



BMBO

Blood, Sweat and Gears

Newsletter of the National Governing Body for Mountain Bike Orienteering.

bmbo.org.uk

June 2021

Some of you may have been puzzled to have recently received the festive newsletter. Do not worry your Chairman hasn't 'fallen off his bike'. If you have been following earlier publications you will know that BMBO has recently moved its website to a new server. In the process some emails became stuck in the pipeline and have only just popped out of the website system. Pleased to say that the website is now back in order but if you do see or experience any problems, please let John Houlihan know so that he can put it right.

It is good to see that some events are starting to appear on the website calendar as restrictions due to COVID start to ease. There was always an element of uncertainty as to whether riders will still be cautious and stay away or rush to come back. From personal experience, organising the first round of the Allerdale Bike Challenge, it seems that a lot of you are keen to release all that pent up energy and start competing again. A record entry was seen. This all looks good for the future and hopefully will encourage hesitant organisers to once again think about staging events.

A new group has formed in the Lake District. I am often asked why there are no longer any events in the Lakes. So, I am pleased to announce that a group of local riders have got together and formed LakesMBO with the aim of reintroducing you to the delights of some classic Lakeland trails. There is series of 7 events through to the Autumn sponsored by local bike shop Wheelbase to wet your appetite. The series will include....

"After an absence in 2020 for the MBO Score British Championships due to the Covid pandemic, British Mountain Bike Orienteering, Lakes MBO and Wheelbase - The UK's Largest Cycle Store are proud to host the 2021 edition from Tebay in Cumbria. With 2 days of riding over a 5-hour day 1 course and 3-hour day 2 course, there will be plenty of variation in terrain and route choice for everyone setting off from the foot of the Howgill Fells. Situated just off the M6, for ease of access, Tebay is an old village within the historic borders of Westmorland and is a perfect venue with plenty of tracks and quiet lanes to test your fitness and navigation skills." Thanks to Ben Martin.

The NYMBO series kicked off last weekend with an event at Markington. The first couple of events will be using Maprun6 before returning to full SI events later in the year.

Black Mountains MBO have also been experimenting with phone-based Apps and are part way through a series in South Wales using iOrienteering. Contact Sion James for more info.

The BMBO committee unanimously agreed that there will not be a National League this year 20/21. We are already halfway through the year before things have started up again, there is very much a bias to the North with the events that are on the calendar, which is unfair on those in the South, and government advice is still to reduce unnecessary travel. With these things in mind the committee have decided that it is best to wait and start off with a brand new 2022 League in November as normal.

Lastly, Martyn Bevan is standing down as chairman of the MidlandsMBO group. Martyn was one of the instigators behind the revival of MMBO Score in the Midlands. Since that time, he has served the group well as chairman and contributed to a successful series in the Midlands which has attracted riders from all over the country. He has been a friend and supporter of BMBO which has benefitted from his input. He will not be

'missed' as I am sure we will still see him taking part in future events but BMBO would like to thank him for all of the time and effort that he has willingly given. Thank you Martyn.

We all look forward to normality returning. The opportunity to compete and meet old friends cannot come too soon.

Take care and hopefully see you out on a trail somewhere soon.

Tony Brand-Barker BMBO Chairman.

Keep up to date with by logging on to the BMBO website and forum <http://www.bmbo.org.uk>

Newsletter contributions to newsletter@bmbo.org.uk