

Controller's Comments – JK 2014 Day 3 - Llangynidr

Well we had to give you some proper Welsh weather on one of the days. As I was driving up the mountain at about 5.30am the conditions looked ideal – just a little bit of cloud touching the top of the area – but by the time I was out waking controls up at 7.00am the visibility was down to about twenty metres and with a cold wind getting up it became obvious that waterproofs would be necessary. It was quite a late decision but I think the organiser managed to get the message through to the majority of the competitors.

The bad weather also meant that the officials at the near start had to cope with a lot of requests for less experienced juniors on the colour coded courses to be moved onto a shorter courses. It was good to have this flexibility as it was not a day for the younger juniors to be out for hours.

Congratulations to the planners for producing some very well received courses. Standing in the download tent I heard nothing but positive comments of how enjoyable and challenging the courses were. The courses had to go through several iterations of planning as new areas had to be avoided for nesting birds etc. With the long journey down from Leicester OC land, this wasn't an easy job but Roger, Peter and Steve put in a lot of hours and ended up with a good result.

Thanks to Mike Forrest who, as well as being the IOF Event Adviser for the event, also acted as my mentor as controller. I am not sure whether he was showing confidence that everything was going smoothly, or whether he thought the event was beyond rescue, when he threw himself down the hillside and had to be stretchered to hospital on Saturday evening. I wish him a speedy recovery.

Alice Bedwell (BOK) – Day 3 Controller