

COMPASS SPORT CUP QUALIFIER 22 FEBRUARY 2026

A really big thank you to everybody who responded to my call to action and turned out to represent the club in our Compass Sport Cup match against SYO and CLOK at Lazenby Bank and Eston Moor.

The timing of the event was a bit unfortunate as we had several unavoidable absentees due variously to half term holidays, junior squad weekend and the attraction of warm weather races in Spain. However all three clubs in the Cup match were affected in that regard. We had 43 competitive entries with decent coverage across all the classes and as Captain I am really grateful for your interest and support for the team.

We put up a tremendous challenge against defending champions SYO and the final scores were:

SYO 2,437 AIRE 2,427 CLOK 2,327

We were so close to causing a really big upset! In the Trophy competition for smaller clubs NN and CLARO were qualifiers from the pool of six clubs involved.

The match was very well organised by CLOK on a bright but windy day. After a long, muddy and hilly walk to the start high on Lazenby Bank we could all draw breath and enjoy fine views of Teesside and what remains of the chemical industry there.

This is the list of our 25 top performers on the day. Congratulations in particular to Anne M, Sam C and Alethea C who won their courses outright (Sam had an extraordinary winning margin of 15 minutes!) and to Anne W who also secured 100 points in the match.

Anne Murgatroyd	5	100
Anne Wilson	8	100
Sam Crook	9	100
Alethea Carr	10	100
Andrew Stemp-Walsh	7	99
David Alcock	2	99
Alice Leake	3	99
Tony Carlyle	7	99
Rolf Crook	2	98
Fay Stemp-Walsh	3	98
Steve Webb	4	98
Peter Jones	6	98
Wendy Carlyle	8	98

Julia Crook	5	97
Peter Jones	6	97
Tony Thornley	7	97
Dave Murgatroyd	1	96
Rob King	6	96
Lindsey King	7	96
Liz Carter	8	96
Cathy Kelly	7	95
Brian Hanley	2	94
Ruth Jones	7	94
Dave Shelley	6	92
Sebastian Carr	10	92

This year another tweak in the rules means that despite being defeated in the qualifier we do still progress to the final as we came second to the defending champions.

The 2026 final is due to be staged by Mole Valley (for those not familiar with the south of England the club is based around Dorking) on Sunday 18 October, so do please try to hold the date. The venue is Pippingford Park, which I recall was the location of a JK relay a while ago. It's a long way to go, but as Claro have also qualified there might be an opportunity for shared coach travel; something for the committee to consider. Talking of the committee, on behalf of all competitors I would really like to thank the club for paying the entry fees for all AIRE entrants.

Steve Webb