

Honley and Slate Pits Woods May 12th 2024

Planners' comments

Thank you to everyone for their encouraging feedback after their runs on Sunday. The decision to use Slate Pits Wood made parking a bit of a challenge, but after quite a bit of toing and froing we settled on a start at the edge of the woods with one timed-out road crossing for all courses. On balance I think it was definitely worth all the effort as Slate Pits Woods has not been used for over 10 years and was in near perfect condition. Thank you to Tim for his excellent controlling and to Gilly for planning all the TD5 courses and exploring much more of the map than me. Also thanks to Ian and Julie for their control collecting. And, of course, thank you to Helen for her efficient organising.

Simon Martland (White to Light Green course planner).

My thanks go to the weather gods, not only for the Sunday, but also for a lovely Saturday evening for putting out controls. Honley Woods looked at their best with bluebells, and the undergrowth was not too high. I hope competitors enjoyed their courses. By the time I got back to the finish and download areas, everyone had gone home, so I guess that means they went OK(?). Using both parts of the woods definitely made it easier to create longer courses with a variety challenges. I tried to avoid the steepest slopes, the spikiest holly saplings and the wildest brambles. It was good to have Simon's experience and support as I am relatively new to this task. Thanks to Tim and Helen, whose roles were essential. Planning is fun, like armchair orienteering, but without an organiser and controller events would not happen.

Gilly Markham (Short Green to Brown)