members' rates at events.

You might still be in time when this is published for the **East Midlands Championships** at Blidworth on 7<sup>th</sup> February. If you need to enter on the day remember to check the NOC web site before you travel to make sure there are maps and then get there early.

The following weekend on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February for the **Sprint Race** enthusiasts there is **Birmingham University**. Presumably this is the campus rather than streets so should not suffer from tourists, shoppers or traffic. The following day we have our own full scale colour coded at **Allestree Park**. Doubtless the golfers will complain as usual at the interruption to their game even though it only happens every two years or so.

21<sup>st</sup> February is another National Event, admittedly rather further afield at **Lydney Park in the Forest of Dean**, but only a quick flip down the M5 and around Gloucester. Closer to home is the **LEI EM League event at Charnwood Forest South** (a rename of a bramble infested woodland?). The following Sunday would then mean a fair length trip in the opposite direction to **Ilkley Moor** for a complete contrast of open moorland. Hats definitely recommended especially if the north-east wind is still blowing!

Don't forget that the entry fees for JK rise at the end of February.

Then there is a gap in major events unless you want to go to the **British Night Championships** in Edinburgh. (The Godfrees are banned from this as they live virtually on the area). Locally there are EM League events at **Thieves Wood** (NOC) on 7<sup>th</sup> March and **Stapleford** (LOG) on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Then our Local Event at **Markeaton Park** on 20<sup>th</sup> March followed by the **Midland Champs** on 21<sup>st</sup> March at Belvoir Castle which is another National Event. LEI are promising that this is not just the escarpment that they have been limited to in recent years and "the courses have been planned so that there is little obstruction to direct route choice as there is very little bramble or other ground cover in the areas used. Most orienteers will compete only on terrain that has not been used for competitions for 29 years." Note that some of you with younger eyes will be competing on 1:15,000 scale maps.

## **British Orienteering's new ranking scheme.**

At the end of January British orienteering launched the new single scale ranking scheme which can be found at <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/event/ranking.php>.

In brief, the Single Scale ranking Scheme produces a single ranking list based on the sum of the six highest scores obtained by a competitor in the last 12 months in National (Level 1) and Regional (Level 2) events. The list incorporates both Long and Short classes from M/W18 upwards, resulting in a list of 4274 competitors.

There has been an extensive, largely positive, discussion about the list on Nopesport - <http://forum.nopesport.com/>, then go to 'discussion' and 'ranking list' – with contributions from Spookster (aka Martin Ward) who as a British Orienteering Director, is able to clarify and correct some of the issues. The list is still in its infancy and needs some tweaking and some additional facilities to make it more useful.

However, to show what it can do, I used the filters – Club, Gender and Age - to see where I ended up. On the overall ranking I am 1462<sup>th</sup> out of the 4274 in the list. If I filter by Club I am now 34<sup>th</sup> out of 97 DVO entries in the list. Next I filtered by age and in M/W55-59 I am 4<sup>th</sup> out of 12. Finally, filtering by gender I remain 4<sup>th</sup> out of 9 in M55-59 for DVO.

The list is currently biased towards male competitors and, or so I'm led to believe from the discussion on Nopesport, to those running Short rather than Long courses, though that may disappear soon.

So, we have a good way of seeing who is the top Club orienteer nationally – unsurprisingly it's John Duckworth (at 68<sup>th</sup> overall), followed by Andy Sykes (172<sup>nd</sup>), Matt Dickinson (187<sup>th</sup>) and Paul Addison (207<sup>th</sup>). Liz Godfree is first female (626<sup>th</sup>), followed by Sal Chaffey (759<sup>th</sup>) and Helen Chiswell (1203<sup>rd</sup>).

We should also be able to find the most improved orienteer from year to year, though juniors below M/W18 are not included. It does, of course, depend on whether Clubs are putting their events as Level 2 or 3 and where and at what level you, as an individual, spend most of your time orienteering.

It's too early for people to knock the system as the compilers are open to useful, constructive feedback. The BOF website has an explanation of the algorithm used and the Nopesport discussion also clarifies some of the calculations, though not to everyone's liking!

So, go and have a browse and play around with the filtering system.

*Ranald Macdonald*  
*DVO Event Officials Co-ordinator*

## Hardwick Park Night Orienteering Event 30 January

*So you think you can orienteer – now try it at night*

It wasn't freezing, the Organiser confirmed that, as the start clock's thermometer registered a balmy 0.4°C. Over thirty brave, or was that foolhardy, souls tested their orienteering skills at Hardwick Park. Under a bright full red perigee moon, the brightest and visually largest moon of 2010, the orienteers still found it challenging to navigate around the near blackness of the park. Competitors were given just 45 minutes to visit as many controls sites as possible, each control worth ten points. Planner and organiser, Steve Kimberley, set out twenty-seven control sites across the parkland which included pits, knolls and contour features. To find these control sites pinpoint accuracy was required as they could easily be missed if not illuminated from the restricted beam of the competitor's head torch. This was truly a test of the Orienteer's skill.

Return late and the penalty points accrued, so careful timing was also required. First, with a very impressive score of 240 out a maximum 270 points, was Paul Beresford.

DVO results : 1 Paul Beresford; 4 Graham Johnson; 5 Ben Beresford; 6 Mark Spendlove; 8 Kim Buxton; 13 Paul Wright; 16 Jessica Beresford; 24 Dawn Moor.

*Paul Wright*

**DVO needs volunteers** to organise, plan or help on the day with the following events being put on later this year.

Please contact Viv or Ranald Macdonald if you would like to volunteer for a role.

Date	Location		Needed
19/9/10	Carsington	L2, Full range, W-Br	Planner. Helpers
9/10/10	Calke	Club Champs/Dinner	-
31/10/10	Stanton Moor	L2, full range, W-Br	Organiser. Helpers
27/11/10	Shiple Park	L3, limited range, W-LG	Organiser
4/12/10	Allestree	Local Night	Organiser.
5/12/10	Shining Cliff	L2, Full range, W-Br	Organiser. Planner
22/1/11	?	L2, full range, W-Br	Organiser. Planner
<b>Small Summer Series Events – co-ordinator Mike Gardner</b>			
26/5/10	Oakwood	Street O	
5/6/10	Ilam		
13/6/10	Darley Park		
19/6/10	Elvaston		
25/6/10	Bakewell	Street O	
30/6/10	Oakwood?	Street O	
11/7/10	Holmebrook		



*The club Treasurer learns that the Poolsbrook event made a profit and Escapes a levy.!*