

Many thanks for running in the final summer orienteering series event last night, at Thorndon Park. Thorndon is one of HAVOC's best areas, but we have been unable to use it for a full orienteering event in recent years due to COVID, parking issues and the introduction of the very popular Gruffalo trail. So, it was good to be able to get back into the forest for this event, even if the map is slightly less informative than a traditional orienteering one! We did a lot of work trying to map all the paths and updating the basemap for vegetation where possible, so I hope it was good enough for you to make route choices and understand where you were in the forest.

With the Gruffalo trail there are a fair few animal sculptures to be found, and I hope you were able to see at least some of them on your way round. Everyone seemed to get back ok, so thankfully the Gruffalo didn't capture any of our runners!

We had 13 runners on the Short course, and 14 on the Long. Fastest on raw time was Marc Owen on the Short and Chris Prince on the Long. As you know, this is a handicapped event though, so once those are applied, course winners for this event are Marc Owen (Short) and Paul Beckett (Long).

Both the Short and Long titles were still up for grabs as we entered the event. There is still a couple of weeks to go before the final tables can be officially announced (as Anytime runs still count for 2 weeks), but we can crown one of our winners already, as they can't be caught. Congratulations to David Game on the Short. On the Long, it is a bit more tricky! Paul Beckett currently holds the lead. But, Seb Parris missed the event last night, so can still run a catch up. And, even though he won't get a bonus for running on the night, he could still score enough points on that Anytime run to take the overall title! So, stay tuned for the final series update in a couple of weeks.

Details of all the results in the series, and links to anytime maps and instructions can be found on the series [homepage](#).

With the end of this series, it is time for a break! Summer is here, and with it the summer orienteering festival in Scotland. There are a few local orienteering offerings during August, but events normally take a bit of a break to return in September. We are returning too – with a mini series of "Twilight" events to keep you all in shape and well practiced before the Winter series starts again in late October. This Twilight series will be formed of three events, all with a slightly different "score" format. There will be a traditional score, a Snooker O and a Spiral O! We will have events in South Ockendon (to try to tempt some DFOK runners over the river), South Woodham Ferrers (close enough to SOS territory) and in Brentwood (not too far up the Elizabeth line from CHIG land)!

Full details of all these events are on the HAVOC [website](#). There will be a flyer on Facebook as we get nearer the time, and a summary of the series can be found [here](#). Pop the dates in your diary now – first event is on September 10th. If you are really keen then entries are already open on RaceSignUp! In addition, don't forget you get discounted entry at all these, and the Winter series, alongside most other local events if you are a member of HAVOC – full details of membership options are also on the [website](#).

