

Clydach Terrace – Planners Comments

Having planned a middle race in 2009 and the SHI relay in 2011 both starting from further East between the two blocks of OOB I was keen to do something different this time. Accessing the area from the West had not been implemented since the area was first used for Croeso in 2008.

Using google maps followed up by a site visit this spring confirmed my thoughts that the area we actually used would be ideal as an assembly area. The only concern was the spillway crossing in the event of very heavy rain, but this became a non issue as the hot summer went on. Provisional course shapes with a final shorter loop out from the spectator control were then quickly plotted. Following agreement from the Duke of Beauforts estate who own the land used for the competition and co-operation with the commoners regarding access then we were good to go.

Initial courses were planned on the old map whilst we waited for the revised lidar based version from Ben Mitchell. I'm sure you will all agree that the new map is easier to read. Inevitable it presented a couple of small issues with one or two features either disappearing or being drawn differently. A few alternate control sites were considered but only 5 different sites were actually changed based on the new map.

The relays were designed with two completely separate first control gaffles for MWM and WMW to avoid bunching as I initially assumed both relays would be starting together. Each distinct course actually had only 3 different gaffled controls. The other two combinations allowed the extra distance for the long and extra long courses and also to create a bit of variety in the final loop (see embedded map extracts below).

The expected extra long winning time was 30.18 as opposed to a guideline of 35 minutes. I think the runnability was even faster than expected after a dry summer. Despite this my personal feeling is that the overall relay times from slightly under 90 minutes per team is not unreasonable. Based on the guideline teams would have been out for approximately an extra 15 to 25 minutes per team pro rata.

Many thanks to Paul Taunton the controller for his support and advice which was much appreciated.

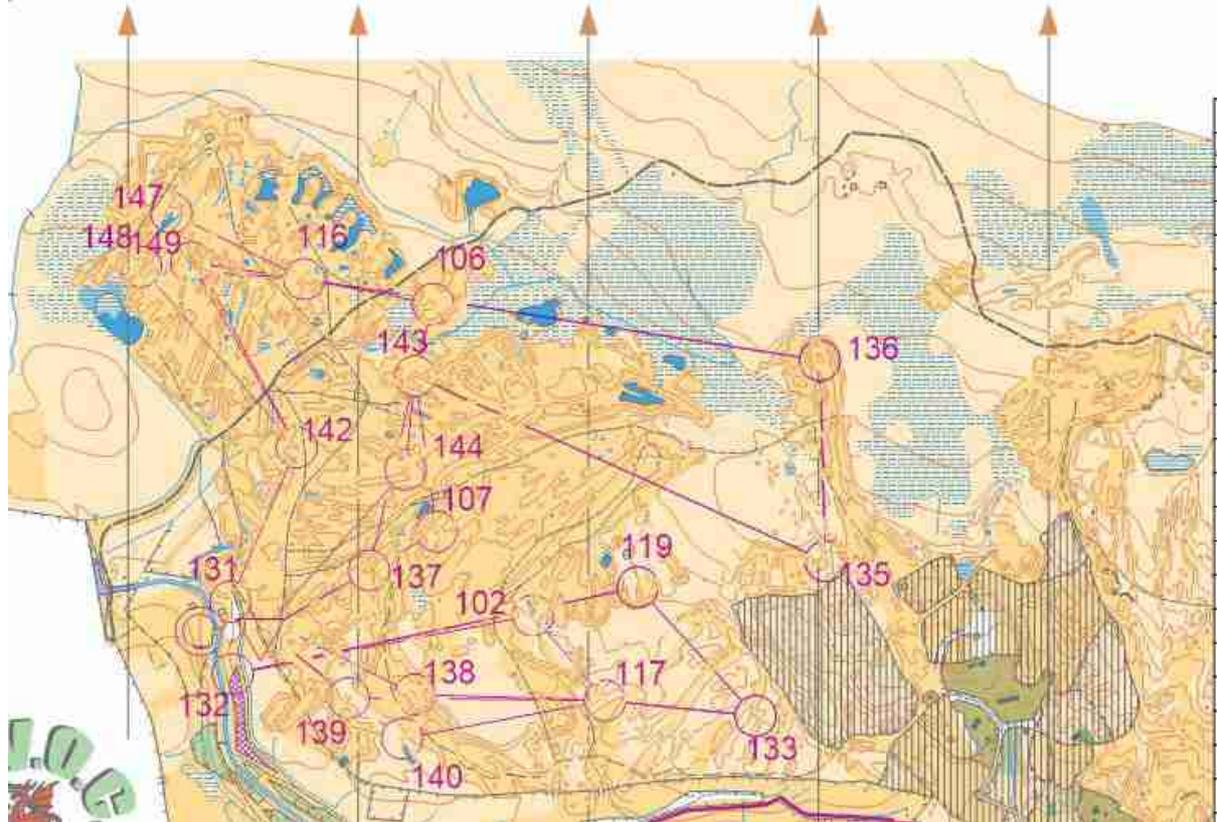
Peter Ribbans

SWOC

sdach Terrace

Scale 1:7500, Contours 5m

WMW



Lach Terrace

Scale 1:7500, Contours 5m

MWM

