

Thank you all for running in the Lee Chapel event on Wednesday. We had 16 runners on the Long and 8 on the Short. With 9 HAVOCs running, it was an excellent turnout for the club, as the series continues to grow within HAVOC. If you didn't make it to the event on the night, then catch up is available via Anytime for the next two weeks to score in the league. See website for details.

The map printing perhaps wasn't quite as crisp as usual (I have worked out what the mistake was and hopefully we will be back to normal next time). There also seemed to be a few additional paths that were not mapped. This is always a potential problem with OOM which takes it's feed from OSM. Adding too many paths along the side of roads can make the map cluttered, but missing some can make navigation choices difficult. It's a tricky balance. I hope that there were not too many issues for you.

Thanks to first time planner, Chloe Fowler, for creating some good courses, making use of the area and adding in a bit of route choice. It was nice to see the festive control with chocolates available for all runners as well. There were a few Christmas decorations out there to spot as well.

There was a clash with a fairly high profile road race in the Olympic Park, which took away some of our new running club participants, but both the long and short courses were well received by the runners who could make it.

Marc Owen won the short course fairly easily, from a tightly packed 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The top four were also the top four on handicap. David Game retains his league lead, but with two wins from two runs, Marc is poised to challenge once we start taking the top 6 races for the table.

HAVOC filled 4 of the top 5 places on the Long course. Chris Prince was the fastest round, and looking at the MapRun tracks, he maybe used some local knowledge of unmapped paths in a couple of areas! Simon Fowler was second quickest to finish, but had missed a control, so it was Seb Parris who took second place. Once handicaps are taken into account, Simon jumped to the top, just pipping Chris, with Roy Read, Seb and Lyn West rounding out the top 5. In the Long course overall table it is incredibly close. Seb leads Simon by one point, with Chris and Chloe tied for third just 9 points behind, and Lyn in 5<sup>th</sup> a couple of points further back.

Details of the event scoring can be found here:

[https://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk/results-archive/Lee Chapel 2024 results.pdf](https://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk/results-archive/Lee_Chapel_2024_results.pdf)

The series webpage is here:

<https://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk/havoc-sos-midweek-winter-league-2024-25>

We have a short break for Christmas now. The next event is hosted by HAVOC, at Billericay on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Details are on the HAVOC website here:

<https://www.orienteering-havoc.co.uk/events/essex-winter-midweek-series-2024-25-no.5-billericay-15-jan-2025>

Have a great Christmas everyone, and see you in the New Year.