

H2H3 RUN #396 13th October 2018

LOCATION: Stanford University Basketball Court

GOOGLE MAP LINK: <https://goo.gl/maps/FXWntHC4gqo>

GPS COORDINATES: N 12.641123, E 99.917801 (N 12 38.467 E 99 55.068)

HARES: Hugmanannygoat & Smelly Fingers

HASH SNACKS: Pussy Galore

TAX COLLECTOR: Tinks

ICE MAN: Butt Out

NUMBER OF HASHERS: 44

HASH SCRIBE: Cathusalem

The distance from the Palm Hills gate always seems long but the vista of the hills ahead never fails to impress as you travel the road. What was particularly noticeable this time was that the lakes we passed were all full to the brim and looking very impressive, just as all the lakes and reservoirs we've visited have been this rainy season.

Also as usual these days, if you arrive at the appointed meet time, nearly everybody is already there. The Biermeister had already got everything well set up with ice at 4pm. But where was Tinks and where were the hares? Unusually, Tinks was late and when he and the hares arrived about 4:15pm they proceeded to a different car parking area. Well, we were all on a parking area near the basketball court and over there is only rough ground so why can't Tinks and the Hares move here, where the beer truck has already been unloaded?

It seemed like there was a stand-off for about 5 minutes but it was probably a phone call that settled it. We all had to move and that included packing everything back into the beer truck. We were told that permission had only been granted for parking in the rough ground area. Well, we usually park on rough ground so that was no big deal but it meant that to

get the hash away on time and back in daylight, tax collecting had to be done after the trail.

Questions were asked. Would we really have upset anybody if we'd stayed in the first car park? Why didn't the hare put a sign up to guide us into the correct parking area? Answers to these questions later as your scribe/investigative journalist will reveal.

We were only a few minutes late setting off and, as advised by Hugs, we had to decide quickly how fit we were because the R/W split came up less than 1 km from the start. However, with the choice between a flat walk of 5 km and hilly run of nearly 8km, as described, it seemed doubtful there would be many who'd not immediately decided. I certainly had.

There was a check soon after the start and true to form, Bush Whacker checked the wrong way. After the split, it was only about 200m to the merge so it looked like the runners had a 3km uphill loop before coming down near enough where they started.

We came to the first barbed wire obstacle that Hugs had described. Davey Delayed told Colossus "if you can get under, it should be easy for me." It was also quite easy for your Scribe, with thick cardboard on the ground well appreciated.

It was a sylvan setting with about 98% of the trail on easy paths, just a few short sections where there were twists and turns through the bushes. I was going slow after my efforts as Hare the previous week and was only just in front of Dragon Tail, Mingster, Loose Screw and Cindy, on her second hash and holding her own with the Thai knitting circle conversation.

The next barbed wire fence was a bit more tricky. I helped the ladies through, including Lilian whom I'd been walking with but after that I didn't see them again. I was walking very slowly but enjoying every minute. Even a short cut I spotted didn't help me catch up.

Soon the runners started coming through. No Name Philippe was in the lead closely followed by Front Running Bastard. In third place, almost 5 minutes behind, was Moonlight. Several "also rans" overtook me but there was a few who didn't get back before the slowest walker (me). I asked Front Running Bastard who was first back? With a chuckle, he told me No Name Philippe lost his way at the lake when he was almost home.

It was getting dark as Legs Wide Open called the circle with the help of Tinks's referee's whistle. The down-downs were:

- Hugs and Smelly Fingers for good trails
- Pussy Galore for tasty snacks
- Donga and Garu - visitors
- Butt Out, Bush Whacker, Loose Screw and the Mattress herself for having birthdays in October
- Verbal Diarroea (VD) for attempting, with many interruptions, to give a potted biography of No Name Philippe to provide ideas for his christening next time.
- Colossus, as Religious Adviser, for his prayers successfully keeping the rain away
- Cathusalem as Scribe
- Onefer as next week's Hare

So off we headed to Joy's Garden Restaurant, full of anticipation. However, we found the beer priced at Bt 100 the first disappointment and, unfortunately, for those who had somehow missed out on Smelly Fingers's round with the menu to pre-order food, it was abysmally slow to arrive. However, fair play to the Hares for finding a place that would serve beer when all the bars were closed and, for me, the pre-ordered prawn fried rice was delicious and a massive portion, which I should have shared with Rubber Duck and Paddy Red Belly...but didn't know their food would take so long.

It was another instance of a restaurant not being able to cope with the arrival of a large number of customers at the same time (23 according to my poor quality photos) but I wouldn't rule out going there with a small group.

Now, for the investigative journalist part. First, Hugs said he had to get permission from the University and the first "obvious" car parking area had not been an option.

About the lack of signage, Hugs told me that VD told him he had to collect the signs himself at the previous hash (Pak Nam Pran) because that was

the system. I must admit a failing in not asking "where are the signs now then?" but I do know something about VD thinking that was the system.

At the hash on 15th September, when Jock Twat and Tinks were Hares, I heard Jock Twat tell VD that he should go out and pick up the signs as Hare for the next H2H3 hash. I appreciate that Jock Twat, as well as being lead hare that day, also had Biermeister duties but it seems VD thought that was the system.

As I understand it, it is normally up to the Hares to collect their own signs and make them available, by arrangement, to the next H2H3 Hares. However, upcoming or previous hares may not attend the next CAH3, which makes a complication. I suggest investment in a second set of signs which could be returned to the Hash Paperboy (or his deputy) at the next H2H3. He can then provide signs and shredded paper to the next hare. In effect, the two sets of signs leapfrog hashes. The current set of signs cost about Bt 1,200 according to my records.

Sorry about departing from my designated role as Scribe and even going further than being an investigative journalist and sorry Brambles Bill for suggesting an extension to your role.

On On,

Cathusalem