Calder Valley Winter Score – Jan 2023

It was great to see you all. We quite literally had a full house! This was the first 'normal' running of this event for three years - there was a 'lockdown' version in 2021 but that was not the same.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and I hope you all enjoyed it. There's a lot of water on the fells at the moment, so it was a wet one.
And thanks I'm sure from everyone to Anne for the cakes and preparing the food. The pasties from Pennine Pasties went down well.

Each year I try to take you to some places you might not have been before, though it gets increasingly difficult, with most of us being very familiar with the area. So next year I'm planning on doing something different… hiring a hostel in the Lakes for a weekend in the winter and doing a score from there, as well as a night score in the dark the evening before. It would be much like we did in the Howgills in 2014 for those who were there. It will be the 20th running of this event.

All of the controls are in now. My worry is always that a control will go missing. One kite (control P) had been removed between me putting it out on Saturday and the event on Sunday, but that was it, the control box was fortunately still there.

Routes

The west side of the map (PKEFA) had good points (140) on a lot of paths. But it comprises three big climbs as opposed to just one to get onto Midgley Moor. Still, for those able to reach the top of the map I thought it might be a tactic to do that and then pick off what you could on the moor on the way back. However, that didn't prove so popular. Mark O'Connor was almost the only person to go that way and still get back on time. Emily Ledder got to A and then had to do a long trail/road run back home to get it on time. It did earn her the first solo woman prize though.

Or maybe go up the east side (NJHD) and then pick up what you could on the moor on the way back. It is shorter and less climb than the west side, but fewer points, 115. Again, that was not too popular. Steve Hunter went that way but ran out of time. Getting down to control D and back up was tough going from any direction.

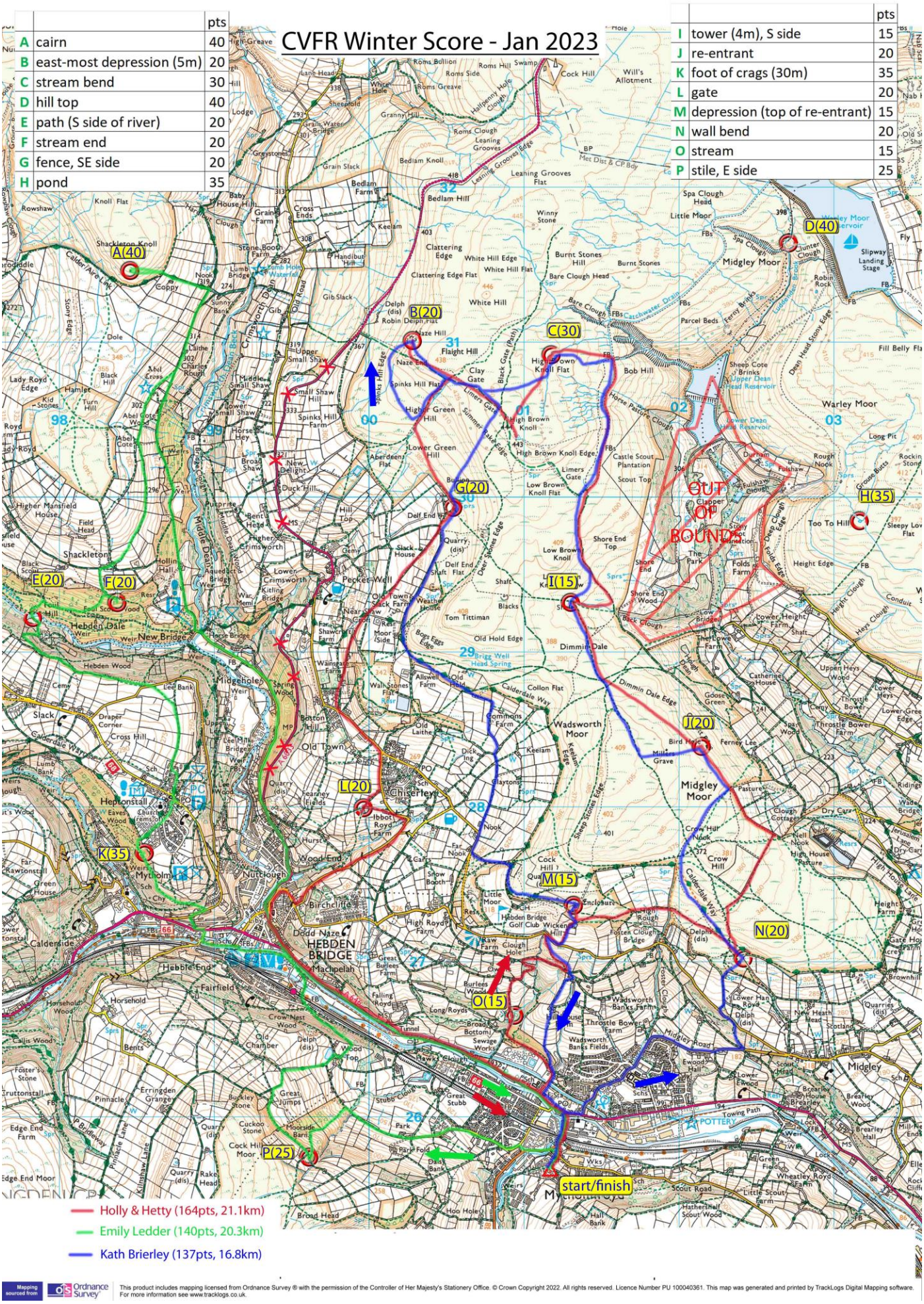
The most popular route was to go up through the centre via OM. The fastest two then had time to visit most of the controls on the moor and get down the west side of the map.
James Logue and Karl Gray both got the same number of control points, 295 out of a possible 390, going to slightly different controls. But Karl was a minute and a half late back, losing 5 penalty points and the win went to James.

Podium Routes



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Leading Women



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Control C (stream bend)



Control H (pond)



Afterwards

