

## Controllers Comments

Thank you all for coming to Shibden Park and taking part in what we think has been a very successful Yorkshire Sprint Championships. Richard Payne, as planner and mapper, was a joy to work with and it was his audacious idea to recast the 2 stage sprint championship as a mixed terrain challenge. He felt Shibden's landscape diversity and historic story would fit the bill. It did. Joint organiser's Rebecca Lloyd and Neil Croasdell and IT supremo Jackie Page along with EPOC's band of reliable volunteers, made the event not just run, but buzz.

Of course, the complexity of any large orienteering event and the reality of human nature means there will always be some glitches. It's not that they happen but how you deal with them and lessons learnt that matter. We offer a sincere apology to the MJ and WJ competitors that were guided by incorrect labels to pick up the wrong map for their first leg course. The lack of formal appeals or protests means we have awarded the championship prizes over the combined race 1 and 2 times rather than just race 2 as we might have needed to do. Equally, on race 2 of course D, tapes and a cone to prevent competitors crossing a new gap in an uncrossable hedge were removed by a member of the public during the race and provided a significantly quicker route on leg 4-5. We have removed the split time from the final results and luckily the provisional results we used for the prize giving were unaffected apart from a new joint 3rd on MJ who we'll contact personally and offer a prize to. Finally, some dog owners should know better!

The many people I spoke to during the day who were interested to know what we were doing provided a good shop window for our sport and thank you all for coexisting with the other park users so positively.

**Jonathan Emberton**