



25th May 2021

IOA Mapping Officer Report

Summary

The following report summarises developments since the last AGM.

Map Registrations

A total of 51 new or completed maps were registered throughout the year. This is a new record! A number of these registrations relate to MapRun maps which is good to see. I would like to thank all clubs and individual mappers for their hard work throughout the year.

I would like to remind all mappers to check the online map register at:

<http://www.orienteering.ie/map-making-for-irish-orienteers> and to register their intention to map before embarking on their mapping project. A couple of situations arose during the year where the same area was mapped twice. This unnecessary duplication of work could have been easily avoided. Maps can be registered by anyone (e.g. by clubs, individuals or the IOA itself) and reallocated afterwards if necessary. Registration costs nothing so if in doubt, register it!

I would also like to remind all clubs and mappers to register their MapRun maps as well as paper ones. This is a prerequisite for adding to the DIY page but also helps to acknowledge how much work is being performed.

Map Sharing

There are now 378 currently valid maps registered. Even in normal times, it would be almost impossible for clubs to hold events on all their maps over the course of a year, even just for training purposes. Rather than clubs using the Map Register as a race to acquire mapping rights, I would like all clubs to consider pooling their resources and making their maps available

to other clubs or individuals if requested. Clubs would be welcome to charge a usage fee if they wish which would help to recoup the costs in making the map. Ownership of the map would continue to rest with the registered owner and such usage would allow the registered owner to extend their 'ownership' for a further five years.

Mapping Grants

No clubs have applied for mapping grants since the last AGM. However, several clubs kindly submitted expressions of interest for potential areas which require LIDAR data. I would like to thank Aine and Pat for coordinating these requests. As always, I would encourage all clubs or individuals to apply for grants for mapping projects. All requests will be considered and the IOA will assist where possible.

Mapping Training

A successful Introduction to Mapping Course was held in 2021. I would like to thank Eoin Browne for the significant work he put into creating the syllabus for the course and for getting it off the ground.

DIY Orienteering

The DIY Orienteering initiative has gone from strength to strength with 202 courses over 68 locations now available online. The vast majority are MapRun courses with permanent and virtual courses also featuring. The DIY webpages have undergone a recent overhaul which should make them more user-friendly. We plan to incorporate part of this functionality into the new MapRun website in due course. I would like to thank all those involved in keeping the DIY website up to date, especially Aine, Andrew and Eileen. If anyone else has courses to add (particularly with initials from later in the alphabet!), please let me know and I will gladly show you the process. Similarly, if you have suggestions for further improvements please get in touch. While the resources on clubs' own websites exceed that on orienteering.ie, I feel it is important to have a central location for users to consult.

Acknowledgements

As always, I would like to thank my fellow committee members and especially Aine for their assistance throughout the year. I would also like to thank all the club representatives for their

efforts which far outweigh mine, and especially those involved in keeping orienteering going during the past year.

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