

Planner's Note:

This was the first urban event I've planned - lots of mistakes and lessons learnt on this sweltering hot Summer day.

First, always check the actual final map printings. Apologies to all Short Green runners for going off the map twice to reach control 5 and forcing you through the nettles. Both legs will be made void. On the Brown, one clever route choice vanished between 7 and 8. On the Blue, the crucial bridge to control 16 was hidden by the number 16. At least one daring competitor chose the bolder short-cut crossing the river through the nettles.

Secondly, read the rules carefully:

*10.3.4 The higher density of controls sites needed for a Sprint race sometimes means that controls are closer together than they are in Middle/Long races. The minimum separation of controls is correspondingly less than for Middle/Long races and is 15m (or 30m if the control sites are on similar features). These separations are measured around impassable objects rather than being straight line distances.*

Two controls were near to each other and confused participants ... well, too close to each other and on the same features. Once again, apologies for this oversight. Controls 203 and 220 on Blue and Brown were less than 30m apart and with the same description. On reflection these controls do not comply with the clause above and anyone on these courses who mis-punched should have the correct control re-instated.

Finally, Orienteering is not an eyesight competition. Very small features that are not easily interpreted whilst on the run should be avoided.

A big thank you to the team of NGOC helpers and to Stuart.