



2017, 2018, 2019

# HAVOC NEWSLETTER April 2021



## Chairman's Chat

Club mates! This is the third scaled-down monthly HAVOC newsletter which is continuing in this format while orienteering is constrained by the covid pandemic. However, there is potentially some good news on the horizon provided that the Government's roadmap out of lockdown progresses as we all hope.

The position is that organised outdoor sport commenced from 29<sup>th</sup> March provided that such activity takes places in a covid-secure way which minimises the health risks and is locally-based. From 12<sup>th</sup> April, further constraints were lifted to allow travelling beyond the local area and overnight stays. Therefore, orienteering at non-local events and activities is now allowed. Further guidance has been published on the British Orienteering website as the picture has cleared, taking account of further Government guidance as that has become available.

The HAVOC committee has not been idle during the lockdown and several members have been using their local exercise to survey, plan and create street-O-style courses for free exercise and navigational challenges available anytime within the HAVOC catchment area. We now have 4 one-hour score courses available from the HAVOC website and 2 more should be added later in April. You can simply download a free PDF paper course map if you prefer or otherwise take advantage of the MapRunF software to use a smart phone to record your run and upload it to a results page. We hope to re-launch these score courses as part of a local league challenge now that wider travel is allowed. So why not give it a go in Brentwood, Shenfield, Westcliff and Rochford!

The HAVOC committee has also been liaising with neighbouring club Essex Stragglers (SOS) over staging a joint mid-week street-O series of 8 orienteering events. Originally intended as a winter night orienteering series, the delayed start due to covid means it is now a spring/summer series instead with most entrants able to complete their courses in daylight in the light evenings. This makes it an ideal opportunity for you to give street-O a go without having to navigate in the dark.

The street-O series offers two courses (Short -2.5 to 3km and Long 5km+), old-style paper card control cards where you write down the answer number when you find the control site, and a PDF paper map so there will be no need to have a smart phone for these events. Pre-entries will be used to manage entry numbers and ensure social distancing. The first SOS event held in Chelmsford last week attracted over 50 competitors. Remaining events will be at 2-week intervals until July. HAVOC's first event is next Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April at Brentwood North (off Ongar Road). It will be David Float's first event as the course planner so please pre-enter and then come along and give him some support. See further details at <https://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk/events/havoc-sos-mid-week-orienteering-series-2021-20-apr-2021>.

Later HAVOC street-O events are being planned by myself, Dale, Graham and Chris. Thanks to those volunteers, to Gillian for updating our website/Facebook/event registrations to take account of changing circumstances, and to David and Guy for their MapRun work.

Traditional forest orienteering may be a little slower in getting going again as it is dependent on landowner permissions that might be harder to obtain for a while. Our current thinking is for HAVOC to stage an initial forest orienteering event at Hadleigh Park on 23<sup>rd</sup> May so we can all practise staging such an event and taking part. We then hope to stage the East Anglian Orienteering Championships at Epping SW on 26<sup>th</sup> September, and an event at Weald Park on 28<sup>th</sup> November. We are also hopeful of staging the 2021 HAVOC Club Championships at the SOS Baddow Ridge event on 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. That would be followed by our HAVOC Annual Dinner on Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. when hopefully we can all meet up again to socialise safely.

Meanwhile, keep safe and try to keep fit.

Regards

Paul Beckett  
HAVOC Chairman

## Links:

HAVOC website

[www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk](http://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk)

HAVOC facebook page

[www.facebook.com/pages/Havering-South-Essex-Orienteering-Club/277659605610134](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Havering-South-Essex-Orienteering-Club/277659605610134)

EAOA website

<http://eaoa.org.uk/>

SEOA website

<https://www.seoa.org.uk/>

British Orienteering

[www.britishorienteering.org.uk](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk)

Fabian4 (entries)

[www.fabian4.co.uk](http://www.fabian4.co.uk)

The Orienteering Foundation

[www.orienteeringfoundation.org.uk](http://www.orienteeringfoundation.org.uk)

Street-O style basemaps

[www.openstreetmap.org](http://www.openstreetmap.org)

Street-O style orienteering maps

[www.oopmap.co.uk](http://www.oopmap.co.uk)

MapRun website

[www.MapRun.uk](http://www.MapRun.uk)

Scottish Six Days Orienteering

<https://www.scottish6days.com/>

Essex Stragglers OC

<http://www.stragglers.info/home/>

Chigwell & Epping Forest OC

<http://chig.org.uk/>