

## Development officer report to AGM 2021

My main focus in the past year has been developing Maprun courses in the South east region (Waterford, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary and Wexford). I have included other activities which overlap with mine.

### **1. Secondary schools**

- a. No school competitions
- b. Interest generated in schools by provision of RTGO courses
- c. Maprun is particularly suited to Transition Year/5<sup>th</sup> year PE where phone use is permitted
- d. Secondary school participation examples: Carlow town (418 runs), Carrick on Suir (90), Wexford town (40), Dungarvan (105), Graiguenamanagh (50) and Waterford (197) and Tullamore
- e. There is a difference between school specific courses where most run as individuals and those runs in the local town where a pair shares a phone and a map.
- f. Courses were designed in and close to schools by a number of IOA members in response to specific requests and as restrictions lifted, with peaks in December and May. E.g Balbriggan (Loreto) with Eileen Young, Portlaoise (Christ Ri) with Pat Healy
- g. Teachers able to use courses themselves once initial instruction is given

### **2. Local Sports Partnerships supported mapping through urban outdoor sport grants.**

- a. Maps prepared and ready for event: Waterford city (several), Duncannon, Thurles, Wexford town, and Portlaw
- b. In planning phase with mapper Pat Healy : Enniscorthy, New Ross, and Cahir
- c. Developed online presence with SPs around Maprun courses and their use e.g. summer series in Waterford city
- d. The key to future sustained development of the sport is regular communication with Sports Partnerships
- e. Other members of the IOA have been working with SPs in Cavan (Burren, Belturbet, Con Smyth park in Cavan town); Monaghan (Monaghan town, Carrickmacross, Castleblaney); Louth (4 parks in Dundalk and 1 in Drogheda); Meath (Parks in Navan and Trim); and Fingal (Balbriggan, Lusk, Swords, Portmarnock, Castleknock)

- f. Maprun days have attracted families and scout groups as there is no set up and provided immediate results.

### **3. Scouts/cubs**

- a. A Regional day took place on 6/12/20 in the SE with 7 groups in 7 different locations on 7 different maps co-ordinated by the Scouts themselves
- b. On the weekend of 20/2/21 in Tramore with TBay scout group spread over 2 days in small groups as Covid permitted.
- c. Uniformed groups use maps provided in their own time.
- d. Parks such as Ardgillan in Fingal have been popular.

**Permanent courses** need to be regularly maintained for use by younger groups. I have had reports of groups using the courses in Kilbarry, JFK and Waterford people's park for example. They provide solid support for teachers, youth group leaders and scout leaders.

**Summary:** We are ready to continue with individual schools using Maprun, support scout groups, and work with Sports Partnerships when lockdown restrictions allow.

Great work is being done by Eileen Young, Shane Lynch, Aine Joyce, Pat Healy and Coleen Robinson (and many more).

The schools, scouts and youth groups are very positive about Maprun as there is no set up and there are proper results.

Andrew Cox

26/05/21