

ORIENTEERING SERVICES – 2003 onwards > The story so far!

Orienteering is a great sport for everyone, combining Physical Activity with Map Reading, navigation and problem solving.

Our principal Aim has always been to give people of all ages the opportunity to acquire a range of skills, both mental and physical, that will let them enjoy the sport of Orienteering.

By offering a range of services (see attached Flyer) we aim to equip schools and other organisations with the maps, resources and knowledge that will enable their staff teach the skills of Orienteering and give the participants numerous opportunities to take part in a progressive scheme of activities and challenges.

OUR TEAM:

Rex Bleakman – Founder of Orienteering Services 2003 > (Retired Headteacher, Orienteering Coach and regular Orienteer with Derwent Valley Orienteers)

Mike Godfree – Cartographer with many years' experience of drawing Orienteering Maps for Derwent Valley Orienteers.

Jim Jenkinson – Joined 2018 (KS2 Teacher, PE Coordinator and Lead Practitioner in PE for Derbyshire County Council)

Since 1988 Rex, as a member of Derwent Valley Orienteers, has enjoyed the sport of Orienteering both in the UK and Europe.

He had, for many years, taught the skills of the sport to children and young people of all ages. In his final post as Headteacher of Duffield Meadows Primary School in Derbyshire, Orienteering was an element of the schools Physical Education and Extra Curricular Activities.

Following retirement in 2002, Rex soon found a way to offer his skills and expertise to other schools and organisations who wanted to offer Orienteering to their pupils and the general public.

Establishing Orienteering Services in 2003 Rex has been supported by an excellent Cartographer (Mike Godfree) and, since going nationwide in 2018, a primary PE specialist and KS2 teacher (Jim Jenkinson). Together we have, to date, been able to map and introduce our sport to:-

Derbyshire - 40 Primary and 8 Secondary school

Derby City – 18 Primary, 7 Secondary, 3 Special Schools, 1 College and Derby University

Leicestershire – 4 Primary Schools

Staffordshire – 2 Primary and 3 Secondary Schools

City and Country Parks – 7

Repton Public School

Nationwide – 18 Primary Schools 1 Secondary

We trust that the hundreds of school pupils and people of all ages who in that period tried Orienteering have had fun, enjoyed the exercise, learnt a few new skills and gone away thinking :

“WHAT A GREAT SPORT LETS DO IT AGAIN!”

Rex Bleakman