



Strike Command Secretary
ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION
www.rafo.org.uk



KIN/2602/24/PEd

Nimrod Plans (UK)
Operations Wing
RAF Kinloss
Forres
Moray
IV36 3UH

Tel 01309 672161 Ext 7844
RAFTN 95131 Ext 7844
e-mail nimplans-uk@kinloss.raf.mod.uk
RAFmail KIS-nimplans-uk

See Distribution

24 June 05

COMBINED COMMAND ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005 - RESULTS

1. RAF Kinloss, on behalf of Strike Command, hosted the 2005 Combined Command Orienteering Championships on Thur 9 Jun 05. Due to the travelling distance for many Stns, and continuing high operational commitments, the competition attracted a disappointing 31 Service competitors, but this was supplemented by 12 local guest runners.
2. Despite the low numbers, the event provided a serious test of stamina and technical ability, which was to prove excessive for some less-experienced competitors who would have been better advised to run the novices course that had been specifically designed to suit newcomers to the sport. Stn OICs should be careful not to over-estimate the ability of such personnel, and should ensure that they tackle a course appropriate to their fitness or ability. One particular competitor, who was out for 4 ½ hours, made a search party necessary. Although this provided a useful exercise in planning for the organisers, it wasted a significant amount of effort. Nevertheless, the slower competitors who persevered to complete the course in such testing terrain and warm weather deserve congratulations for refusing to give up.
3. This event could not have happened without the assistance of 2 members of Moravian Orienteering Club. Many thanks to Wg Cdr (retired) Pete Danks for planning the courses and to Mrs Peggie Gordon, one of Scotland's most senior event controllers, for ensuring that the courses were fair and, above all, accurate. Without their assistance, we at Kinloss would have had to plan and control the courses, thus rendering us non-competitive. The planner's post-event comments were as follows:

“Mike asked me to plan technically difficult courses with a winners time of 70 minutes on the mens course, with the ladies running about 70% of that. I managed to get very close to that winning time, but not unfortunately for any RAFO runners, so hindsight suggests the men's courses should have been a km shorter, particularly in that heat! Despite its reputation as a runnable forest large parts of Culbin are very hard going, and several areas are too thick even to cross. The 3 main courses had to be of the highest technical difficulty, which meant keeping you in the contours and among the knolls to avoid path runs, and hence in the rough. The area is a very hard introduction to contours to those used to southern England, so don't be too downhearted if you took longer than you hoped. Those I spoke to, or who would speak to me, seemed to enjoy it despite the rough going and heat.”

4. Many thanks also to Sgt Marc Roberts, the RAFOA Trg Off, for organising a day's training in Speyside on the day following the competition. Feedback suggests that this event, and the civilian badge event at Achlean on the Sunday made the 4-day package and enjoyable, technically demanding experience for many of the RAF's more experienced orienteers.

5. The results for the Cmd Championships are at Annex A. Details of split times for individual competitors can be found on the RAFOA website www.rafo.org.uk.

<original signed>

M P RODGERS
Flt Lt
Event Co-Ordinator

Distribution:

External:

RAF High Wycombe	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Flt Lt R Roberts, JFAC A4]
RAF Leuchars	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Flt Lt Derbyshire ADC to AOS]
RAF Linton-on-Ouse	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Sgt S Collins, ATC]
RAF Lossiemouth	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [CT S Price, Eng Wg HQ]
RAF Lyneham	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Sgt Wells 47 Sqn SF ALMs]
RAF Marham	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Sgt M Chopping, AEF]
RAF Valley	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Flt Lt M Kinnear Flt Cdr Logs, MRS]
RAF Wyton/Brampton	- PEdO for OIC Orienteering [Sgt M Roberts, SSG ASIG3a]

Information:

RAF Sports Board - Games Sec, HQ PTC RAF Innsworth
RAFOA Committee Members (by e-mail)

Internal (info):

PEdO
Sqn Ldr Robertshaw – 120 Sqn
CT Howls – Nimrod Maintenance School
FS Spencer – Sim Trg Unit
FS Stitson – EW Section
Mrs Bev Ellis – Medical Centre
SAC Bourgoyne - Mobility