

## **Loch Eck Orienteers (EckO)**

April '22 Newsletter and dates for diaries:

Dear EckO Friends,

### **IMPORTANT - Glencoe Lochan Event - THIS SUNDAY** (Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> April)

As well as being a normal club event, this is also a 'Come and Try' event and is being organised by the newly formed EckO Lochaber hub with the assistance of EckO.

It is suitable for families, juniors and all beginners and everybody is welcome.

If at all possible, please pre-enter and pay by filling in the downloadable entry form via the EckO website ([www.ecko.org.uk](http://www.ecko.org.uk)).

Once completed, please return the form to [info@ecko.org.uk](mailto:info@ecko.org.uk).

This greatly helps the event organisers with allocating dibbers and map printing.

There will be entry on the day but this will be limited to the number of maps available. We will also accept payment on the day but please bring the right money.

Glencoe Lochan is looking really beautiful with all the vegetation starting to blossom and we are crossing our fingers for dry weather. You never know - the Easter bunny might pay us a visit too!

### **Northern Championships in Northumberland**

Fantastic Results for five EckO athletes who entered the sprint, middles distance and the Northern Championships in Northumberland last weekend.

Day 1 was the sprint at Cramlington where Iris MacMillan was 5th in W18.

Day 2 was a middle distance at Shaftoe Crags where Iris was 2nd W18 and Susannah was 9th W50.

The Northern Championships were held at Dukeshouse Wood. Ruari Cottier was 3rd M14, Finlay Cottier was 6th M14, Finlo Cottier was 1st M50S and Iris was 2nd W18. Huge Congratulations to all who took part.

### **AGM**

Thank you to all who attended EckO's Annual General Meeting via zoom. It was great to have a chat and quick catch up before tackling the evening's business. The committee was duly elected and several members had some excellent suggestions which the committee hope to implement. Minutes will be available shortly on the website. We hope to have a 'face to face' AGM next year at Oban Sailing Club on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

### **Scottish Schools Orienteering Festival**

#### **Who fancies having a go at orienteering round Scone Palace by Perth?**

This will be held at Scone Palace, by Perth on Wednesday 1st June.

The event is open to pupils from P5/6 through to S6.

It is a fun event and P5/6 pupils can go around their course together (2's or 3's) or as individuals.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Jan Kersel [here](#) or via the website as soon as possible.

## Jan Kjellström International Festival of Orienteering 2022 (Britain's largest orienteering festival)

The Welsh Orienteering Association are welcoming 4 EckOteers to South Wales for four days of exciting orienteering over the Easter weekend (along with several thousand others)! All the very best to Iris, Susannah, Roanne and Jan. Safe travels and happy orienteering. Take lots of photos.

### Coast and Islands (Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022)

Coast & Islands comes to Kintyre Peninsula and Isle of Arran this year and there are still some places left! Why not make a holiday of it? - a week of orienteering in an area yet to be touched by the sport.

The organisers are keen to encourage EckOteers and locals to Kintyre to 'have a go' on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July in Tarbert. Don't let the word 'sprint' put you off! Walking is fine. I believe they have also agreed that EckO members can just enter 1 or 2 days only instead of the whole week. Email the organiser and state that you are an EckO member. Hopefully, we can organise some coaching prior to this event.

Event [website](#)

Event Organiser - Chris Smithard [cdsmithard@gmail.com](mailto:cdsmithard@gmail.com)

### Program

		Area	Distance	Start Times
				Guide TBC
<b>Monday</b>	25th	Tarbert Urban	Sprint	15:00-18:00
<b>Tuesday</b>	26th	Torinturk	Middle/Long	10:30-13:30
<b>Wednesday</b>	27th	Corranbuie South	Middle/Long	10:30-13:30
<b>Thursday</b>	28th	Corranbuie North	Middle/Long	10:30-13:30
<b>Friday</b>	29th	Rest Day		
<b>Saturday</b>	30th	Merkland Forest	Short/Middle	13:00-15:00
		Brodick Castle	Sprint	17:00-18:30
<b>Sunday</b>	31st	Whiting Bay	Middle	10:30-13:30

### Next Event

Creag Mhic Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 To be confirmed

As you can see, there is lots going on in the orienteering world of EckO.

We hope to be providing a training and coaching calendar shortly consisting of courses such as: beginner learn to orienteer, improve your orienteering skills, first aid, event safety, planning, event organising.

This will be in the form of an on-line form where you register your interest. Once we have enough interest, we will try and facilitate the course. As always, we welcome ideas so please email with your suggestions.

Best wishes

Jan Kersel (EckO Club Development Officer)