

Happenings at 'Ulu Yam'

Run Nr.: 3722 – Ulu Yam
Date: 30th March 2015
Hare: Lioe Chin Kean
Co-Hares: Tan, Eddie, Ken Hew, Young Hew
Runners: About 60 lah
Distance: 13-14km
Checks: 3
FROPs: Ah Meng, SuperOldMan, Lim Kin Sea Dragon
Time: 7.33pm
Guests: Bobbie, Jackie Chan, CW Chang, Francis Ian, Lee.

RUN 3722 AT Ulu Yam

So it was Lioe's fine run at the same run site as before. I could recall the torrential rain from the start to the finish of his run about 10 weeks ago. It was dark, wet & slippery. Areas where it used to be good running tracks were turned to rivers. At one point the crossing was swift and we were in danger of being swept away. Will run no 3722 be the same? Dark clouds were forming over KL as I was headed towards Ulu Yam and then heavy shower. Surprisingly at the run site it was a small drizzle and it was over when we got there. Lucky Hare!

At 6.00 On On was called. On sec was the first to do the balancing act on a tree trunk across the river followed by the rest. From observation most hashers for one reason or another were definitely not steady and sure footed as they want to be. Ah Wah had no patient to watch and wait, decided to dive in to the water and swam across. The rest waited for the check call so they need not attempt the river crossing. No such luck! The 300 meter 1st check had been done with. Instead the check was up on top of the hill where On Sec was on the right side with a broad smile and calling out my name! He must be up to something not good! True enough, I never saw him afterwards, SCB!

The run took us downhill was a breeze after huffing & puffing uphill. Somewhere toward the lower side of the hill but still high enough, runners were rewarded with a complete view of the valley below. There was the Kongs house at one end of the road and a long straight road in front. Frops were already on it running as though there was no tomorrow. Some times in hash we still have time to stop & stare at the hard earned scenery, at the expense of getting back in the dark, of course. When I got to the road, after a series of ups and downs and running in circles, looking back I could see groups of Hasher up the hill sweating it out where I was before. The straight run was over in minutes diving into young OP followed by old OP estate. The trail then deliberately took us pass a hot spring with bathing facilities. Leaving the sulphur filled air, we were out at the open on tarmac road, the start of a long and boring home run. Some said that it was 5KM while other said it was 7KM. Whatever it was, curse the hare he was responsible for my tired frame and aching knees. Timing for this 15 Km long run was 2hrs 10minutes, may want to consider 4.30 option.

Silent Dragon for and on behalf of Eddie Kor

Thanks Silent Dragon

The traffic was horrendous due to the afternoon rain and it was a race to get to the run site on time. Garry Murrell phoned up to say he was stuck and probably wouldn't be able to make it. It looked as though it might be a small turn out, but as it got closer to six a plethora of cars appeared and filled the parking spaces.

Daniel Ngiam smiled cheerfully as he pointed out where the paper started, which was across the engorged river from the recent rains along a fallen tree trunk. It didn't look good. And there was a dollop of shreddie the other side as if to say there might be a check just round the corner.

On Sec made a slow start across the tree trunk but then raced off and up through the jungle towards the first check, which was about 2km away. Wong Chee Kong virtually danced across in two bounds to harry the OnSec to get a move on. It was a relentless climb on good tracks with a mixture of shreddie and Mother paper to guide the way. Much of the paper had disintegrated but the shreddie was in good condition. To avoid holding the pack up, permission was asked and granted to those behind. However, one recalcitrant runner rushed passed without a word, which would be remembered at the circle.

The first check was very quickly broken and shortly after the trail became wider as it went into an oil palm estate. Because of the wood crossing at the beginning, and the initial part of the trail, the pack was spread out and this would have been an excellent opportunity to set a more challenging check to re-group the pack. The triumvirate of SuperOldMan, Ah Meng and Lim Kin Sea Dragon were already at the front and like an F1 race they would stay there until the finish. Taufoo Soo and Young Yap were also in the front pack and making short work of the distance. Towards the back there was Billy, Malaka, NSPB Choo, and Yeoung, and at the very back was a group led by Frankie consisting of Steven, Mike Kwan, Michael Lee and OnSec. The second check was down a long, long slope to the right of the fork with the true trail going to the left. Again, it was another easy check which unfortunately did not hold nor re-group the pack.

Frankie's gang followed this down to where the trail turned sharply right to begin a long anti-clockwise loop but sniffed out a better trail to the left, and about 500 meters later hit paper. The easy to follow trail meandered through a variety of young and some very old oil palm with the paper becoming more spaced out as we got nearer home. It was getting dark when the trail headed off right towards the road we drove to the run site, yet home was to the left via the hot-spring 'resort'. Frankie took the latter and after following an excellent trail and scrambling over the hot-spring gate made it back at about 7.45pm. The main pack had a 5km run back along the road, which several runners described as boring and unnecessary. The last runner back came in just before 8.30pm, just under an hour after the front runner.

Although the hare did a good job of ensuring the front runners were back just about on-time, this was done at the expense of the back markers. With only three checks, and an overly long home trail, the gap between the front and back runners was too large and the trail could have been more thought out. Nevertheless, even the back runners said it was a good run albeit too long, but it could have been an excellent run without the last unnecessary bit on the road.

The Circle:

None of the recent joiners were around so Ah Bee who has been missing for a while volunteered with a bit of persuasion. Jega handed over the butler's gear and Ah Bee received his butler's beer.

The Hare, Lioe Chin Kean, and his co-hares Eddie, Tan, Ken Hew and Young Hew stood on the box to hear the verdict, which they all happily assumed would be 'good'. They had to wait a little while as the OnSec had a senior moment and had forgotten to bring the Piss Potty to the circle from his car. The front runner came in slightly over time at 7.33pm allowing the possibility of another fine run, and the fact that the last runner came in nearly an hour after the first runner didn't help matters. However, as even the back runners thought it was good, it was judged as such and the Hares received their congratulatory beers.

On Cash Russell was happier this week as there were four guests to prize money from. And subs for the next quarter were trickling in. Nevertheless, he promised the Chow Kar list would re-surface next week.

Interhash Sec had a lot on his mind with refunds available from the Anemales recent run, which he would pay back at the restaurant as it was starting to rain again. He also mentioned about some new runs coming up which are listed below with the 'New' tag next to them.

Three guests were on the box Bobbie, Jackie Chan and CW Chang. It was Bobbie's third time running with us so maybe we'll have a new member soon. The others were virgin guests and a beer welcome was given. Francis Ian paid his guest fees but disappeared when it was time to welcome him. Another guest, Lee, failed to pay his guest fees and left before the circle started.

We then had three returners: Barry Dawe, Ah Bee and Preston Lim. Barry gave no excuse but Ah Bee and Preston had been chasing chickens in China. They too got a down down.

OnSec made the announcement of trialling the new Guinness Bar for next week's circle. There are two rules. 1. Anyone found taking a Guinness before the OnSec does will be fined one case of Guinness. 2. Anyone found with more than one bottle at any one time will also be fined a case of Guinness. The OnSec will take his first bottle when the circle starts so that all runners will have the chance of the dark stuff. The usual rules apply to Tiger.

Unfortunately B. J. Kang was not at the run to do his Bomoh duties and had not found a replacement. This is bad manners and Kang is fined one case of beer. OnSec had a few charges including Young Yap for not asking permission to pass before the first check – no manners; Silent Dragon and Mike Kwan for not being so silent and gossiping at the circle; John Dodgson for borrowing an umbrella and keeping it; and Kana for calling Russell, John, and David, black. On Cash then called the Hare up for forgetting to put in a case of beer for sub-contracting his Bomoh duties last week. Interhash Sec then called the OnSec up for forgetting the Piss Potty; and finally Kana called up Mike Kwan for a charge I can't remember, but I'm sure was well deserved.

The Hare then pointed the way to the On On restaurant Hock Lay where excellent pig, veggies, Tofu, omelette, fish in an outstanding sauce, and pickled things that apparently have no English name, were served. All for the heavily subsidised price of RM10. The hare was thanked in the traditional manner.