

## MILITARY LEAGUE NORTH (MLN) START OF SEASON MEETING – 26 SEP 10

1. **Intro.** The MLN meeting took place at Warcop Camp on 26 Sep 10 ahead of the first event of the season. The aim was to kick off the season, provide an update on the rules and refine the event forecast. This note outlines key points for all units.

### 2. **MLN Rules.**

a. **British Orienteering (BO) Registration.** In order to allow civilians to compete, MLN events must be registered with BO; in outline, this brings the following requirements:

- Completion of a BO risk assessment, signed by a BO controller or BO Coach.
- Obtaining the names and addresses of all non-BO civilians who run.
- Making a list of all helpers who do not run
- Retaining a full set of results.

The MLN Rules will now be revised to incorporate the full military and civilian requirements. The default position is that all MLN events will be registered. The provision of first aid also needs to be clarified. **If in doubt on any matter, then organisers must contact the Secretary for advice and direction as required.**

b. **MLN Courses.** Following advice and discussion with the AOA, each Cross Country event will routinely have 3 courses:

A Course (Brown/Blue)	TD5	EWT 50-60 mins	Max 100 pts
B Course (Green/Light Green)	TD4	EWT 40-50 mins	Max 75 pts
C Course (Red/Long Orange)	TD3	EWT 35-40 mins	Max 50 pts

If a 4<sup>th</sup> course is laid on, then the organiser should consult with the President and/or Secretary to confirm where the additional course “fits in” and the scoring system.

c. **Score Events.** Score courses are simple, resource efficient events. However, as highlighted in the MLN Rules, care must be taken to ensure that it should not be possible (or only just possible) for a competitor to get all the controls in the allocated time, usually 60 mins. Where necessary, the allocated time can be reduced to 50 or 45 mins (45 mins being the default minimum) or the format altered accordingly. If in doubt, consult the President and/or Secretary.

3. **Event Organisation.** The nature of MLN is such that events have to be organised and run with minimum overheads and fuss. That said, events must comply with mandatory BO and AOA requirements, notably in the areas of health and safety, and endeavour to meet the course standards outlined above within the constraints of the event areas and the qualifications and experience of organisers and planners. Some additional guidance:

a. Where organisational resources are taut, experienced/senior competitors are asked to assist units on the day e.g. smoothing the start process, particularly when maps have been handed out at registration, the start is “un-manned” and with novices.

b. All units and individuals should be prepared to re-cycle maps.

c. Where units have capacity to do so, upgrading the level of organisation (e.g. manning the start, provision of control descriptions, organiser/planner comments after the event etc.) is clearly encouraged – but not at the expense of health and safety and course standards.

d. If alternative course formats are adopted, scoring MLN events must still be intrinsically “fair” i.e. all competitors must be able to make decisions based on common knowledge of the course format and intricacies and not benefit from luck or ‘bing-O’.

4. **Events Forecast 2010.** The emerging MLN forecast is enclosed, which shows both orienteering and XC fixtures across the region. Key points are:

- a. To date, 15 teams (4 major units, 5 minor units, 5 TA units and one civilian club) have registered for the MLN League.
- b. The MLN League 2010 has been de-conflicted from 2 Div XC League which also runs broadly speaking in alternate weeks.
- c. There will currently be no MLN event on Wed 20 Oct 10 due to the Inf Champs taking place in MLS.
- d. **An organising unit/location is urgently required for Wed 3 Nov 10.**
- e. The MLN event on Wed 17 Nov 10 will be at Ouston Airfield, with slightly later starts and access to parking open from 1200 hrs.
- f. The MLN event on Wed 1 Dec 10 will be at Catterick.
- g. The Harris Champs are planned for Wed 15 Dec 10 – location and details TBC.
- h. The MLN event at Castlelaw has been brought forward to Wed 12 Jan 11.
- i. There will be no MLN event on Wed 19 Jan 11.
- j. The option of a MLN event on Wed 26 Jan 11 is TBC, pending confirmation of the 2 Div XC race that week.
- k. The event on Wed 2 Mar 11 will be at Strensall organised by 2 Med Bde TBC.
- l. The remaining dates through Feb – May 11 will be refined in due course.

Enclosure:

1. MLN Events List 2010/11.