

## Erskine Urban Race - 3 April 2011 - Organiser's report

Firstly thanks to Donald and Trevor for some very meticulous planning and controlling and some very well received courses, including a lot of effort into planning a suitable couple of junior courses to fit with new BOF guidelines. Unfortunately there wasn't a huge uptake on these, we think, in part due to recent events having somewhat less interesting junior courses on offer, which may have put off juniors from travelling.

A significant support was the large Clyde contingent who turned up to help on the day, and also from Robin Strain, who very kindly also posted the results onto the various websites for me.

Thanks also to all those who travelled to the event at Erskine. We had competitors from Moray to Belfast to Cambridgeshire amongst others making this one of the most travelled to events Clyde has put on in recent times.

The event itself required a fair bit of work in terms of permissions, but we had no difficulties from any organisation we approached. These included the local council, housing association, police and local schools whose grounds we were using.

The event itself went off very well with no significant incidents reported. Two issues were raised to me following the event, which are worthy of comment:

1. An error in the map was discovered by one competitor where what appears to be a narrow strip of white about 100m SSE of control 59 is in fact impassable on the ground. This was not picked up in checking and looks like it maybe should have been mapped as olive green. Apologies to the competitor concerned who was commendably unphased and anyone else whose run was affected.
2. It became apparent towards the end of the event that a number of competitors had inadvertently strayed into an area mapped as olive green on the map on one of the route out of control 59. A small number of competitors reported separately to download and at the finish having done this. Having discussed this with the planner and controller, I felt that it would be disproportionate to disqualify anyone who had transgressed on this specific area. This is because - while in my opinion the "garden area" was mapped correctly as olive green as it is a privately owned garden - on the ground, the northern 30m or so is indistinguishable from the surrounding wooded public area and boundary fence is almost entirely ruined/disappeared. With hindsight I should have placed a marshal here. At speed it would be easy to mistake the first 20m or so of the driveway into the property for the public path just to the north. The planner and I have agreed that for future events we will ask the mapper to remap the northern 30m of the "garden area" as it is on the ground (including the driveway and the wooded area) rather than in olive green but overprint it with red OOB symbol to make it clearer where the OOB boundary is.

Overall the courses seem to have been very well received and just the sort of event I would have loved to be competing in!

Andy Paterson Organiser