

Fixtures Secretary's Report

As Fixtures Secretary my job is to liaise with club fixtures secretaries to assign major competitions and to develop an orderly programme of orienteering across the region. Here is a quick review of some of the major events in the last 12 months.

The biggest event in our region was the Southern Championships at Penhale in April. Hosts Kernow joined this with a new urban event at St Ives and a warm up event at Hayle to make a full weekend of it. It may not have been the best weather but I personally got my money's worth from the weekend, and so thanks to the team for all the work that went into it.

Our major regional competitions this year have been spread around the clubs. Wessex provided the Compass Sport cup qualifier back at Agglestone back in February, and Sarum put on the South West Middle Distance Championship at Fonthill in March. Obviously the South West Sprints are today, thanks to BOK, and the South West Long Distance Championship will be in Devon at the Caddihoe Chase next weekend.

On the national scene, Sarum also hosted the Yvette Baker Trophy final in its last wintertime scheduling - this is now a spring-summer competition. Wimborne are providing the Junior Inter Regional Championships at the end of this month, BOK are on home turf for the CompassSport cup final next month and the Southern Night Champs in December are a Wimborne-Wessex joint venture. Looking further ahead, BOK will be hosts for the British Long Distance Championships and British Relay Championships in 2015.

However the majority of orienteering fixtures are at the other end of the scale. I am pleased to report that over the past year there was a massive total of over 170 events and around 240 activities in the South West. This means there are about 4 events and 6 activities per week somewhere in our region at peak season. This represents a huge amount of effort on behalf of individuals and clubs, and we should be very grateful that there are so many local opportunities to take part in this fantastic sport.

Richard Sansbury

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