

SInS 2021 – Stapeley & Rorrington

Organiser's Report

As the new Chair of HOC I was “invited” onto the SInS steering group late last year, with little idea of how the pandemic would evolve and affect the preparations. Initially the plan was for the usual three events, with Telford Town Park on the Saturday and Corndon/Stapeley on the Sunday/Monday

With the late winter surge and lockdown at its height, we abandoned any idea of using Telford Town Park for the Saturday event – local authority permissions were viewed as being difficult to obtain, and how busy would the park be on a Saturday if the weather was fine?

With time ticking on, we decided to reduce the scope of the events and adopt the West Midlands League format of eight courses to reduce the workload for Planner and Controller. The Midland Champs would have to fit around this.

Time to appoint some officials, so I put a call out via the club Forum. John Leeson responded promptly to plan, but nobody seemed keen to organise. So I stepped in, not having organised anything more than a Level D before, but at least some of the stuff like toilet hire and landowner liaison were being done by others.

Then we realized that Wales and England were not easing restrictions at the same pace. We could (and did) cancel Corndon, but the usual parking field was in Wales. Luckily we were offered another field on the English side, which allowed us to bring in Podium Catering.

I think the biggest feat was organising the weather. I've no idea how I managed to do that... I hope people don't take it for granted next time!

Lots of people to thank...

Hilary Simpson OD, Lesley & Eric Brown for handling most of the Midland Champs trophy admin. We felt that results displays and a podium ceremony weren't really on during a pandemic, so ended up with “hang around if you think you might have done well enough to win”. This more relaxed approach seemed to work rather well.

HOC helpers:

- Kirsten and the boys for putting up tents and gazebos
- Start team; David, Russ, Geff, Alison, Barry and Penny
- Finish marshals; Paul, Richard, Peter R, Steve N and Andy J
- Babs & Ashley for packing up and van loading
- Andy H, Ian and Andrew W WRE + Megan on First Aid

- Jenny, Rick and Sue on Enquiries

WRE helpers

- Steve Parker and Richard Rogers on Download
- John Broadhead with Charlie, Tony, Dave, Lynda and Janet on car parking – everyone in with around six spaces left!
- Clive for the road signs

Landowners

- Jack Tavenor from Powis Castle Estates for Stapeley Hill
- Frances Steer and Vicky Kershaw from Balfours for Rorrington Estate
- Huw Tilsley, Chair of the Stapeley Commoners
- Keith and Adrian Meyrick for the parking field

Those whose work came to nothing... for now

- Stuart Richards for permission to use Lan Fawr/Corndon
- Clive Richardson, planner for Corndon

And the rest of the SInS Steering Group – Steve Bramwell, Adrian Pickles and Andy Clough.

Peter Langmaid HOC