

# British TrailO Newsletter September 2024



## Introduction from the Editor

What a dreary summer we have had here in the UK with regular showers, cooler weather and less sunshine. And to make it worse, no UK TrailO competitions! However, for those able to travel, there have been some opportunities to compete as reported in this Newsletter. My thanks to the contributors.

Although I have had fewer events this summer, I have been involved in preparing for the forthcoming British TrailO Weekend incorporating the 2024 British TrailO Championships (BTOC). It has given me plenty of TrailO experience with some mapping for the PreO and planning the PreO Sprint as well as overall organising. It has been a team effort though with Tom Dobra planning the PreO and Charles Bromley Gardner planning the Tempo. Certainly this has given me more experience of the difference in course setting requirements between FootO and TrailO. Although using a much smaller area, TrailO demands a greater accuracy in mapping and more precise placement of kites. It has been an interesting task and I hope that competitors will find the events worthy of identifying the 2024 BTOC Champions.

Having recently attended the PreWTOC events in Hungary and Slovakia, it is interesting to compare the different terrains that the weekend provided. As with the Hungarian weekend in August 2023, their terrain was open grassland and scrub on gently rolling hills. In Slovakia by contrast, the terrain was mostly wooded with some crags, boulders and rocky outcrops. Competitors should, I presume, expect similar variation next year. However, another consideration will be the weather. Although the UK has had a cool summer, much of central and southern Europe has been hot. At the Hungarian weekend last year, temperatures were in the high 30s; at the PreWTOC events, not quite so hot. With WTOC next year being at the end of August, the likelihood is for another hot event. Competitors, and organisers, should be prepared.

**David Jukes** (davidjukes@sky.com)



### Next Newsletter

It is expected that the next issue will appear in late November. All contributions are welcome!

All material should be submitted by early November but earlier submissions would be appreciated.

**Cover Picture:** Here we see **Ben Kyd** awaiting his turn at the Timed Controls at the recent PreWTOC 2025 PreO event in Hungary. Although used to having umbrellas to screen the kites from the competitor's view, here it is being used to shield Ben from the sun. For detailed reports of the PreWTOC events, see pages 20-22.

(Photo: Pre-WTOC Officials)

### British Trail Orienteering Facebook Page



Are you a Facebook user? If so, have you 'liked' or do you 'follow' the **British Trail Orienteering Facebook page**? It is the best place to be kept informed of news and updates relating to British TrailO activities.

**Note:** The contents of this Newsletter are the responsibility of the Editor. The reports represent the personal views of the authors and should not be considered to represent the views of British Orienteering or the collective view of the British TrailO community. Attempts have been made to verify the accuracy of the information contained but apologies in advance for any errors that have slipped through.

**David Jukes (Editor)**

## Event Calendar



The table below lists some of the main TrailO events currently scheduled to be taking place in the future. Included in the table are all currently announced UK TrailO events and all designated World Ranking Events (**WRE**) and European TrailO Cup events (**ETOC**).

- P = PreO; T = TempO; PSp = PreO Sprint

Date	Event	Status	Country
21-22 Sept	PreO i Vast (T + 2P)	3 WRE/2 ECTO	Sweden
12-13 Oct	<b>British TrailO Championships 2024</b> (P and T and SpP (tbc)), Bucks/Berks (See box below)		Great Britain
9-10 Nov	Dragon Cup (T + P)	2 WRE/ECTO	Poland
15-16 Nov	TrailO Weekend (PSp + T + P)		Israel
<b>2025</b>			
27-31 Aug	<b>World TrailO Championships (WTOC)</b>		Hungary / Slovakia

**British Autumn TrailO Weekend**  
Incorporating the 2024 British TrailO Championships (BTOC)

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October:  
PreO at Burnham Beeches, Slough  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October:  
TempO at University of Reading,  
Whiteknights Campus

For embargoes, see:  
[https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/embargoed\\_areas](https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/embargoed_areas)

Berkshire Orienteers are staging two Championship events this year determining the 2024 PreO BTOC Champions and 2024 TempO BTOC Champions. In addition, the BTOC Trophy will be awarded to an overall winner based on the results of both events. Also included is a PreO Sprint event!

For full details, see the BKO event pages ([PreO](#) and [TempO](#)) and download the Preliminary Details. Final details will be available about 1 week before the events.

Entries Close: 5 October 2024

For further details, look for links at: [TrailO Fixtures Calendar](#)  
 For the IOF Eventor listing of World Ranking Events, see: [IOF Eventor - TrailO](#)  
 For details of the ECTO Events, see: [European Cup in TrailO](#)

## TrailO Development Steering Group Update



The national Steering Group has not held a meeting since the last Newsletter but one is currently scheduled and is to be held in the coming days.

However, following the last meeting in April when the matter was discussed, in June the GBR Selectors issued a statement regarding their likely approach to selection for the 2025 World TrailO Championships. The statement was published on the British Orienteering site with a news item indicating its publication. The statement is given in full below.

### Selection for WTOC 2025 (Hungary and Slovakia, 26-31 August 2025) – advance notice

#### Introduction

This notice is to provide TrailO athletes with information about events in 2024 and 2025 relevant to the selection process for WTOC 2025. The Selection Policy in full will be published on the BO website later in 2024.



Athletes seeking selection should be aware that TrailO events in the UK offer very limited opportunity to experience the standard of competition encountered at a WTOC or ETOC. The biggest difference in other countries, compared to the UK, is in the quality of terrain available, especially that chosen for international competition. This often has, for instance, much more rock and subtler contour detail, together with other special features, than is found to any extent in the UK. International standard PreO events in other countries can also be very long, with more than 30 controls.

Athletes seeking selection for WTOC 2025 are therefore strongly encouraged to gain experience of competing in TrailO in other countries, particularly at European Cup in TrailO (ECTO) events, in addition to taking in all possible competition opportunities in the UK. The full ECTO 2024 fixture list can be found at <https://orienteering.sport/trailo/main-events/european-cup-in-trailo/>, and the 2025 list will be posted on the same link in December.

For WTOC 2025 in Hungary and Slovakia, the most relevant event is the ECTO event in these countries, 7-8 September 2024. For advice and help regarding entry, travel and accommodation for this and other ECTO events, contact Graham Urquhart, email [trailocommitteechair@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:trailocommitteechair@britishorienteering.org.uk).

Two Junior athletes (age class 20 or under) can be entered for WTOC, in addition to the standard four per PreO class and four for Tempo.

#### Events relevant for selection

The Selectors will take account of the standards candidates have achieved in domestic and international competition and the experience gained, particularly in 2024 and the Spring of 2025, but also to some extent in 2023. The events likely to be included are:

##### *In the UK:*

- British TrailO Championships 2024 and 2023
- Other British TrailO League (BritOL) events in 2024
- JK 2025 TrailO events and other BritOL events in 2025, up to the selection date

##### *Outside the UK:*

- European TrailO Championships 2024 and World TrailO Championships 2023
- All ECTO events in 2024, and in 2025 prior to the selection date
- Other international and foreign-country TrailO events in 2024 and early 2025

The **TrailO Development Steering Group** is chaired by **Graham Urquhart** who can be contacted at: [trailocommitteechair@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:trailocommitteechair@britishorienteering.org.uk)

The table below shows the updated World Ranking list positions for all the GBR competitors as of 16th September. Also included are two from Hong Kong who are currently resident in the UK - John is a member of MDOC and Michael a member of SLOW.

The most significant change compared to the listing in the last Newsletter (1 June) is the improvement in position for **Ben Kyd**. Ben did not attend the European Championships this year due to a clash with university examinations and, in June, his top six results included two relatively poor PreO scores from 2023 (732 and 760). However, at the 2 recent PreWTOC events in Hungary and Slovakia, he scored 910 and 982 returning his top 6 average score to 931. Both **Tom Dobra** and **Charles Bromley Gardner** have gained a few places. Tom's second place in the PreWTOC 2025 PreO event gave him 986 points, his best ever score. Charles got a score of 909 at one of the Norwegian PreO events in June which helped boost his position.

All		P Class	Jun. Class	Name	Score	Events counted in score
16 Sept 2024	1 June 2024					
1	1			Krystian Petersburski (POL)	5983	6
6	10		1	Simone Frascaroli (ITA)	5899	6
14	14			John Kewley	5828	6
49	97			Ben Kyd	5589	6
74	66	1		Vladyslav Vovk (UKR)	5444	6
61	70			Tom Dobra	5518	6
65	71			Charles Bromley Gardner	5500	6
104	106			David Jukes	5064	6
112	120			Wang Ki Yuan (John) (HKG)	5055	6
115	112			Michael Tsang (HKG)	5025	6
123	114			Graham Urquhart	4921	6
124	121			Iain Phillips	4914	6
139	130			Ian Ditchfield	4741	6
207	199			Elizabeth Urquhart	3761	6
219	212	37		Colin Duckworth (P)	3608	6
221	214			Kieran Marsh	3593	5
229	222	38		Peter Roberts (P)	3311	6
240	232			Christine Roberts	3023	6
349	331		44 (est)	Max Straube Roth (J)	1372	2
355	337			Peter Hornsby	1315	2
407	372			Clive Allen	998	2

For the WR scheme rules, see: [Competition Rules for Trail Orienteering](#)

For the current listing, see: [IOF World Ranking - TrailO](#)

## European Cup in TrailO 2024 (ECTO)

For 2024, the IOF TrailO Commission (TOC) has designated the following 12 events from 6 weekends to contribute to ECTO:

30-31 March	Slovenia	PreO x 2
5-6 May	Finland ( <i>ETOC Warmup events</i> )	PreO x 2
8-9 June	Norway	PreO x 2
7-8 September	Hungary/Slovakia ( <i>PreWTOC 2025 events</i> )	PreO + Tempo
21-22 September	Sweden	PreO x 2
9-10 November	Poland	TempO + PreO

A competitor's best 5 events will be used to determine the final positions. At each event, the scoring system used is based on a competitor's position in the results and gives the following points:

<b>Place</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>Points</b>	60	54	48	43	40	38	36	34	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
<b>Place</b>	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40+
<b>Points</b>	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Following the PreWTOC events, the table below shows the current top 3 and those from Britain in the top 100:

	Name	Country	Points	Events
1	<i>Anders Høije</i>	<i>SWE</i>	<i>248</i>	<i>5 from 6</i>
2	<i>Laura Eliza Lapina</i>	<i>LAT</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>5 from 6</i>
3	<i>William Rex</i>	<i>SWE</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>5 from 6</i>
19	John Kewley	GBR	115	5 from 8
31	Ben Kyd	GBR	80	2
34	Tom Dobra	GBR	75	4
47	Charles Bromley Gardner	GBR	57	5 from 6
82	David Jukes	GBR	27	5 from 6

With 8 out of the 12 events now included with scores, the top contenders for 2024 are becoming clearer. However, with a competitor's 5 best scores to be used in the final calculation, with the remaining 4 events, there is still plenty of time for significant changes. The current leader, **Anders Høije (SWE)**, has 3 wins from his 6 events as well as a 6th place and an 11th place. For his 6th event he was 'only' in 21st place and that was discarded in determining his best 5 scores above. One to watch who is not listed above is **Antti Rusanen (FIN)** who currently is in 9th position having only attended 4 events. Those events do though include 2 wins and he could still catch those currently in the leading positions.

Although **John Kewley** is currently leading the GBR competitors, the one to watch is **Ben Kyd** who competed at the recent PreWTOC events and gained 15th and 2nd places - his first scores for the year. Ben will also be competing in the forthcoming Swedish events and could add some good scores. **Tom Dobra** also had a 2nd place in the PreWTOC and could also do well in Sweden. It will be interesting to see how things change before the end of the year!

*For more details, see the IOF page:  
[European Cup in TrailO \(ECTO\)](#)*

We have now had 8 of the monthly Hungarian TORUS TempO Trophy events for 2024. The table on the left is based on a competitor's total scores in all 8 events. Ultimately, it will be a competitor's best 9 scores from all 12 events.

Regular readers may be surprised to see that **Ben Kyd** has dropped from his first place shown in the last Newsletter and is now down at 16. Since the current listing is based on all results so far in 2024, as Ben missed the February event, his total is only from 7 events. As we approach the end of the year, the missing event will be ignored and Ben is likely to show significantly higher than 16th.

Included in the table are the two Hong Kong nationals currently living here in the UK. It can be seen that **Wangki Yuen** (John) is doing well and is in 21st place. As a member of MDOC, he contributes to the overall club score, as shown in the lower table, MDOC have maintained their lead in the club competition. The club listing is based on each club's best 3 competitors at each event.

The August competition was entitled 'Jurassic World Evolution 2' which should have provided an indication that things would look a bit different. As guidance, competitors were informed that: '*Terrain: Fictive terrain from Jurassic World Evolution 2 game*'. The image from the first station is shown below - having a dinosaur travelling across the terrain was certainly different. Also the maps were unconventional with a 1m contour interval.



An example control from the August event. The correct solution was 'Z'. The 'A' kite is positioned on the similar peninsular to the north of the correct one.



If you haven't yet found the TORUS website, take a look at: <http://torus.yq.cz/>  
Entry is free but you do need to register first. The next event is Wednesday 25th September.

Top 10 GBR (based on total scores from all 8 events)			
1	Simone Frascaroli	ITA	766.36
16	Ben Kyd	MDOC	687.38
21	Wangki Yuen (John) (HKG)	MDOC	681.33
23	John Kewley	MDOC	676.46
33	Samuel Drinkwater	MDOC	648.67
50	Robert Finch	TVOC	617.70
60	Colin Duckworth	TVOC	608.61
67	Tom Dobra	NGOC	596.62
70	Ricardo Telmo Fernandes	HALO	593.94
92	Ian Ditchfield	MV	570.84
116	Michael Chun Chi Tsang (HKG)	SLOW	550.36
168	Owain Jones	BOK	499.25
179	Dave Cooke	NOC	488.17

Club		Score	
1	MDOC	GBR	2204
2	OLV Landshut	GER	2075
3	COMA	ESP	2063
11	Bristol OK	GBR	1823
24	Southdowns	GBR	1527



## Know your fellow TrailO Competitors : Charles Bromley Gardner

For this issue, one of our top competitors and regular World Champion GB team member agreed to answer some personal questions - thank you Charles.

*Age/Class?* M60

*Family circumstances?* Eligible bachelor

*Hometown? Current location?* Childhood based in Gloucestershire and at boarding school (Eton College) after father left the Army. After 27 years following the flag, I settled myself close to Andover, Hampshire

*Employment?* British Army for 44+ years, in 3 guises: Regular, Reservist & voluntary extension. Kicked out at the end of each phase! Now 85% retired, apart from self-employment as a cross-country ski/biathlon instructor and championship official (late Nov – mid-Jan).

*Clubs?* BAOC continuously, plus SUOC, CLOK, SLOW, Stavanger OK, SARUM for various periods when appropriate; AOA whilst serving.

*How did you start orienteering and/or TrailO?* According to a school report (re-read during COVID Lockdown!), I attended an event during 1978, but I have no other record or real memory of it – it may have been at Ceasar's Camp/Swinley. Otherwise navigation was obviously a priority during RMA Sandhurst training, beating a 'member' of the Army team during competitions on OS maps. Due to later injury, it wasn't until I arrived in Germany in March 1980 that I started, competing with an established regimental team (Jan Belza SARUM, Nick Kearns BAOC, John Cook WSX). My first event back in UK on leave that autumn was at Clarendon Park, Salisbury.

I fell into TrailO at BOC 1999 at Graythwaite, as an activity to fill the time after my FootO race. I won that BTOC!

*Best achievement/success?* FootO: M40 British Champion at Newborough Forest 2001; 4x Army Champion 1994-2002 & 7x Army Night Champion 1991-2008. 1995 Inter Service Champion. Army Team for 25 years between 1984 & 2017 (exercises or deployments, injury once, interfering eight times). TrailO: WTOC 2019 (Portugal) Relay Bronze; ETOC 2018 (Slovakia) Relay Bronze (both with John Kewley and Tom Dobra). A second BTOC in 2018 (Crathes Castle, Scotland)

Other: British National 15km Cross Country Ski Veteran Champion 1998 (as Mike Dixon was at the Winter Olympics). KIMM 1993 B Course winner. Berlin Marathon 1985: 2:42:50. Southampton University Sportsman of the Year 1984 (Orienteering Captain, Rugby club S&C coach & 1st XV lock, Boxing Club Founder & UHBA Novice Heavyweight Champion). Army Sport Lifetime Achievement Award 2019.

Less tangible is the satisfaction gained from 'volunteering' and then coaching many soldiers in sports activities.

*Most enjoyed event? Why?* My memories don't really work like that: enjoyable Trail orienteering is when the map paints the same picture for me as it did for the planner & event adviser. And it's not always for the whole day! If I had to pick one day when I was able to completely turn around my performance it would have to be ETOC 2014 in Portugal. In PreO Day 1 I was 64th out of 81 with 15 correct answers out of 20 – albeit ahead of Pete Huzan & JK (and some other notable

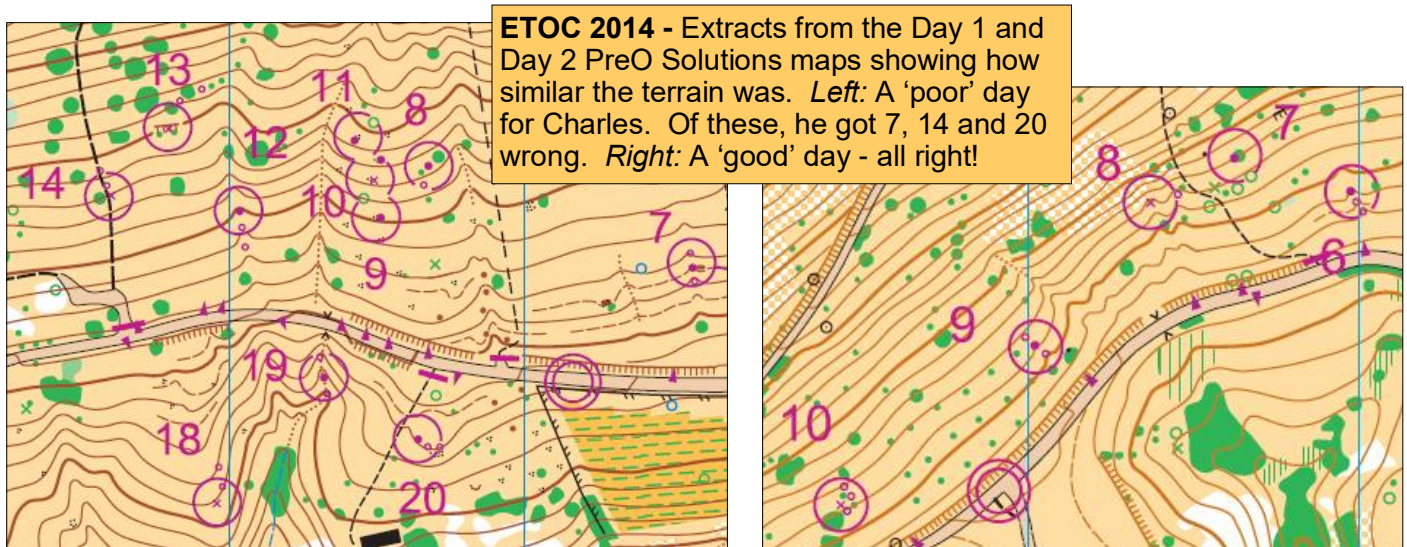


**Charles** at the Falco Cup event in Lithuania in 2023



**Charles** at the Award Ceremony for his Army Sport Lifetime Achievement Award 2019.





names) as I did get the Timed Controls correct. Two Finns were the only ones to get them all right (Jari Turto & Antti Rusanen). The best Brit was Ian Ditchfield in 41st with 17 correct. Day 2 was a complete contrast for me, scoring 20 out of 20 in 8th place (and 2 secs ahead of Antti on the Timed Controls – so Jari won overall). 16 people made no mistake on this day. Ian was 33rd with 19 correct. Same valley, same mapper, same course setter, different competitor's mindset [see map extracts above]. Similar happened in WTOC 2019, also in Portugal: 63rd out of 65 competitors with 21 right of 29 controls on Day 1; 27 right of 30 controls on Day 2 for 27th place.

*Worst event/most embarrassing TrailO moment/biggest goof?* PreO Day 1 WTOC 2019 – see above question. I just never really agreed with the planner! It makes one feel really low. That's where the Team Manager, and other team members (who will be seeking Relay selection above one) must play an important part of re-assurance and confidence re-building.

*Favourite area and/or terrain? Why?* Contours with good visibility through the vegetation. I like to navigate visually from right to left, left to right, front to back, without having to estimate what one can't see. I don't like it/isn't it controls, where there are equally valid arguments for either answer.

*International experience/selection?* ETOC 2012 on; WTOC 2017 on. I am lucky to be able to attend many of the overseas WREs, when they don't conflict too much with the rugby season.

*What have you put back into the sport?* As much time as I can, balancing other activities (it helps when TrailO is a priority event):: Planner/Mapper JK13 PreO; competing Team Manager ETOC 2016; Controller JK17 TempO; offsite Controller JK18 PreO; Planner/Organiser JK19 TrailO; Planner/Organiser BTOL PreO x2 Nov 2021. Controller various FootO events, up to SN Trophy 2023; Planner BOC 20009, British Sprints 2015.

*What training do you do?* 'Race to train': I seem to have relied on this athletically and it certainly applies to my TrailO.

*Do you compete in on-line TrailO event and, if so, please comment?* Not at all now. I tried a few at the start of Lockdown, but had screen failures and didn't like the 2-D perspective.

*What is the best thing about TrailO?* Brain-sapping, problem-solving concentration.

*What is the worst thing about TrailO?* Complaints – there tend to be too many. Unless there is a major hiccup, small differences of opinion should be considered to be just part of the competition, as they tend to be in FootO. And other sports, where there is the human factor e.g. in refereeing.

*TrailO ambition?* To have that faultless performance over two days, just once (for now!).

*Other activities/interests?* My sporting year is divided into 'seasons': Jan – skiing champs support; Feb-Apr – rugby refereeing; Mar-Oct – TrailO WREs; Apr-Aug – athletics national official; Sep-Nov – rugby refereeing; Nov-Dec – skiing instruction.

*What have you done that no one else is likely to/will have done?* We are all unique aren't we? The combination of my range of activities is quite rare, even in Scandinavia.

*Favourite music/book/film, etc?* 'Touching the Void', by Joe Simpson: this book about a 1985 mountaineering incident in the Peruvian Andes was recommended to me in the early 90s. There's nobody that I wouldn't recommend it to myself. A small 165-page paperback, it is a ready travel companion, particularly when the going may get tough. With oodles of luck, the human will can persevere over the most unimaginable physical circumstances.



# Terracina Orienteering Meeting

25 - 26 May 2024

Soon after the ETOC events in early May, **Charles Bromley Gardner** headed to Italy. Here is his report.

Two weeks after ETOC, the Italian PreO Champs were, understandably, not well attended by international competitors, in spite of including two WRE events. However the rare opportunity for a Mediterranean break in May was too good to miss. Two days of my first sightseeing in Rome were also on the agenda. Flights to Rome were not cheap, but train (when they ran on time) and bus transport was remarkably so (€8.10 to cover 120km).

We were promised karst rock features in a regional park. Not so obvious was that most, at least for the PreO, sat in vineyards. They were thus hard to see, as they were rarely higher than the vines. One magnificent example, The Cathedral, did however provide a great backdrop to the prize-giving ceremony. Also notable was an overseas Planner – Krešo Keresteš from Slovenia.

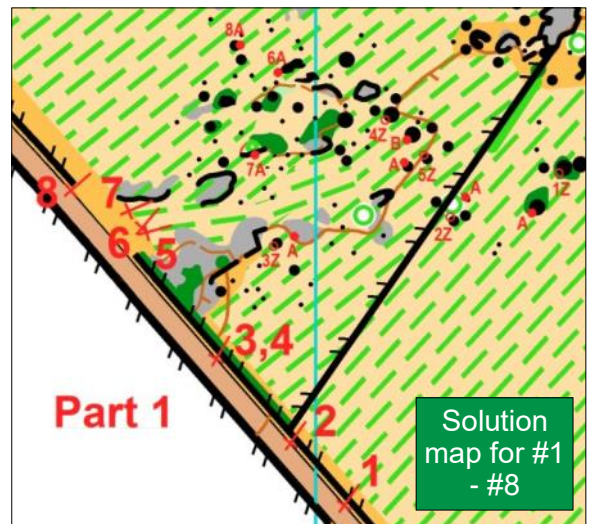
The start of Saturday's TempO had been delayed (in Bulletin 3 on Friday evening - first lesson was to seek it out so as not to wait anxiously for the welcome free shuttle service) for an hour until 4pm (I never found out why). At 4.10 pm the heavens opened with a localised thunderstorm. After a short suspension, the event resumed at about 4.30pm, only for the deluge to restart just as the 11th starter (me) headed off on the 300m walk to the first station. Sheltering under a small tree, which merely delayed getting totally soaked from tip to toe and everywhere in between, after 30 minutes of this, with no prospect of a let up in the downpour, organisers and competitors retreated back to the indoor event centre, where the decision was made to cancel the event. Not only were volunteer marshals soaked, and some shelters ruined, but the ground had also flooded in places, both in the viewing station and changing the map. No results were declared, although the first competitor did complete the 6 stations. This was not the Italian TempO Champs, being held on a different weekend.

Surprisingly both the ground and competitors had dried out by the following morning (well, my walking boots took another day to do so, but I had brought trainers for beach runs). The 29 PreO controls were distributed over 3 legs, on tiny map extracts, radiating from the same start area as Saturday's TempO (model TempO and PreO controls were also fitted in). One control was removed before the event, due to an increased vegetation height, and one received a complaint about the mapping: gaps between symbols were not compliant and indeed at this site the printing may not have been good enough.

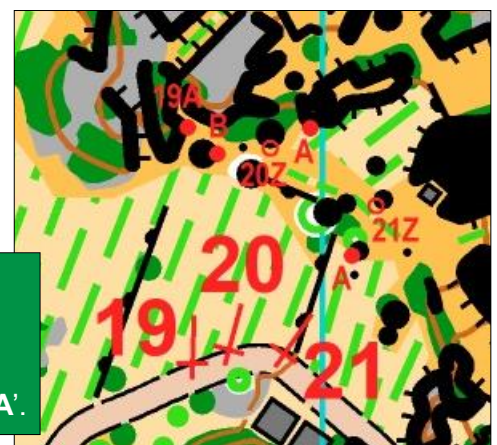
During the event I learnt that the rock pillar control description was used when rock was drawn to scale, including their extent below 0.5m high: controls towards the end (#27-29), which I correctly identified, exemplified this. However I (re-)learnt afterwards that boulder symbols do not show the extent of the boulder, so cannot be used to determine edge alignment: a flag 'behind' the map symbol at #19 did not have to be hidden behind it on the



Charles at the viewing point for #5 and #6



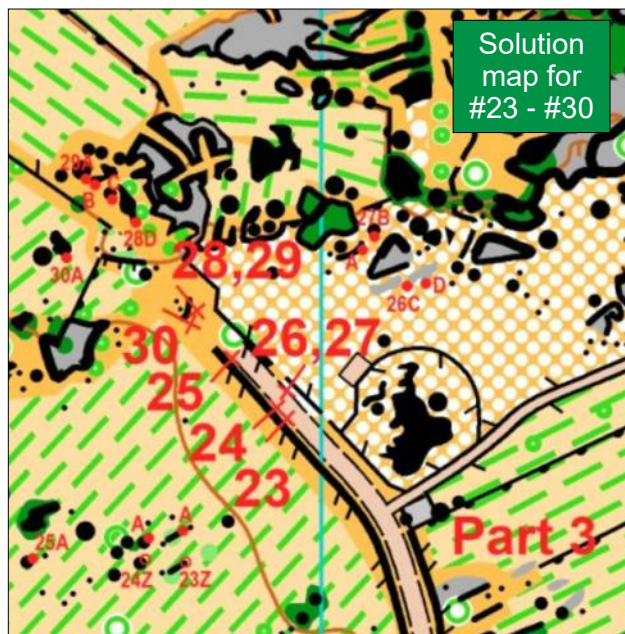
**Control 19:** The control circle was on the NE corner of the crag. There were 2 kites to consider (A and B). The size of the boulder symbol (with the B kite) suggests that the crag corner might not be visible from the viewing point. However, the symbol is of a standard size and exaggerates the size of boulder. The correct answer was 'A'.



ground. Still, after two other errors at #2 & 11, which were the most testing controls (25% & 57% correct), I finished 9th with 24 out of 27 (no-one got 100%) with 871 WRE points. Libor Forst (wrong #29) in first place just beat his son Albert (wrong #2) by one Timed Control mistake.

There was a concurrent FootO event, using an order different map. About 10 TrailO competitors ran after the PreO: spiked shoes were recommended in Bulletin 3, and I have yet to experience a flat foot orienteering event in Italian countryside. The difference in the acceptance of standards between WRE TrailO and local FootO was patent: poorer mapping, and a misplaced control did not raise significant concern. I was pleasantly surprised to win M45 (as a M64), 90 secs ahead of Remo Madella in 2nd, whilst Ralph Korner (M44) also collected local biscuits for winning Men's Open.

Not to be forgotten was the traditional Italian Photo-O around the streets and passageways of the ancient town, providing a stimulating (and not straightforward) evening's excursion.



PreO	Name	Pts	Time (secs)
1	Libor Frost (CZE)	26	43
9	Charles Bromley Gardner	24	105



**TempO : Cancelled [6 stations x 5 tasks]**  
**PreO : 29 controls (2 voided), 500m, 102 mins Open / 112 mins P Class, Timed Controls: 2 stations x 3 tasks**

An event publicity photo of some kites with the magnificent 'The Cathedral' rock formation in the background.

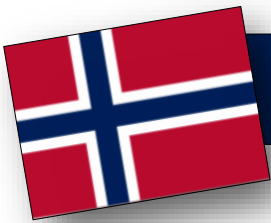
## Newsletter Distribution

This Newsletter can be downloaded from the British TrailO website and an announcement is made on the Facebook page and to the international 'Bearing towards the C-Flag' Facebook group.

However, if you sign up to a dedicated distribution list, you can also have a pdf copy delivered direct to your email inbox on publication. To have your name added to the list, you can complete and submit a simple Google Form. The list is only used for distributing pdf copies of the Newsletter on publication. Please use the form so that you are ready for the next issue.

[Google Form Link](#)





# Norwegian TrailO Festival 2024

8 - 9 June 2024

*David Jukes (BKO) reports on this weekend:*

This was one of those weekends involving a Friday night arrival at a European airport (in this case, Oslo), a Saturday event, a Sunday event and then a dash back to the airport for a Sunday evening flight back to the UK and a late night return home. Given good luck with the flights, everything can be made to work. And with good luck with the weather, the weekend can be vary enjoyable - particularly when travelling with a group of like-minded enthusiasts. For complete satisfaction, one can hope for some good results - although I find this is not often included!

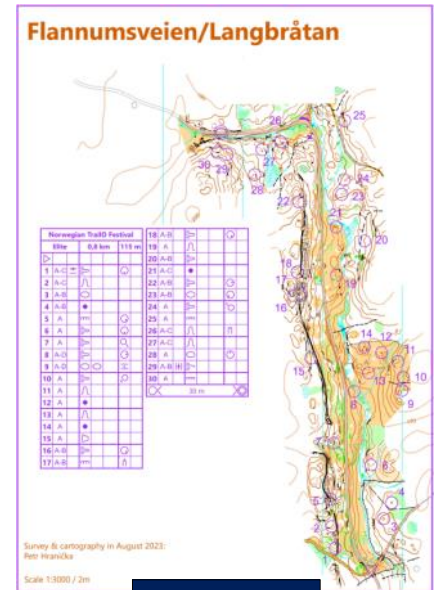
This Norwegian Festival provided two PreO World Ranking Events.

**Day 1**, to the west of Oslo, had a course on a track through an active forest with complex terrain. The first southern part had controls set out over an area of cleared land. Further on, there were areas of forest with controls much harder to see and trickier decisions. For the first 20 controls, the % correct averaged 82%, for the last 9, it averaged 59%.

The single timed control proved disastrous for me. What to do when the map shows a distinct small building that you simply can not see in the terrain in front of you? Clearly it must exist since the Event Advisor would have checked to ensure a fair competition. More experienced competitors, such as John Kewley, shifted their heads from side to side and spotted it hidden behind a large tree. Perhaps, I thought, the first map was intended to be misleading and I was actually sitting off-centre. I gave an answer and turned over - the hut was still on the map! It must be there but I simply could not see it. I ended up with all four answers being wrong! At least, in TempO, a quick 'Z' might be correct - but not at a PreO timed control.

I have chosen two controls to describe in a bit more detail - see the box below.

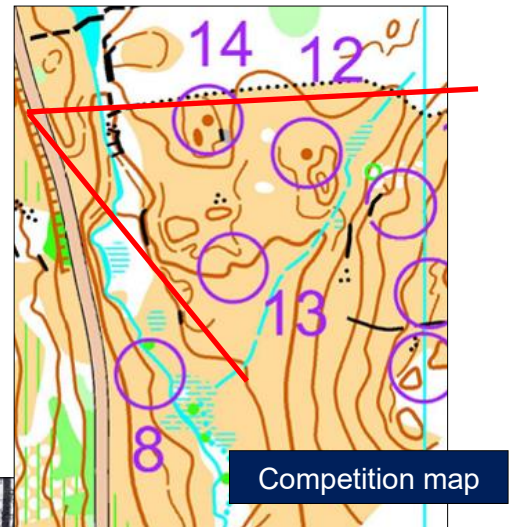
For **Day 2**, we moved to a location SE of Oslo. This was very different terrain, much flatter with some



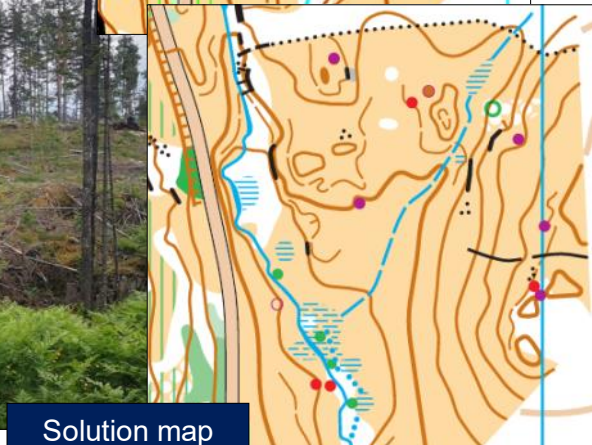
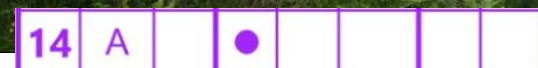
Day 1 map

From the first half of the Day 1 course:

- **Control 8:** A parallel feature problem leading to a silly mistake. Two kites (shown by red dots on the solution map) were positioned on a spur just above the stream. It looked correct with the marshes and vegetation appearing to fit. Which kite was correct? However it was the wrong spur! I was not the only one to miss this - 76% gave the correct answer, 'Z'.
- **Control 14:** The kite is indicated by the arrow in the photo; the red lines on the map show the view. Perhaps one of the easier controls although care was needed to determine if the kite was on the correct knoll and not on the top of the small crag. The solution was 'A' - 93% of competitors said this.



Competition map



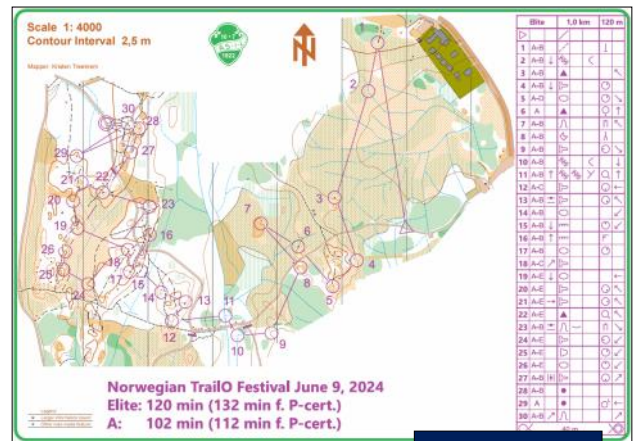
Solution map

large areas of marsh newly planted with some very young trees. The first two controls were very long distance - well over 300m from the viewing track. However, by walking up and down the track (for about 120m) it was possible to get a good idea of their location by seeing how they appeared to move relative to the background.

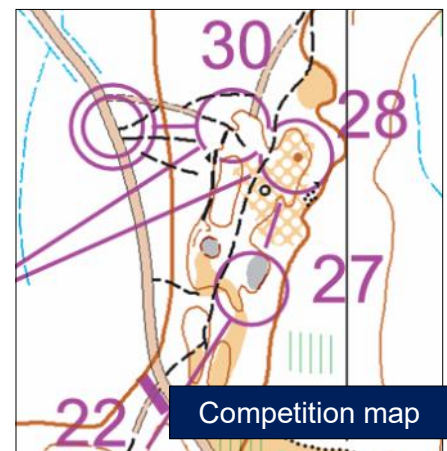
After nine controls which used this first large open area, the track moved through an area of woodland with mostly quite good visibility. Mostly quite clear choices although one ditch junction (#11) was definitely tricky and, with only 59% correct, was one of the toughest on the course.

There followed another smaller area of rough open before a final section of woodland. Just a short walk beyond the finish was the single timed control (TC) which, given my Day 1 performance, I was not looking forward to. However, I needn't have worried as, like the course itself, the controls were more easily identified - 100% got the second control at the TC correct. Overall, for the 30 PreO controls, the percentage correct was 82% compared to 75% for Day 1.

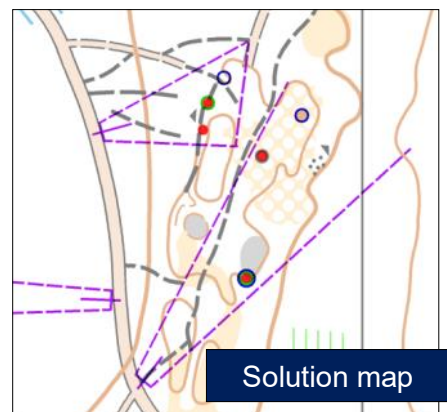
Successfully solving **Control 28** gave me the most pleasure, particularly as, at 67%, it was one of the lowest percentage correct controls. From the viewing point to the south, there were two kites, one for Control 27 (B) and one for Control 28 (A) [see maps right]. 27 could be solved by looking at the shape of the terrain from close to the viewing point itself. The kite for 28 was however further away and it was harder to identify its precise location. I walked up to close to the finish - the kite was however not visible over the hill. I spotted a tree which was almost due east of the finish and tried to keep my eye on it as I walked back to the viewing point but lost sight of it. However, from the viewing point I identified a distinctive tree close to the kite and then walked back towards the finish. This time it became clear - the distinctive tree was too far south and the kite had to be wrong.



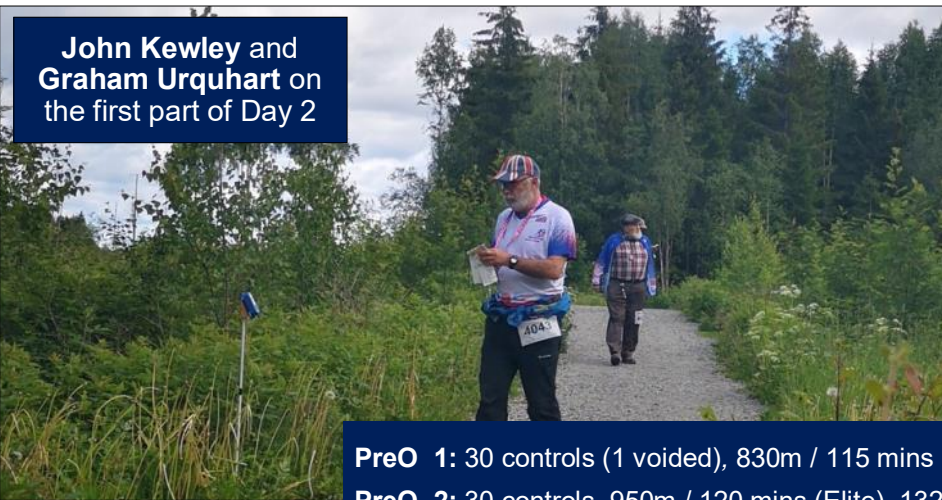
Day 2 map



Competition map



Solution map



**PreO 1:** 30 controls (1 voided), 830m / 115 mins / 1 TC with 4 tasks  
**PreO 2:** 30 controls, 950m / 120 mins (Elite), 132 mins (P Class) / 1 TC with 4 tasks

PreO 1	Name	Pts	Time (secs)
1	Anders Höjje (SWE)	29	30
10	John Kewley	25	28
41	David Jukes	22	297
43	Wang Ki Yuen	21	33
50	Graham Urquhart	20	147
58	Charles Bromley Gardner	18	71
70	Elizabeth Urquhart	13	158

PreO 2	Name	Pts	Time (secs)
1	Anders Höjje (SWE)	30	14
13	Charles Bromley Gardner	28	21
18	David Jukes	28	36
36	John Kewley	26	80
37	Wang Ki Yuen	26	93
58	Graham Urquhart	22	90
67	Elizabeth Urquhart	16	180

## TrailO at the O-Ringen

Smalandskusten, Southern Sweden 22 - 27 July 2024



The 5-day Swedish O-Ringen is well-known amongst 'Foot' Orienteers as an annual event with competitor numbers reaching up to 20,000. Less well known is that, alongside the FootO event, is a 5-day TrailO competition. Here **Wang Ki Yuen (John)** (MDOC) reports on his time at the TrailO at this year's event:

There were many reasons for me to attend the O-Ringen in Sweden this year. One was to have a reunion with the Hong Kong orienteers. Knowing that the group that I was with had people who are truly interested in trail-O, I felt that I should join with them to not only do the O-Ringen foot-O but also the trail-O. After all, people from Hong Kong flew for more than 10 hours to reach Sweden to experience intricate contour details, and they would like to do as many things in O-Ringen as possible.

Planning to attend both foot-O and trail-O in O-Ringen this year did create some logistic issues. When I did the O-Ringen last time in 2018, also my first O-Ringen, the foot-O was in the morning, and the trail-O was in the afternoon. Recently, however, both foot-O and trail-O have been held in the mornings. Our group did have someone who was experienced in O-Ringen schedules in the recent years. He knew that we could not change much on the foot-O schedule, but we could discuss with the trail-O officials on getting more flexibility on start times. The trail-O organisers were quite forgiving on our tight schedule, and allowed us to start even though we might be five minutes late.

For this year, Stage 3 was a Temp-O in a city park, the other four stages were Pre-O.

### Swedish Rules of Zero Tolerance

According to the 2024 O-Ringen Programme Booklet, we knew that the competition would follow the Swedish Orienteering Federation Rules, which were possibly different from the IOF trail-O rules. We also knew that the trail-O competition maps were mostly an enlarged version from 1:15,000. I initially did not take in the information much, but these turned out to be important when answering the problems in the Pre-O competitions.

One lesson that I learned from the **Day 1** Pre-O was that the locations of the boulders may not be very accurate, probably because the 1:4,000 map was enlarged from 1:15,000. In **Control 1**, it was supposedly an easy problem, where one just needs to see that the flag is on the high point inside the wood, in order to give the "A" answer. However, I wanted to confirm the location, and I used the boulders on the SW of the road and took a rough bearing to the mapped knoll. I found that the flag was quite far to the right. I suspected that there was a taller knoll that was invisible in the wood, and the flagged location was unmapped. Thus, I wrongly gave a "Z" answer. If I used the mindset of finding whether that knoll was the only visible one in this area, and not thought about the boulders, I would probably have answered "A".

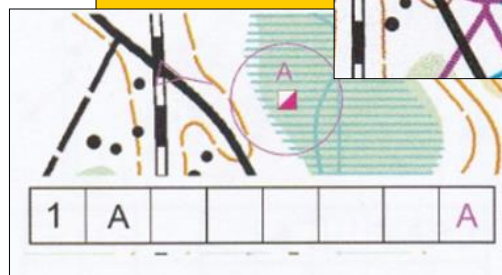
In fact, I noticed two boulders that seemed to be too far away from each other at **Control 10** during the competition. While I answered "Z" correctly, I thought the "Z" boulder and "B" boulder were almost next to each other. The way these two boulders were mapped suggested separation of at least 8 metres.

Based on that experience, I adjusted my expectations for the mapping for **Day 2**. The lesson for Day 2 was that Swedish rules for zero tolerance differ from the latest zero tolerance rule in accordance with IOF. The key part of the current IOF zero tolerance rules is the 4

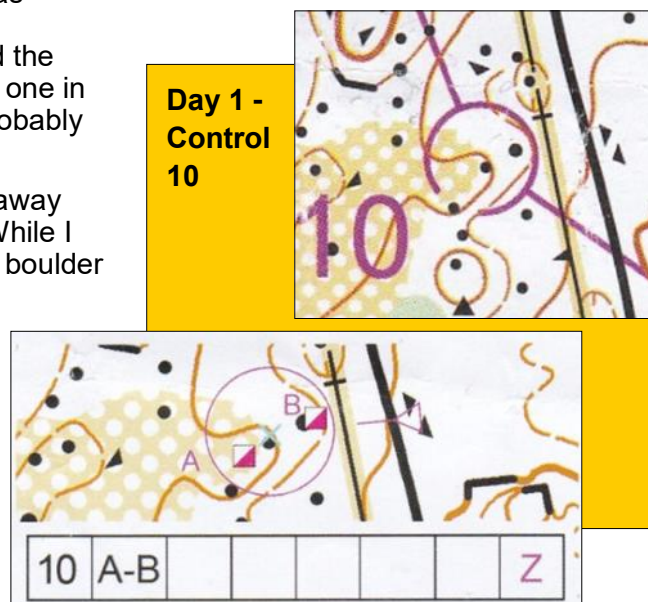


There was a filming team on Stage 1 that interviewed one of our Hong Kong participant in trail-O, resulting in a video on YouTube: [Etapp 1 O-Ringen Smalandskusten 2024](#)

### Day 1 - Control 1



### Day 1 - Control 10



metre rule -- if the answer is "Z", then no flags are less than 4 metres from the circled location.

However, in **Control 7** of Day 2, I found that the IOF rule was certainly not followed. I noticed the control description was boulder, west side, but the "C" flag was on the east side. This reminded me the previous IOF zero tolerance guidance, where there could be side problems, and the tolerance was 45 degrees for Pre-O. This suggests that the Swedish rules on zero tolerance continue to be based on the previous IOF guidance. Side problems also occurred at Control 22 of Day 2 and Control 17 of Day 4.

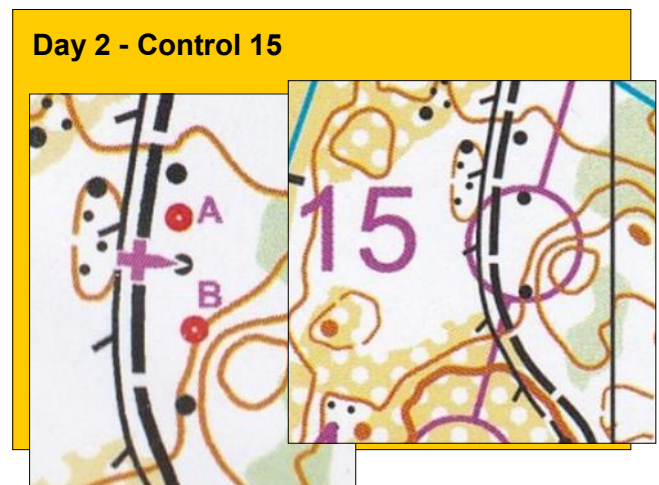
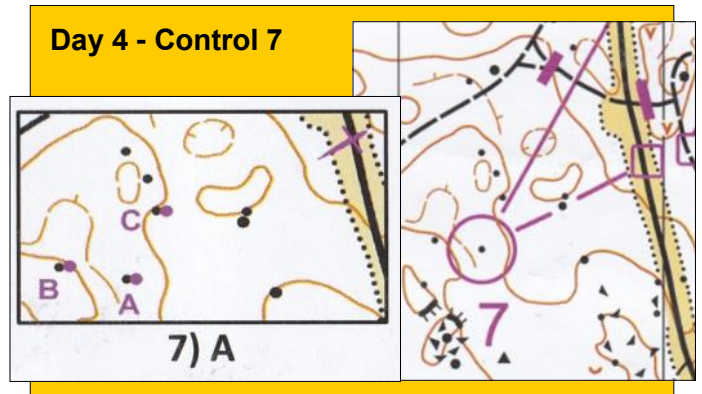
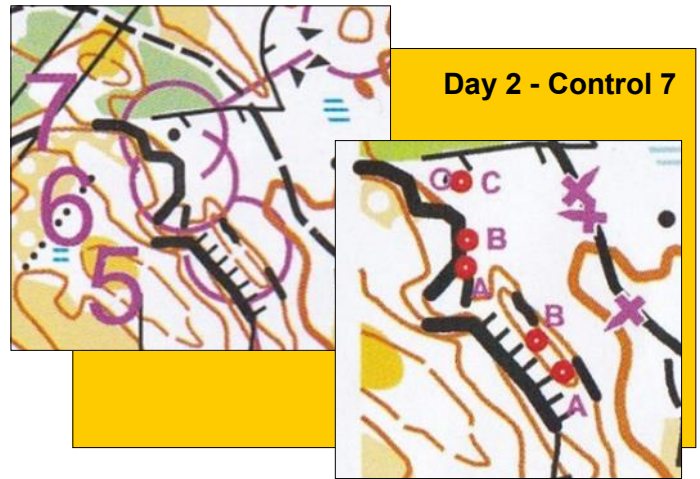
At **Control 7** of **Day 4**, while I could see that the "A" flag was on the right boulder, I found the flag seemed to be on the north side of the boulder, while the control description said the east side. I gave a "Z" answer based on my understanding of the Swedish zero tolerance, but the solution map showed that the "A" flag was on the east side. Someone made a complaint on this, and this Control was eventually voided due to it being on the wrong side.

Another type of Swedish zero tolerance rule that made me think about the older style was that instead of a minimum distance error for a zero, the term "substantial distance" seems to be used to describe a zero answer. While it is easier to introduce to the trail-O beginners that zero answers are supposedly clear, I think sometimes the word "substantial" makes enforcing the rules somewhat subjective.

The example here is **Control 15** of **Day 2**. The control description was "between two boulders". I could see from the path that flag "A" was wrong and that flag "B" was the one to consider. I noticed that flag "B" was slightly behind the imaginary line between the two boulders, by perhaps about 1 metre. As most trail-O participants know, a "between" is not only at the mid-point of two objects, but also on the imaginary line between the two objects. I was considering whether that 1 metre was "substantial" enough to trigger a zero. If I use the IOF zero tolerance, I cannot zero it. Therefore, I did not zero it but got it wrong.

After Day 2, it was not only me but also the others from Hong Kong who found that the zero tolerance was really small. I guess the zero tolerance in Swedish rule was on a relative basis. If the flags were closer to the path, the zero tolerance would be smaller, and vice versa.

In **Day 5**, I could sense how the famous Swedish trail-O competitor, Martin Fredholm, talked about zero tolerance when performing post-competition analysis for **Control 4**. While the official answer was "B", some competitors, including Martin and me, thought that the answer should be "Z" because the "B" flag was placed higher. The evidence was that the "B" flag was between the contour hill and the form line hill, and the flag should be above the re-entrant contour line. On the course, I at first said the "B" flag was certainly more than 4 metres from the circled location by pace count. Martin quickly corrected me that the Swedish zero tolerance rule does not have a set distance tolerance. I also quickly change my explanation in the "substantial" philosophy -- on the relative contour and form line locations.

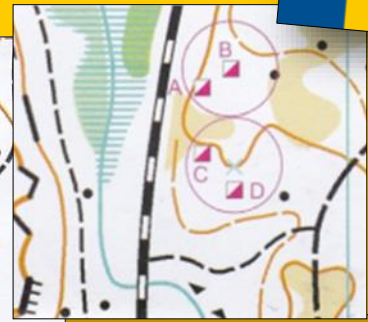


# My Favourite O-Ringen Control Problems



## PreO: Day 1 - Controls 7 and 8

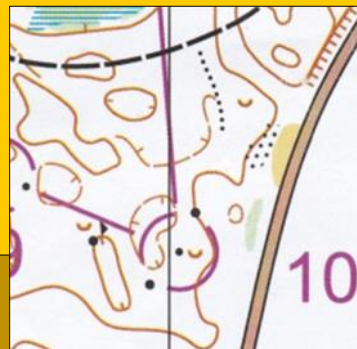
You can only move along the path south and west of the two purple lines. Control Point (CP) 8 was easier. "A" flag was clearly visible at the west boulder. I just need to show that "B" is truly the middle boulder, and not the east boulder. For CP 7, I needed to decide whether "D" was too low. When we reviewed the flags after the competition, we discussed how to decide "D" was too low. One suggestion was to use "A", which has the similar elevation as CP7. Yet, "D" was lower than "A" in the field, so "D" was too low.



7	A-D			Z
8	A-D			B

## PreO: Day 4 - Control 10

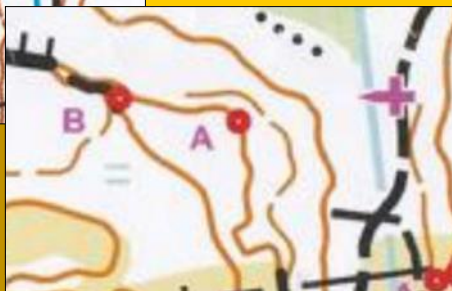
After reviewing in the field, I was still wondering how I could find that "B" was next to a boulder, and not at the spur of the form line depression. "A" boulder was clearly visible. For "B", I could barely see a rocky surface behind "A". However, I could not be 100% confident that the rocky surface was top of the mapped boulder or the spur, and I could not find the evidence. This CP took me too much time. I should have just made a guess and moved on.



10) B



## PreO: Day 5 - Control 6



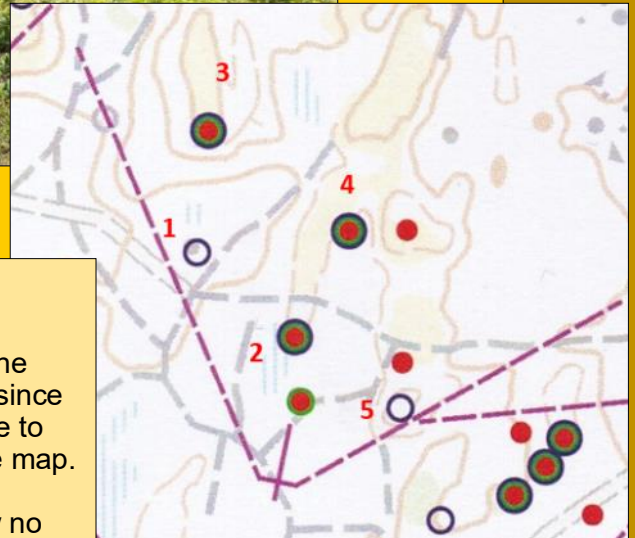
The control description was "cliff, south part". I took one step back at the trail, and clearly saw the form line and the cliff that bent south. However, I thought "B" was put at a level slightly higher than the path, but the circle seemed to be one contour line higher. I incorrectly put a "Z" on this because I thought B was too low. My guess was that the lower contour line at the cliff should bend with the cliff and turn east at the end of the cliff. In this map, the lower contour took the hypotenuse path at the corner of the cliff.



## PreO: Day 5 - Control 22

I actually like this problem in that the successful finding of the form-line hill is the clue to solve this problem. The north path pointed to the form-line hill, and the high point was clear of trees. This "A" flag problem had the flag not far from the left side of the hill, which also had a slight high point next to it. I should have zeroed this flag because according to the map, the knoll and the form-line hill are at least 8 metres apart. Yet, flag "A" and the hill were less than this distance apart. In solving this control, I got the form-line hill, but lost on the distance part.



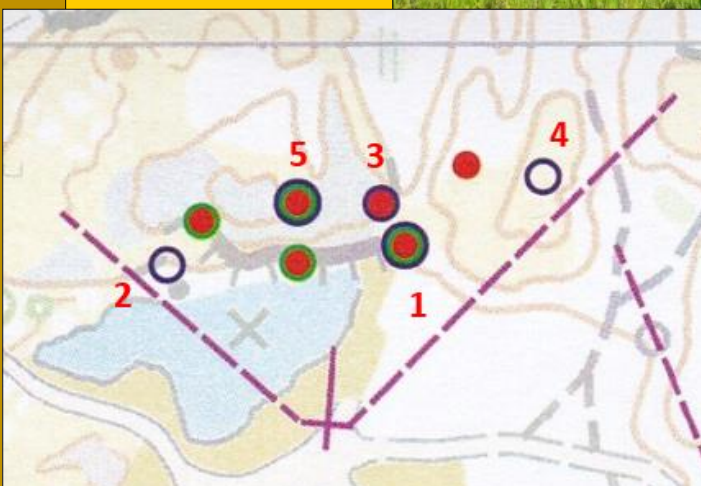


**TempO: Day 3 - Station 4**

63 seconds total, 5/5 correct

Z. This one took me a long time. I know only C is next to the boulder. However, the wider path symbol was suspicious, since all paths around me looked similar. I needed some courage to answer Z because I was not sure where 1 is actually on the map.  
 B. I began to match the map with the surrounding.  
 A. I hesitated a bit because this flag is far. However, I saw no tricky area here.  
 D. I needed some time to decide whether it is D or E  
 Z. This one was fast. F is on the knoll next to the requested hill.

**TempO: Day 3 - Station 5**



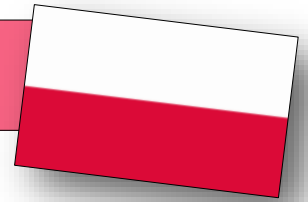
26 seconds total, 5/5 correct

Easiest of all the 6 stations. Both zeros were too far on one side. The re-entrants for flag A and E helped me to lock my focus on the map quickly.

Correct sequence: E - Z - D - Z - C

# Grand Prix Pomerania

Hel, Gdansk, Poland: 23 - 25 August 2024

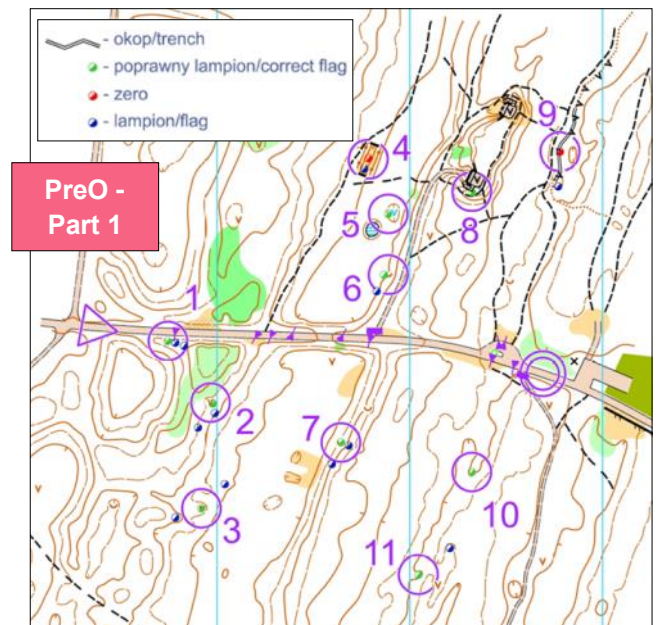


The Bank Holiday weekend at the end of August has traditionally seen TrailO competitors at the White Rose Weekend in Yorkshire. However, there was no White Rose this year so alternatives had to be considered. For **Michael Tsang (SLOW)** and **Charles Bromley Gardner (BAOC)**, a trip to Poland was their choice. Here Charles reports on the activities over a long weekend.

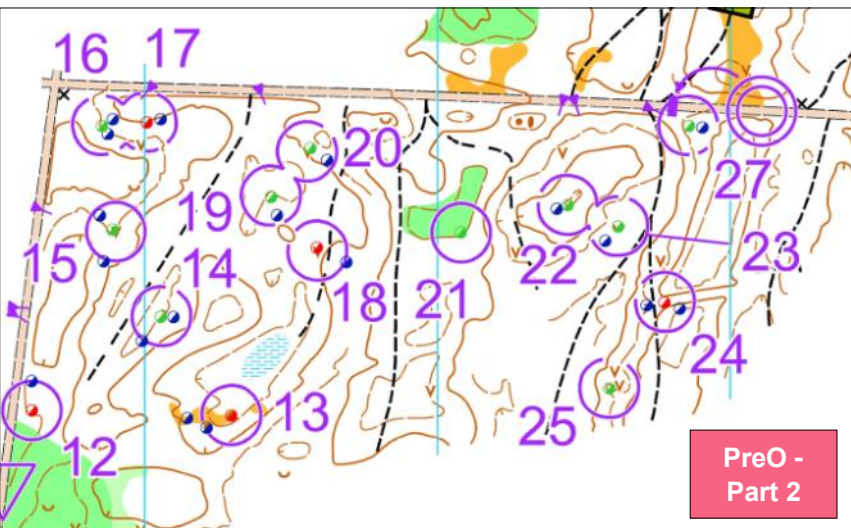
Having swum in the Mediterranean in May, why not swim in the Baltic in August? The Polish TrailO Championships on the Hel peninsula provided that opportunity, using the coastal wooded sand-dunes alongside a 3-day FootO event as the Grand Prix Pomerania. Flights to Gdansk, a short rail journey and a direct ferry crossing completed an easy day's journey, rounded off by an expensive hotel stay to make a holiday of it, even if I avoided the D Day Re-enactment festival. Michael Tsang stayed in a hostel in Gdynia and chose the much longer but much cheaper daily train or bus journey along the, I'm sure scenic, peninsula.

The event kicked off with the Polish Championships relay for one Para and 26 ambulant teams (7x U15, 2x U20), with 8 guest teams: 15 PreO controls along a 170m track, each team member solving 10 controls, and one TempO station. There was going to be a second TempO station, for the Polish teams, but Krystian had quickly realised that the number of teams would overwhelm his ability to complete the event within a reasonable time. As it was, the third leg competitors were queuing at the only TempO station for 45+ minutes – the 40 mins allowed for each PreO leg was far too long, so competitors finished more quickly than could filter through the TempO station. The 1m contour interval (this event only) with form lines contributed to most errors, particularly on the top of ridges. Guest team results were not openly available, as old pin-punching was used, and the one-man organisation (hence no photos) prioritised rightly the Polish teams.

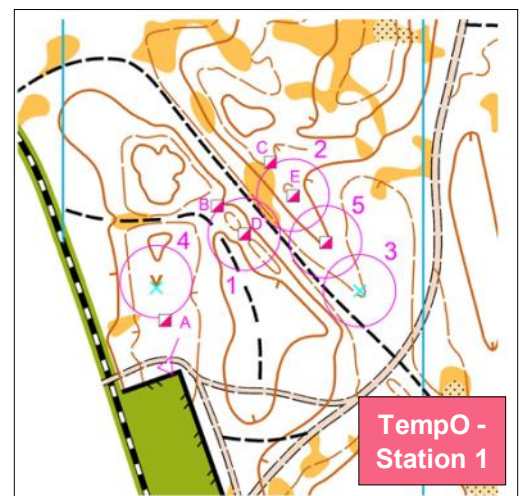
The PreO was in two parts: the first was rather vague contouring at 2m, for which it seems that Petteri Hakala took over the mapping and planning. I made 3 mistakes in this section of 11 controls: #2 was only solved by 32% of competitors, #3 by 56%. Possibly I was over-specific at #10, but even returning on Monday I felt that the flag was a good 5m away from the mapped location, on an unmapped spur extension to the west (and I have the photos to show (too late)!). But 81% disagreed with me on the day. The second part was on a more detailed area with controls more closely sited. Another two errors, #14 assessing the wrong amount of dead ground, #17 just not being attentive enough. Six competitors made only one mistake – each one at a different



PreO - Part 1



PreO - Part 2



TempO - Station 1

C1	1.1 A-F	○	○	≡	D
	1.2 A-F	○		⊙	E
	1.3 A-F	⌒			Z
	1.4 A-F	V		⊙	Z
	1.5 A-F	⌒			F

control (and only one of my errors).

I had an early start on the TempO, a 2km walk from my hotel to make up for the previous short distances. Good visibility, vegetation changes mainly from woods to clearing to sandy areas. I started poorly (3 wrong at the first station, of which I definitely knew two were), followed by, seemingly, getting worse from 36th place (out of 111). Actually I was not going too badly: even being 75th on the 4th Station only dropped me 8 places to 31st, and I finished on a high with a full house in 7th place on the 7th Station for 19th overall. The catch here was 7.4; the rest were comparatively straightforward and the obvious quick answer was **F**. But close scrutiny of the map showed that the site was on the other side of a ridge, so invisible, and (if used) that the control description spur was the north-facing one, not the high ground on which the flag was placed. It was not easy to visually distinguish the lone tree.

5 of my 11 errors were incorrect Z choices (as usual); 2 were missing Zeroes and the other 4 were the wrong flag choice. Jan Furucz won by 53 seconds, only missing one answer (which I got right!). Three others made 3 errors and another nine 6 or less..

Astoundingly, I scored almost identical WRE points: 825 and 826!

It was interesting navigating the Polish-only website to find start times for the FootO, plus the Results (Wyniki). There was good liaison between both elements, so that I always had time between competitions, whether an early or late start. The events held on adjacent areas were well-separated; the FootO mapping left something to be desired deciphering vague paths/old trenches in places and variable vegetation. The Middle (? 42 mins) course on Day 3 required passing through Medium Green areas on all but two legs. After learning that the Polish start is marked with a physical "START" banner, not an O flag, there was a lot of fun to be had, finishing in the top half of each result.

**TempO - Station 7**

<b>C7</b>	7.1 A-F	○		⊙	<b>E</b>
	7.2 A-F	○		⊙	<b>C</b>
	7.3 A-F	↙		⊙	<b>A</b>
	7.4 A-F	⌋			<b>Z</b>
	7.5 A-F	⌋	⊙	⊙	<b>D</b>

TempO	Name	Time (s)	Penalties (s)	Total
1	Ján Furucz (SVK)	287	30	317
19	Charles Bromley	338	330	668
72	Michael Chun Chi	359	660	1019

PreO	Name	Pts	Time (secs)
1	Arno Grønhojd (NOR)	26	35
23	Charles Bromley Gardner	22	120
40	Michael Chun Chi Tsang	20	280

**PreO** : 27 controls, 520m, 96 mins Open / 102 mins P Class, Timed Controls: 2 stations x 3 tasks  
**TempO** : 7 stations x 5 tasks

### Supporting TrailO Leaflets

Have you wondered what is involved in putting on a TrailO event? Does the idea seem too difficult? With limited events, it can be difficult to work out what to do – but without people trying in the first place, the number of events remains limited. One way to solve this conundrum is to provide better advice and guidance.

And this is why there are some new 'Supporting TrailO' leaflets now available on the TrailO section of the British Orienteering website. Experienced TrailO competitor, **Clive Allen**, has redrafted some former guidance and fully updated it. There are now 4 leaflets providing many suggestions and they are illustrated with photos and images. These are designed primarily to support organisers and planners of foot orienteering events or training activities who may like to also offer some TrailO.



See - [Staging small TrailO events](#)

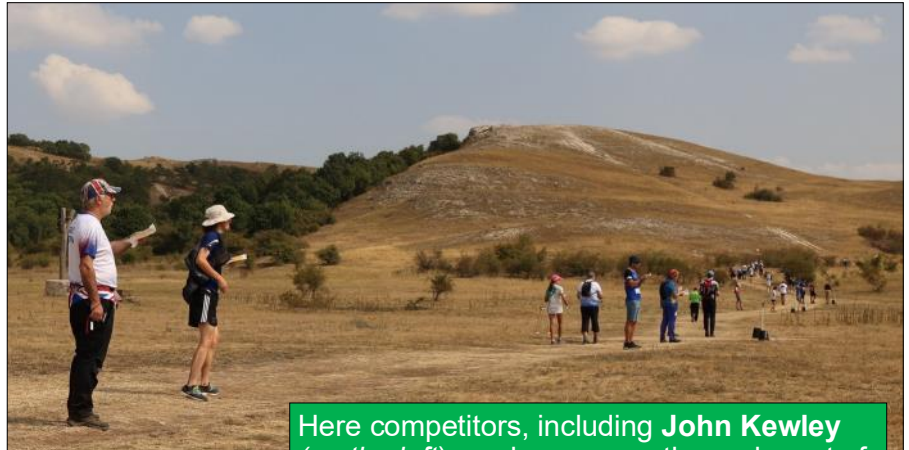
## PreWTOC 2025 Weekend

Hungary, 7 September 2024 / Slovakia, 8 September 2024



As is common practice, a country which is scheduled to host the World Championships attempts to give potential competitors a chance to experience the terrain at a 'PreWTOC' event. It is also a chance for the organising team to test their ideas and support systems in advance. With Slovakia and Hungary jointly staging WTOC 2025, they jointly provided a weekend of TrailO this September. On Saturday 7th September, the Hungarians provided a PreO event on open terrain to the north of Lake Balaton. For the Sunday, competitors were in the wooded Small Carpathian hills to the north of Bratislava in Slovakia.

A group of 7 competitors made the trip from Great Britain. After the rather dismal summer that we have had in the UK, it was a pleasure to have warm (and even hot!) and sunny conditions on both days - although there were a few showers around on Saturday, none were to be seen at the event. Being in open terrain with plenty of sun, it was good to see that the organisers on Saturday had laid on some bottled water at the Timed Controls (TCs), between the two parts of the PreO.



Here competitors, including **John Kewley** (on the left) can be seen on the early part of the course looking south towards the distant controls. (Photo: Pre-WTOC Officials)

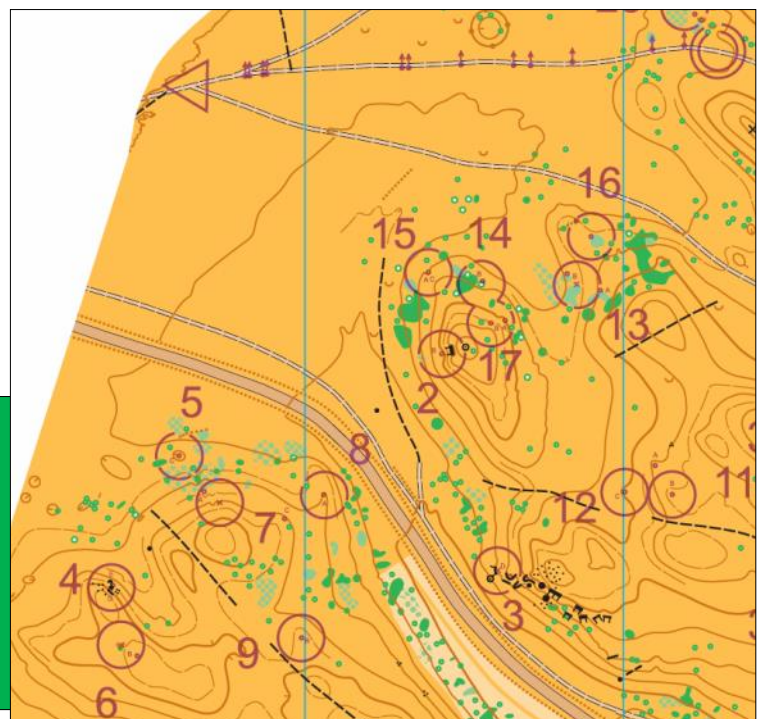
### Saturday's PreO

The PreO course was split into a first long section of 270m with 24 controls and a second very short section (just 30m) with a further 11 controls. The biggest issue was spotting the kites at some considerable distance from the track and ensuring that they were correctly identified from A-C or A-E. Due to the distance, four controls were subject to a 12m zero tolerance with a further 11 having 8m.

The two TCs were provided in the section between the two parts. Here the organisers had failed to appreciate that having two TCs adjacent to each other meant that competitors had to wait until both stations were clear (to avoid overhearing others' answers). As a result, during the event the queue of waiting competitors got gradually longer with waits of over 40 minutes for competitors towards the end of the event. This will be a lesson for the organisers! The challenges at these controls were surprisingly different from the PreO controls. Competitors sat on the opening to an old quarry which had an undulating base to it. Although, the kites were quite close, the different terrain to the first section of PreO was unexpected and it required a quick understanding of the shape of the terrain and to match it to the map.

The short final section of the PreO once again involved some long distance assessments - three of the 11 controls again had 12m zero tolerance and another three had 8m.

Three competitors, including Tom Dobra, correctly identified all 34 controls (one control, 5, was voided due to some problems with the



### Part of the Hungarian PreO map.

Controls 1 and 10, not shown on this extract were further down the valley containing the road going SE. Some of these distant kites (particularly 3-9) were quite difficult to spot and care was needed to ensure that all the relevant kites were identified.

vegetation around the site) and they were therefore separated by their times at the TCs. All three made one error at the two TCs - and they were all different errors. Antti Rusanen (FIN) was fastest taking just 45 seconds with Tom second in 53 seconds and Jonatán Furucz (SVK) third in 56 seconds - all with the addition of the 60 second penalty. An excellent result for Tom. It is interesting to note however that **Ben Kyd**, with 2 errors on the PreO course took just 19 seconds at the TCs and he got them all correct.

### Sunday's TempO

For the Sunday, we drove for over an hour north from the Slovak capital, Bratislava, into the wooded Little Carpathian hills. This was very different terrain! The main event was the World Ranking TempO competition. However, in addition there was a PreO Sprint and, based on the results of these two events, the organisers calculated results for a 'virtual' relay.

As can be seen in the examples below, the first six stations had competitors facing a succession of cliffs with varied mixtures of boulders, crags and spurs. All the maps were at just 1:2000 (enlarged from 1:4000) and interpreting the terrain and matching it to the map was a very different challenge to the Hungarian PreO. However, after 6 very similar stations, for stations 7 and 8, competitors faced the other direction and looked out at much flatter terrain with just a few scattered boulders and features close to the competitor. This was more my type of terrain and I was clear at both stations (although not in as quick a time as many others). Station 9 was similar to Stations 7 and 8 although it had 3 flags to the left of the track and 3 to the right making for a slightly tougher challenge.

Based on results, the skills needed for TempO certainly favour younger competitors. The top 5 in this competition range in age from just 16 (Jonatán Furucz (SVK)) to 31 (Maciej Urbaniak (POL)). The winner at this event was **Simone Frascaroli** (ITA) (aged 19) who made only 3 mistakes over the 9 stations. Second was **Ben Kyd** who, although quicker than Simone, made 6 mistakes.



The first timed control

1.1	A-F	↗	∩				E
1.2	A-F	↙	∩				A
1.3	A-F		V				D



Tom Dobra (left) with his prize for coming second in the PreO and Ben Kyd (right) with his prize for second in the TempO. (Photo: Pre-WTOC Officials)

Below: Some example TempO stations

1.1	A-F	∥	mm				Z
1.2	A-F	▲				○	A
1.3	A-F	∥	mm			○	Z
1.4	A-F	→	mm			∩	Z
1.5	A-F	←	mm				Z

5.1	A-F	∥	mm	<			Z
5.2	A-F	●				∩	B
5.3	A-F	→	mm			○	Z
5.4	A-F	∩				○	Z
5.5	A-F	←	mm	<			Z

7.1	A-F	▲				○	Z
7.2	A-F	↑	mm			○	Z
7.3	A-F	✓	▲			○	A
7.4	A-F	→	mm			○	D
7.5	A-F	▲				∩	F

## Sunday's PreO Sprint

Direct from the final TempO station, competitors went to the start of a PreO Sprint. This was another competition in which the controls were split into two different sections. The first, with 9 controls, had similar terrain to the preceding TempO - some crags to the left and some flatter terrain to the right. A second section, situated at a distance of nearly 1.5km from the first, was an old quarry with some young saplings growing in the broken ground. In both cases, the 'official' map was provided at 1:3000 scale but, alongside it, competitors were also given the map at 1:1500 scale. For part 2, the map was double sided showing 5 controls on one side and 6 on the back. As an extra complication, both parts had a very short 'one-way section' included to ensure some decisions had to be made whilst still a bit further away from the kites (for example, see 4 and 5 in the Part 1 map).

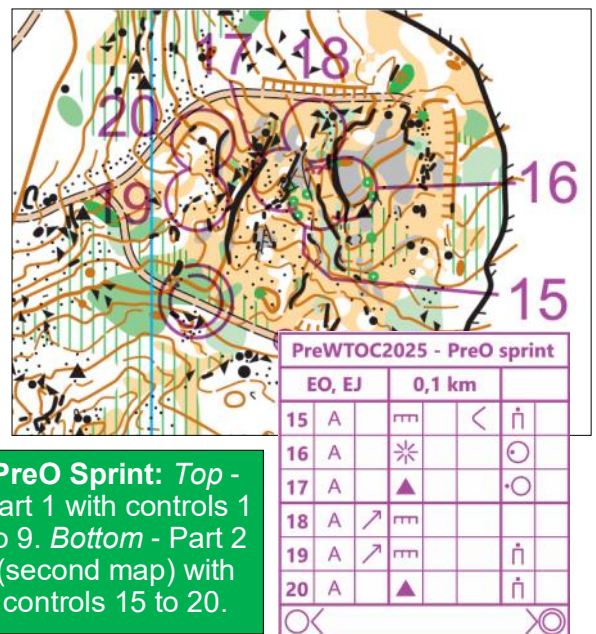
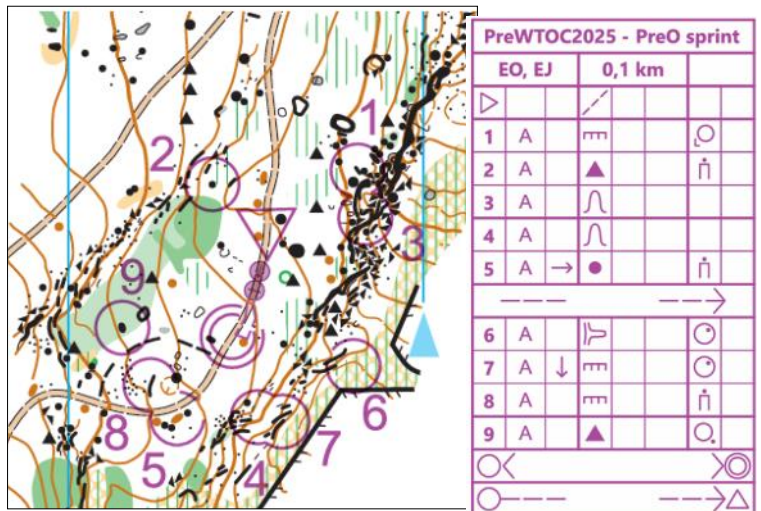
With a total permitted time of 23 minutes, it was necessary to split the time between the two parts. However, being PreO Sprint, rapid decisions were also needed so, for me, a target of less than a minute per control was appropriate. I am not sure what strategy Sami Hyvönen (FIN) will have adopted but he completed the course in less than 14 minutes and got them all correct. 7 competitors got all 20 controls correct, including Tom Dobra but, with a time of over 22 minutes, Tom was the slowest in this leading bunch.

### 'Virtual' Relay

As an additional element, the organisers used the results from the first 3 TempO stations and the PreO Sprint to generate unofficial national team results. The calculation gave the GBR1 team of John, Ben and Tom, fourth place, less than 2 minutes behind the leading team, Finland 1.

Overall, the weekend provided an intensive TrailO experience and suggests that competitors at the WTOC next year will get quite a varied set of events ranging from the open scrub land found in Hungary to the wooded crags and quarries in Slovakia. For those selected next year, it will have been useful experience.

**PreO:** 35 controls (1 voided), 114 mins / 300m (270 + 30) / 2 TCs with 3 tasks  
**TempO:** 9 stations x 5 tasks  
**PreO Sprint:** 20 controls, 23 minutes / 200m (100 + 100)



**PreO Sprint: Top - Part 1 with controls 1 to 9. Bottom - Part 2 (second map) with controls 15 to 20.**

PreO	Name	Pts	Time (sec)
1	Antti Rusanen (FIN)	34	105
2	Tom Dobra	34	113
7	John Kewley	33	56
15	Ben Kyd	32	19
45	David Jukes	28	112
47	Iain Phillips	28	161
74	Graham Urquhart	23	313
75	Elizabeth Urquhart	23	385

TempO	Name	Time	Penalties	Total
1	Simone Frascaroli (ITA)	287.5	90	377.5
10	Ben Kyd	247.5	180	427.5
22	Tom Dobra	563	120	683
42	John Kewley	472.5	390	862.5
47	David Jukes	580	330	910
56	Iain Phillips	447	540	987
74	Graham Urquhart	739.5	510	1249.5
90	Elizabeth Urquhart	789.5	960	1749.5

PreO Sprint	Name	Pts	Time (m:s)
1	Sami Hyvönen (FIN)	20	13:47
7	Tom Dobra	20	22:05
8	John Kewley	19	20:53
31	Ben Kyd	17	12:18
39	David Jukes	17	21:59
46	Iain Phillips	16	19:25
73	Graham Urquhart	13	20:29
91	Elizabeth Urquhart	7	25:57