

The temperature dropped enough for us to be able to hold the event tonight – it was still hot, but the BOF guidelines were clear that the event could take place. As the temperatures dropped in the evening, and the fact that a lot of the course was under tree cover, and there was plenty of shade on the rest of the course, it was just about manageable.

We did have a much reduced start list though – so thanks to those of you who did come along to run on the night. The map could probably do with some work in the forested sections – there were paths that were unmapped, and some of the mapped ones didn't exist! I think this mainly showed up in a couple of places, and looking at the tracks, everyone seemed to have the same issues. On the long, control 5 didn't seem to ping in the correct location, so everyone who was close has been credited with the control. The paths by Miller and Carter seemed a little odd as well, so apologies for these issues.

With the smallest start field of the series so far, the on-the-night bonuses could prove critical when the season results are issued. However, the courses are still open for scoring for the league for the next two weeks. In the results file, I haven't yet added the Anytime scores from Chelmsford, so the overall table will change a little based on that. As this was the sixth event of the series, runners who have scored in all so far will start to drop scores in the final two races.

On the night, it was the M75 team of John Allen and Chris Childs who take the Short course handicap win, from Colin Jackson who missed a control on the night, but still got the best raw time even with the penalty! Chris maintains his lead in the overall table, in what looks like a straight race between Chris and Colin for overall series victory.

The Long course saw some long times, as the heat seemed to reduce many to walking rather than running. Keith Bennett got the fastest time, nearly 10 minutes ahead of his nearest challenger. He needed another minute and a half though to retain that win on handicap, as Jackie Sibthorp takes that title this week. Jackie did run Anytime at Chelmsford, and I have yet to add that into the overall table, so at present it is Keith in the lead from David Float and Dean Pepper, but I would imagine that Jackie will be at the top once those additional points are credited.

Details of the all the results and future fixtures in the series can be found on the series [homepage](#).

If you missed the event tonight, but want to run it on Anytime catchup, details will be on the series webpage, including maps and instructions, tomorrow. You will still score points for the league (if you run in the next 2 weeks), subject to an Anytime penalty of 5 mins.

Next up is [Colchester](#) in a couple of weeks.

And then we will have the series finale in [Dagnam Park](#). A bit of a variation in format for this one. We will be running on a standard orienteering forest map. It will be line courses as per usual, BUT with a mass start. So, if you enjoy head to head running, and seeing other runners on the course, then this will be the event for you. But obviously, with a mass start, a line course can be a bit of a procession, so to split things up a little there are a series of butterfly loops. Everyone will end up running the same legs, but not in the same order. Can you stay ahead of your rivals when you come back to shared legs? And, as a plug for our [GLOSS](#) event, this will be in the same venue (though will mostly use a different part of the park) on the Sunday before the finale, so you can get some local knowledge ahead of the final race in the summer series!