

Planner's Comments – Akroydon

Akroydon was a typical Urban orienteering event, mapped to IOF (International Orienteering Federation) standards and planned with a variety of route choice between controls. Good navigation was a key part to a successful run.

On reviewing the results it was pleasing from a planner's perspective to see how many different routes everyone took and to note some of the difficulties experienced. I am still not convinced the steps route between 37 and 56 was the best. Also disappointed that only a couple of us took the route across North Bridge between 36 and 31. I should have located 31 a little more to the south.

Apologies to those who missed the second set of steps going into Dean Clough. Maybe the map was a little unclear and have been better with a definite crossing point symbol.

The beeping worked well with a 97.5% success rate (excluding the Scarfs!) on the Long with only control number 33 at the block of flats having more than one failure. I hope this high success rate isn't a result of everyone spending many minutes running around until they managed to get a beep! The tolerance level was turned down for this event to a radius of 10 metres rather than 15 which has been used in most other events.

On a serious note it was disappointing to see quite a few people crossing areas marked as olive, out of bounds or uncrossable walls. Some were experienced orienteers of many years whose sight is clearly fading. Crossing into forbidden areas can lead to our sport getting a bad reputation. It is also unfair to those that take a legitimate route. In future this should lead to disqualification but this time we accept our responsibility in educating people with regard to the orienteering map symbols. Please read the Map Run update and FAQ's article on the EPOC webpage.

Richard Payne