

Assessor's Report
Borderliners Level B Event
Burn Banks
Sunday 7th April 2013

I have received a total of only 8 emails, giving feedback from the above event, though I also spoke to a number of people in the assembly area.

Almost all aspects of the organisation of the event have been much praised, including signage, parking, friendly helpers and prompt results services. Similarly, the planners have been greatly commended for their courses, offering good route choices and making as much use as possible of the more interesting terrain.

Nobody who has given feedback failed to enjoy their course, but several have raised issues which I feel are worth noting here:

1. A runner on the Brown course, who had pre-entered, arrived at the start to find that all the Brown maps and control descriptions had gone. Quite a few courses ran out of maps. It was a lovely day and obviously there were a lot of EODs. Although it can be argued that, to be reasonably sure of a run on the course of your choice, you should pre-enter, it is also worth pointing out that A4 maps cost only 30p to print, so one EOD entry pays the cost of around 30 maps. Perhaps, therefore, more generous numbers of maps could be printed when the weather forecast is good.
2. Two controls, 102 and 111, were probably too close together. One was on a knoll and the other on a crag, but the knoll was rocky, so the kite at that control did look as though it might be at the foot of a small crag.
3. Was control 151 dangerous? Some people thought so. I visited both 151 and 126 on the day before the event and I must admit I was daunted by the snow covered slope. One respondent has suggested that the erection of the black and yellow tape above 151 was no more than an admission of the risk, and that that feature should not have been used.
4. The map has received some criticism, for both idiosyncratic mapping of rock features and the omission of some tracks and paths. Would it be fair to say that the current map is fine for a Level C event, but that for another Level B event, which should be top quality, the area should be remapped?
5. Although the planners were praised for the readily readable size of their control description sheets, both loose and on the map, comments have been made that the positioning of the sheet on the Short Blue course map partly covered up a possible route choice on one leg.

6. It's been suggested that a link to previous maps for Level B event areas should be included in the Final Details, or alternatively details could be given of when the area was last used, to enable runners to look up the map in RouteGadget.
7. Finally, all planners might note that there is no need to include the symbol for shallow, as in 'shallow re-entrant', unless the map doesn't indicate that the feature is shallow.

Dick Towler
11th April 2013