

# WEST LANCASHIRE LDWA 2017 ANGLEZARKE AMBLE REPORT

## 1. Weather

Quite mild at the village hall but quite different on the tops where it was very cold with mist, frost and patches of ice.

## 2. Accidents

There were no accidents reported on the Amble.

## 3. Summary of figures

### Amble

There were 339 (346 last year) entrants this year broken down as follows;

Starters on long route 149

Starters on short route 145

Total 294 (Last year 295)

Nonstarters 45 (Last year 51)

Runners 71 (Last year 78)

None LDWA members 200 (Last year 147)

## 4. Event review

The staggered start for runners introduced this year did ease the crowding in the hall and helped to spread the workload in the kitchen serving tea and toast prior to the start.

Feedback from many runners was that they were happy with this arrangement.

However, with the runners now starting at 9.00 there is no reason why their registration time need be from 7.30am as it was this year. **This needs to be moved back to 8.00am**

Having to get all participants to sign the data protection agreement is something that needs to be done before the event. **This needs to be incorporated into the application process on the application form.**

As in previous years the Amble again attracted many non LDWA members. This year all entrants were charged £9.00.

We have in the past charged non LDWA members slightly more to enter (£1.00), but I do feel that we need to consider a much more significant difference in charge between LDWA members and non-members. However, I don't want to deter runners from entering as these are potentially future members when they get older. **Entry charges need to be reviewed.**

The workload on those working in the kitchen was evident again as they worked nonstop throughout the day. **Perhaps the time has come to reconsider the halls catering arrangements.**

Both Mountain Rescue and Raynet were invaluable again.

#### **4.1 Booking / checking in and certificates**

Booking in worked well again, but there was congestion; particularly at the first check in desk where most tended to queue once they had collected their tally. Possibly the table set up needs to be reconsidered and someone needs to act as a meet and greet person at the door.

The importance of making sure the number list is filled in when certificates are given out and retirees are identified was highlighted this year.

**Action:** Two new clocks required one for each table.

**Kenneth Peaks**

#### **4.2 Tallies**

Bob only has to replace half a dozen which were not handed in.

**Action:** Bob to replace those missing.

**Bob Waller**

#### **4.3 Equipment**

Only four first aid kits were delivered to the hall.

**Action:** First aid kits need to be checked. There needs to be a kit for the hall and at each checkpoint. The sweeps also need to be carrying a first aid kit. (8 kits in total needed)

**Mike Motley**

#### **4.4 Checkpoint feedback**

Winter Hill:

No problems

Charlie's Pole:

Charlie's pole requires 2 checkers short route & 2 for long + raynet. A 5th body to marshal entrants as they approach, as the signs made proved ineffective. The first arrived at 09 30 so I suggest open time 09 15. The wind/waterproof clip boards are difficult to use.

Is there a weather proof paper & marker on the market?

**Action:** Purchase waterproof paper

Entwistle Barn:

The Entwistle check point went very well managing to use the car park again and no retirements .We had no first aid kit, but luckily we did not need one.

Slipper Lowe:

Everything went well and the three burners were a great help. A sign pointing the way to the checkpoint from Hollinshead Hall would be an advantage as several people on the short route got confused when they could see others on the way out and followed them therefore missing our checkpoint.

White Coppice:

From an overall viewpoint, the day went very well. No serious problems to report and the 'newcomers' namely Barrie, Jean and Brian fitted in well and were excellent.

Looking at it through a microscope, we were a little irritated by a runner who had transferred to the short route. When she arrived we were able to book her in ok, but were otherwise unprepared. Another point at the end of the event, when the long sweep had gone, we (marshals, Mountain Rescue and Raynet) were left looking at one another, as 8 people were still un-accounted for. When Raynet checked with base we found they had retired. It would have been nice to have been informed earlier. Finally there were times during the day when we had too many marshals present. It doesn't help as they get in the way and they themselves must get bored and feel they're wasting their time, although I appreciate your intentions in that the newcomers are there to observe and learn.

#### **4.5 Other Comments**

I would like to thank all those who helped out for their commitment to the event, particularly new members who stepped into the breach!

The Hall, Raynet and Mountain Rescue have been booked for next year's event on Saturday **10<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

I think it is time to review the Amble after 6 years, so would like a full discussion at a group meeting.

**Ian Wardle**

Challenge Walks Organiser