

The Assessor Scheme

AIM

The aim of the Assessor Scheme is to improve the quality of orienteering events by providing a simple mechanism to assess and feed back the aspects of the event which were particularly successful, and those which could be improved.

METHOD

1. An "Assessor" is nominated for the event. The Assessor should be a controller of a sufficient level that they would be eligible to control the event. E.g. A Level B event should be assessed by a Level B or Level A controller. The Assessor should preferably be competing at the event themselves. The Assessor should be independent of the event as far as possible and should not be a member of the organising club.
2. The name of the Assessor is included in the Final Details and the Results.
3. The Assessor does not need to do any work before the event.
4. Competitors who wish to make a comment on any aspect of the event (positive or negative) should submit them to the Assessor within 3 days of the event.
5. The Assessor should prepare a **short** Assessment Report of the event based on the Assessor's personal experience of the event plus that received in submissions. The report should be completed no more than 7 days after the event.
6. The Assessment Report:
 - a. Should be no longer than about 1200 words (two sides of A4) and could be much shorter if there are few significant issues
 - b. Should include some positive aspects as well as any aspects that could be improved
 - c. Should be written in moderate language.
 - d. Need only comment on aspects that are noteworthy
 - e. May include comments on any aspect of the event
 - f. Should indicate whether the points mentioned are major ones, or minor issues that are unlikely to have adversely affected many competitors.
7. The Assessor must send the draft report to the event controller who will copy it to the organiser and planner. The controller may, within 3 days, suggest amendments or corrections to the report but it is at the discretion of the Assessor whether to include them.
8. No more than 14 days after the event, the Assessor must submit the final report for publication.

NOTES

When the scheme is established, competitor comments should be submitted through the British Orienteering website and the reports should be published there. In the pilot stage, the organiser should publish the Assessor's contact details in the Final Details and Results and also publish the Assessment Report.

I suggest that this scheme could apply to all events at Level C or above, but that is something to be discussed.

David Rosen 6 May 2012