

Planner's Report

This was my first attempt at planning a real event. (I have previously only planned for MapRun). Norland Moor would not have been my first choice of venue, for various reasons, but on the day, it seemed to work. The path network is great, but does not offer technical difficulty, and away from paths the terrain is tricky, with tussock, heather and record-breaking bilberry in places - as competitors found out.

In hindsight the courses were probably too long for the underfoot conditions. The BOF guidance for planners does say that the task of the planner is 'ensuring the courses will challenge'. I think I managed that, but some competitors may have been out for longer than they expected (sorry).

Hovering around the finish and download, I heard comments such as 'good' 'tough' and 'I'm not fit enough'. I saw some blood, a lot of sweat, but thankfully no tears.

I'd like to thank Dick Spendlove for his support and Davey Averill for very detailed comments and advice in the early stages. Also, a massive team of helpers who put out and collected controls – thank you.

I would like to take full credit for the excellent, dry conditions and pleasant weather.

Gilly Markham