

FIXTURES SECRETARY & ACCESS REPORT 2018/19

First some numbers.

In the year to 19 September the club put on 62 events. These attracted 4,482 competitors. Here is a breakdown by type of event.

	Thursday evening				Galoppen	Other	Total
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn			
Number of events	17	8	17	7	4	9	62
Number of participants	988	455	1101	393	776	769	4482
Average participation	58	57	65	56	194	85	72

The biggest event was the galoppen at Hawse End on 10 February with 273 competitors, the smallest at Greystones on 1 August with 29 competitors due to a clash with the Scottish 6 day.

Thursday evening events remain the mainstay of the club's activity and participation in these remains high. The first 3 events of the summer series attracted over 90 competitors each, with 107 at Sale Fell on 23 May. Participation in galoppens is stable, though sensitive to location and quality of terrain.

This is a fantastic achievement. Thanks to those who have contributed to making it happen, particularly organisers, planners, controllers and access officers. Our ability to continue to provide this number of events depends entirely on members willing to do these jobs. It's been very pleasing that several of our newer members have come forward to plan evening events, and also to see a few new faces taking key roles in organising larger events. Nevertheless it seems to be getting harder to find volunteers and it's noticeable that there are experienced orienteers who regularly participate in events but who seem unwilling to put on events for others. If this continues it may be difficult to continue to provide the same number of events in future. For this reason the committee is considering a small reduction in the number of events over the next year, to be achieved by having a 1 week gap between each series of Thursday events.

More positively, we have scheduled a great winter series with planners in place for all but 3 of them. We are also aiming for 5 galoppens next year including a repeat of the successful 2017 2 day spring event in Eskdale.

Enjoy your orienteering in 2019/20.

Michael Billingham