



Thames Valley
Orienteering
Club

Shotover & Brasenose Woods Regional event (Level C)

Sunday 19th December 2021

FINAL DETAILS



Summary - please read this page if nothing else!

- Please re-read and follow the [COVID-19 Participant Code of Conduct](#).
- Parking & Assembly in BMW car park, [Google maps](#), nearest postcode OX4 2RS (GR SP557045) – the car park entrance is off Horspath road, Junction of A4142 Eastern bypass
- Please be aware of pedestrians near car park entrance. TAKE CARE!
- SI punching. Air enabled. Those hiring should collect their SIAC from tent near exit of car park en-route to Starts.
- Loose control descriptions in start lanes. They are also on the map.
- Start times listed on [Fabian4](#).
- Full body cover (torso + legs) compulsory
- Start is a 1km level walk from car park exit (20 minutes approx). There is a manned road crossing outside car park gates. There is also an unsupervised clothing dump on the way to start.
- All courses (except W,Y,O) have minor road/track crossings in woods. Traffic is very infrequent.
- Map is A4, 1:7500 scale with 5m contours. Double-sided for Brown
- Finish is 850m from Car park/Assembly.
- **Courses close at 14:00 hrs. You must download by 14:15**
- Tom's British & Continental Catering in Assembly. Please support them. Cash preferred.
- Toilets in Assembly.
- **Key drop** available at information tent
- **No dogs** on courses
- **No post-race water** or squash. BRING YOUR OWN. And do not share water bottles.
- Finally, a big thank you to BMW for the use of the car park and to Oxford City Council for the use of Shotover Country Park. Please act as an ambassador for the sport, to help demonstrate Orienteering's commitment and capability to run COVID-compliant events.

COVID-19

In entering this event you have signed up to the [COVID-19 Participant Code of Conduct](#). Please re-read and abide by it. If you have entered anyone for the event, please ensure they have done the same.

Please do not attend the event if you or a member of your household has COVID-19 symptoms, or if you have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace. Contact Alun on registration@tvoc.org.uk if you would like a refund of your entry fee.

Note: If you have any cold-like symptoms and still plan to come to the event, please take at least a Lateral Flow, and preferably a PCR test, prior to coming...Many fully jabbed people who go on to catch COVID often only display cold-like symptoms.

COVID-19 case numbers remain high, and the impact of Omicron may well be severe. With 1 in 60 of the population believed to have COVID right now, the likelihood is that several people at the event may be infectious. Please be mindful that others you come into contact with may prefer that you keep your distance. Our toilet queue, start area, and download queue have been laid out to avoid competitors needing to be close to each other.

Safety issues

- **Manned Road Crossing – outside car park gates**
- **Public Access.** Shotover Woods are used by the public for walking, running, dog walking, cycling and horse riding. Please be courteous towards other users, especially those with dogs and horse riders – our future use of these areas depends on this. And please try to keep your distance from others.
- **Clothing and Safety Equipment.** Competitors' torso and legs must be covered. For safety reasons we strongly recommend you carry a whistle. The distress signal is six short blasts, wait one minute, and then repeat.
- **Emergency Number.** All maps will be overprinted with a phone number which can be used on the day to contact the Organiser in the event of an emergency.
- **Nearest A&E.** John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU
Telephone: 0300 304 7777
- **Key drop.** Solo travellers please take advantage of the car key drop at Information tent.

Location

Parking for the event is in the BMW car park, nearest postcode OX4 2RS – the car park entrance is off Horspath road, Junction of A4142 Eastern bypass

Please be aware of pedestrians near car park entrance. TAKE CARE!

There is no charge for parking.

Facilities

The following facilities will be available in Assembly:

- First Aid - located close to download
- Toilets - sanitisers will be on the outside, so please make use of them before and after touching anything.
- British & Continental Catering (Tom & Julie) – cash preferred

Note that post-race water and squash will NOT be provided. Please bring your own supplies.

Entry on the Day / SIAC hire

There is no entry on the day at the event. However, we hope to provide pre-entry right up to the morning of the event - see website for details.

SIAC hire will be in a tent near the exit from Assembly. Please collect your SIAC en route to the Starts.

Our hire SIACs all contain a safety loop - put your wrist through the loop, to minimise the chance of losing the SIAC should it get 'pinged' off your finger. **Lost SIACs charged at £65.**

Electronic Punching

Sportident electronic punching system will be used, with contactless (SIAC touch-free) enabled.

It is a punching start. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have satisfactorily punched the Clear, Check and Start units (NONE of which are contactless-enabled), at each control on the course and at the (contactless-enabled) Finish.

If you come across an SI box which has failed, the back-up punch attached to the kite must NOT be used. A failed SI box will not result in your disqualification.

Route to Start

The start is approximately 1km (about 20mins) from the car park, the route goes close to the finish where there will be an unsupervised clothing dump, items left at own risk.

Follow the tapes out of the car park entrance using the side gate **NOT** the gate through which the cars are entering. There is a manned crossing on Horspath road immediately outside the gates. The marshals in Hi-viz coats will help you cross the road but remember you are responsible for your own safety. Parents should consider whether they wish to accompany younger children across the road.

The path to the start is likely to be muddy and is not suitable for buggies.

There will be a SIAC battery test unit at the Registration/Download tent near the exit from the car park.

Start

We have all signed up to the BO code which asks us to facilitate social distancing. The start is set up to enable all to do this.

The start will have four clearly labelled lanes. (+ a fifth for the Talent South squad only) Please join the appropriate queue as soon as you arrive at the Start. Horizontal orange stakes 2m apart mark your queuing positions. There are no conventional -4, -3, -2, -1 'boxes'.

Start times are from 10.00 until 12:00, and are listed on [Fabian4](#). Please aim to arrive at your Start no more than 5 minutes before your allocated time, which means exiting the car park about 20 minutes before your start time. All start clocks will be set to (unadjusted) race time. In practice, we will have no actual call-up but hope that you will join your short queue at or a few minutes before your chosen start time.

We will not adhere strictly to start times. Instead, we intend to use them to provide a steady flow of competitors through the starts. Our aim therefore is to manage competitors through the starts without delay, filling any vacant start slots caused by no-shows or delayed competitors. If you are late for your start, please do not rush needlessly - come to your start once you are ready. Please do not abuse the flexibility we are trying to provide.

The two pairs of start lanes will be separated by a third lane, empty apart from the Clear, Check and Air-On Test units, all on stakes. At -4, you will need to stretch across into this central lane to punch the Clear and, at -3, the Check and to waft your SIAC at the Air-On Test. Please ensure you remain socially distanced from the competitor in the adjoining lane when you do this. And ensure the Clear and Check units bleep when you punch.

Yellow & White course competitors will receive their maps at -3 and may study them before they begin their course. **Note:** The White course is taped for 70m leading to the first control.

It is a punching start; remember to punch the Start unit to record your start. **If the Start unit does not bleep when you punch, something is wrong. Consult the Start official; do NOT head off into the forest.**

Extra maps are available for family groups and shadowers if they have been specifically requested when entering. Please check with start team before taking more than one map.

Finish

There is one Finish for all courses, the finish will be contactless-enabled. **But you MUST also punch the safety control after the finish.**

From the Finish, follow the tapes back to Assembly (around 850m/15 mins). The route re-crosses Horspath road where there will again be a manned crossing. Download is on your right after you enter the car park.

Courses close at 14:00. You MUST Download by 14:15, to avoid a search for you being initiated. **You must report back to Download even if you retire.**

Map

The map has been updated in Autumn 2021 by Martin Ricketts and is at 1:7500 scale, with 5m contours, on A4 waterproof paper.

If you would like to draw and compare your route with others online you can do this at <https://www.tvoc.routegadget.co.uk/rg2/#105>

Terrain notes

There are two quite distinct areas, Brasenose Woods and Shotover Country Park. Both are part of the ancient Royal Forest of Shotover and are designated a SSSI. All but the shortest two courses visit both areas. Brasenose Woods is almost flat and has a very extensive network of rides and paths. Shotover Country Park is rather hilly and has a complex network of valleys, as well as a complex path network and some open areas.

- Climbs have been calculated using the ill-defined "shortest sensible route" algorithm in the IOF Rules of Orienteering. The topography of Shotover means that the actual climb will depend on route choice.
- In the centre north of the map is a large **Out-of-Bounds** area marked with olive green. This is the gardens of several houses. In some places on the ground this may look like part of the woodlands. Please **take extra care to not enter this area.**
- Brasenose Woods at the bottom of the hill contains a number of ruined buildings. Care should be taken around these as there may be rock, barbed wire and deep holes.
- There has been **storm damage** throughout the woods over the past two months. While every effort has been made to capture these changes in the map and avoid the worst affected areas care should be taken around any fallen trees which may be unstable.
- Shotover has an extensive path network with many small and indistinct paths. These have been mapped consistently throughout the area, however, in flatter locations some of the paths may now be partially obscured by fallen leaves making them less reliable for navigation.

- In the eastern part of the map, visited by all courses except White and Yellow, there are many small indistinct seasonal paths, mountain bike tracks and badger runs. Many are not shown on the map.
- Special symbols: black x denotes a seat or hide/temporary shelter; green circle denotes isolated distinctive tree. Some fallen trees and hides are not mapped.

Courses

Course	Length Km	Climb m	Controls	Technical Difficulty
White	1.5	15	11	Easy
Yellow	2.0	15	10	Easy
Orange	2.9	40	10	Moderate
Light green	3.6	90	11	Difficult
Short green	3.3	95	11	Very difficult
Green	4.3	155	15	Very difficult
Blue	6.4	230	27	Very difficult
Brown	8.9	335	30	Very difficult

The map for the Brown course will be two-sided.

Control Descriptions

Control descriptions are printed on the map. Loose control descriptions will be available in the start lanes. The White & Yellow course uses text descriptions; all other courses use IOF symbols.

If you do not have a control description holder, but want to take a loose set of descriptions, please bring safety pins or similar to attach the descriptions to your sleeve or chest. We do not want loose descriptions littering the forest after our event.

Medical conditions

If you have a High Risk Medical Condition you are invited to download and complete this form <http://tinyurl.com/BOF-med> and place it in a sealed envelope with your name on it, in the box provided at Enquiries. Envelopes will only be opened if required for a medical emergency. Unopened envelopes should be collected after the event. Any unclaimed envelopes will be destroyed after the event.

Dogs

Well-behaved dogs allowed on their leads in the car park. Whilst dogs are permitted in the woods, please note that TVOC's policy is **no dogs to accompany competitors on their courses**. Please clean up after your dog.

Results

Results will NOT be displayed at the event. However, we hope to provide live results on the TVOC website at <https://tvoc.org.uk/results/shotover-4/>

Photography

You are welcome to take photographs at our event. However please be respectful of other peoples' privacy when taking photographs, and do not take inappropriate or intrusive photos. Please bear in mind [British Orienteering's guidelines](#) on the subject.

If you have any concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography (in terms of the way, by whom, or where photography is being undertaken), please report them to the Organiser or another official.

Parents, guardians or carers who have a reason to be sensitive about the children they are responsible for should bear in mind that photographs may be taken at the event, and some may be posted onto public websites.

Ash Dieback precautions

The following precautions have been recommended by BOF – arrive with all of your kit, especially footwear, fully cleaned since its last outing. After your run, place all your kit in a plastic bag to prevent spreading fungal spores. Full details of Ash Dieback precautions can be found on the British Orienteering website.

Organiser: Gary Mills, TVOC
Tel: 07434 676 214
E-mail: gary@broadmarsh.f9.co.uk
Planner: Simon Ross, TVOC
Controller: Neville Baker, TVOC

Courses close at 14:00. You must report to download by 14.15 even if you do not complete your course.

www.tvoc.org.uk

Please remember

- **Orienteering is an adventure sport. All competitors take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.**
- **Please check website for last minute cancellation in case of bad weather. In the event of cancellation, some or all of your entry fee may be retained.**
- **The personal data you give will be used by the event organisers & their agents only for the purpose of processing and publishing the event entries and results, for conducting safety checks and to validate British Orienteering insurance cover. Submission of an entry for the event will indicate your acceptance of this procedure.**