

Minileague 1 - Sheepscombe - 6 October 2007

Thankyou for coming to the first NGOC minileague of the season - the rest should seem easy after this! Sheepscombe has some wonderful beechwoods but is a tricky place on which to plan, with steep slopes, something of a bottleneck in the middle and paths which largely follow the contours, making for longish Orange courses and lots of climb for Green and Blue. Having decided not to use the western end (Saltridge Hill) I made the Green and Blue courses double back on themselves - unfortunately this meant that the map tended to wear out at as it was refolded, especially if it wasn't in a bag. I hope no-one was too inconvenienced by this.

Most Blue finishers were within the guideline times, but some runners on Green and Orange had rather longer outings. However I was pleased to see that nearly all the younger competitors on Orange were back well within the guideline times, with an M14 in 3rd place close behind the adult leaders. Juniors also took 2nd place on both Green and Blue - well done!

Thanks to those Orange competitors who kindly gave up their maps for re-use; please contact me if you would like a fresh copy. Thanks also to my willing helpers before, during and after the event - Bob Teed for map printing, Alan Brown and Alan Richards for control setting and collecting, Pat Macleod and Pat Cameron for Registration and download, and Sue Hartley for Start and download. And above all, thanks to the National Trust and site warden Tim Jenkins for their friendly welcome and all the effort they put into making the parking field ready, with signs, cones, tape and hardcore.

Colour standards: Blue (winner plus 50%): 84.36; Green (50% of starters): 75.54; Orange (50% of starters): 50.31.

Carol Stewart 01242 514988 carol_stewart@beeb.net