TVOC Regional Event (SCOL2) at Hodgemoor Woods
Sunday 20th October 2024

FINAL DETAILS

This Level C regional event will be part of the SCOA League (SCOL2; see https://www.scoa-orienteering.org.uk/scoa-league) and will host the HH Club Championships 2024.

Key points:

- Assembly and car parking at PerkinElmer Ltd, Chalfont Rd, Seer Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2FX. https://what3words.com/busy.lakes.album (Grid Ref SU971927)
- Please car-share if possible, or travel by public transport, to help us allow the maximum number of participants to compete.
- Lone drivers are asked to leave car keys at Enquiries.
- Toilets in the car park at Assembly (none at Start/Finish).
- SPORTident (SI) timing; SIAC enabled. Only the Start control will require punching. After the SIAC-enabled Finish, competitors must also then punch the Safety Control.
- 15-minute start blocks will not be rigidly enforced - just be at the Start before 12:15.
- The Start and Finish are approximately 500m from the car park. Marshalled road crossing on the route to the Start, and back from the Finish.
- Control descriptions in Start lanes. White & Yellow maps available at -4.
- One Finish, near the Start. No clothing dump.
- No road crossings on the courses. Roads are out-of-bounds.
- Courses close at 14:00. You must visit the Finish by 14:00 at the latest, and then report to Download in Assembly by 14:10.
- No post-race water. Make sure you bring your own.
- Unfortunately, there will be no catering at the event.

Safety issues:

- **Route to Start and from the Finish**. The route to the Start and back from the Finish involves a marshalled road crossing. Please follow the marshal's instructions, but remember that crossing the road safely is the responsibility of each individual. All under-16s should be accompanied by an adult whilst crossing the road.
- **Between the road crossing and Start/Finish.** The route involves walking along Rawlings Lane for 350m (which is a single-track road with passing places). Please keep to the side of the road and look out for vehicles and horses.
- **There are no road crossings on the courses and all roads are out-of-bounds.**
- **Public Access.** Hodgemoor Woods is used by the public for walking, running, dog walking, cycling and horse riding. Please be considerate and courteous towards other users, especially horse riders and those with dogs – our future use of these areas depends on this.

- **Clothing and Safety Equipment.** Competitors' torso and legs must be fully covered i.e. no shorts. The woods are wet and muddy in places, so please wear appropriate footwear. For safety reasons we strongly recommend you carry a whistle. The distress signal is six short blasts, wait one minute, and then repeat.
- **Repairs to tracks/paths.** Some of the horse tracks/paths in the woods are being repaired, so there might be small sections that are taped-off; if you come across such an area on your course, please carefully go round it.
- **Emergency Number.** All maps will be overprinted with an emergency phone number which can be used on the day to contact the Organiser in the event of an emergency.
- **A Radio-Orienteering** event will be taking place in the woods at the same time, so there will be some Radio-O controls that have a smaller (15cm) training kite with a 10cm laminated letter for identification, but no Si unit, so won't register on an Si timing card.
- Competitors should be aware that the woods contain deer and other animals. We recommend you check for **ticks** after your run.

Travelling by car

Access by car from most directions will be easiest via Junction 2 of the M40. Once off the motorway at Junction 2, take the A355 dual carriageway towards Beaconsfield (and get into the right-hand lane). At the Pyebush Roundabout take the A40 dual carriageway towards Gerrards Cross and Denham. 500m after the roundabout the road will become single carriageway, and then after another 500m take the left turn onto Potkiln Lane (signed Jordans and Seer Green). Follow Potkiln Lane for 3.5km as it becomes Jordans Lane through Jordans village, and then becomes Twitchell's Lane. At the T-junction, turn left onto Newbarn Lane and follow the road for 600m, and PerkinElmer Ltd will be on your left. Please follow directions from the Parking Team who will guide you to a space in the PerkinElmer car park.

Please drive slowly and look out for pedestrians when entering/exiting the PerkinElmer site, because it is a narrow entrance, and the route from Assembly to the Start/Finish uses the same roadway through the main gate at the entrance to the site.

It is possible to take cross-country roads from junction 17 or 18 of the M25 via Chorleywood and Chalfont St Giles; or on the A413 from Aylesbury and Amersham.

Please car-share, if at all possible, or use public transport.

Travelling by public transport

The nearest railway station is Seer Green & Jordans on the Chiltern Railways line between London Marylebone and Birmingham. The station is 2.5km from Assembly, through Seer Green village. There should be an hourly service in both directions stopping at the station.

The FlightLine 102 bus service operates half-hourly in both directions on Sundays between Heathrow Airport, Uxbridge, Gerrards Cross, Beaconsfield and High Wycombe (Carousel Buses https://www.carouselbuses.co.uk/services/CSLB/102). The bus stop on the A40 at Bulstrode Park, opposite Potkiln Lane, is about 4km from Assembly, through Jordans village.

Assembly

Assembly is within the PerkinElmer site and will include toilets, Enquiries, card hire, Download, Professional First Aid, and car parking (140 spaces on hardstanding and 45 spaces on reinforced grass).

SI card (timing chip) hire, Download, Enquiries and First Aid will be near the site entrance; whilst the toilets will be at the far end of the car park.

Please note that TVOC will not be providing water out on the courses or at the Finish/ Assembly, so please come with your own supplies.

There will not be any catering at the event. Some of the local villages have pubs. Beaconsfield has a greater range of outlets. Beaconsfield Services is on the south-side of M40 J2.

Notes on the area

Hodgemoor Woods is a 250-acre woodland located between Amersham, Chalfont St. Giles and Seer Green. This beautiful beech wood is gently sloping with a good path network and earth features.

Hodgemoor is a natural heritage area, designated by Natural England as a "Site of Special Scientific Interest" (SSSI). It is owned by Buckinghamshire Council but administered for them by Forestry England. It has a large network of footpaths and riding/cycling trails maintained by the Hodgemoor Riding Association, on behalf of and in coordination with Forestry England (https://hodgemoor.org.uk/).

There may be horses being ridden within the woods, so please be courteous to riders, giving way to them where necessary, and, if approaching from the rear, please call out to make the riders aware. Please also be courteous to other members of the public using the woods. Our future use of the woods may be dependent on your behaviour.

Some of the tracks in the woods are being repaired, so there might be small sections that are taped-off; if you come across such an area on your course, please carefully go round it.

Entries

Pre-entry through SiEntries only, remains open until 11:30 on the morning of the event, but subject to map availability. Note: An entry only provides one map for the participant, but extra maps for group entries can be purchased as part of the online entry. If you have bought an extra map, just tell the start team when you are in the Start lane so they can ensure the extra map is ready for you to pick up when you start.

Enquiries / SIAC hire

Enquiries and SI card collection are housed in tents near the entrance to the PerkinElmer site. Note that lost SIACs will be charged at £65.

Lone travellers are encouraged to leave car keys with Enquiries.

Start and Finish

Starts will commence at 10:30; with last starts at 12:15. Courses will close at 14:00. **You must visit the Finish by 14:00 at the latest (and also punch the safety control there), and then report to the Download tent at PerkinElmer by 14:10, even if you retire or have not finished your course**. The controls will be collected in from 14:00.

Competitors who are hiring an SI card will need to go to the tent near the entrance to the PerkinElmer site to pick up their card before going to the Start.

The Start and Finish are in Hodgemoor Woods, approximately 500m from Assembly and car park. Exit the PerkinElmer site through the main entrance and follow the signs and tape to the road crossing.

The road crossing will be marshalled, and there will be signage along the road warning traffic of people crossing, but the crossing point is on a bend; which means that there is better visibility when going in the direction from the Finish to Assembly (i.e. after participants have completed their courses). The speed limit on the road is 40mph and there are also permanent 'horse' warning signs and 'road bend' warning signs in place to encourage drivers to take it easy. The marshals will be there to be a visible warning to drivers at the crossing point, and can warn orienteers about the traffic, but they cannot tell orienteers when (or when not) to cross the road – this is the responsibility of each person. All under-16s should be accompanied by an adult whilst crossing the road.

Between the road crossing and Start/Finish, participants will need to walk along Rawlings Lane for 350m (which is a single-track road with passing places). Please keep to the side of the road and look out for vehicles and horses. There is no clothing dump at the Start/Finish.

Courses do not have set start times; competitors can just turn up at the Start, where you will queue (if necessary) and go. Call-up will be at -4 (where White & Yellow maps will be provided to those competitors).

This event will be SIAC enabled. It is a punching start. You must physically 'punch' the Start control, and ensure that it beeps. No beep indicates a problem - see a Start official; do not blindly charge off into the forest.

There is one Finish for all courses. It is a fly-by, contactless Finish (SIAC enabled). Please ensure you punch the safety control located just after the Finish.

Courses close at 14:00. **Please ensure you have visited the Finish by 14:00 and also punched the safety control there**, and then report to Download by 14:10, to avoid a search for you being initiated. **You must report back to Download even if you retire**.

The Map

The map for all courses is 1:7500 with 5m contours, printed on A3 and then trimmed (ISOM 2017-2). It was drawn by Julian Birkinshaw in 2021, based on previous maps, with minor updates in March and October 2024. It will be a double-sided map for Blue and Brown courses, and single-sided map for all other courses.

Given the recent weather, a number of pits and depressions may be water-filled (not shown as water features on the map). It is October, leaves are falling, so some paths will be less distinct than at other times of the year.

Course details

Course	Length	Climb	No. controls
Brown	8.3km	145m	30
Blue	6.9km	125m	26
Red - not SCOA League	4.9km	95m	14
Green	5.1km	90m	24
Short Green	3.9km	65m	18
Light Green	4.2km	80m	18
Orange	3.5km	65m	12
Yellow	2.6km	50m	14
White	1.6km	35m	11

SCOA League details can be found at https://www.scoa-orienteering.org.uk/scoa-league

The Blue, Green, Light Green and Orange courses will also be used for the HH Club Championships, so please make sure that you've entered the correct course if you are a member of HH and want to compete in the Club Champs (see https://www.herts-orienteering.club/club-championships-2024/ for details).

There are no road crossings on any of the courses, and roads are out-of-bounds. There is a public car park on the edge of the competition area, which may contain slow-moving vehicles and parked cars.

This event will be SIAC enabled. It will be a punching Start, but contactless Finish. Everyone is also asked to punch the safety control after finishing.

Control Descriptions

Control descriptions are printed on the map. Loose control descriptions will be available in the Start lanes. White, Yellow, Orange & Red courses use text descriptions; all other courses use IOF pictorial symbols only.

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.

Nearest A&E hospital: Wexham Park Hospital, Wexham Street, Slough, Berkshire SL2 4HL
9 miles from competition area. Telephone: 0300 614 5000

Dogs
Well-behaved dogs are allowed on their leads in the car park. Please clean up after your dog. TVOC's policy is for no dogs to accompany competitors on their runs.

Biosecurity
Hodgemoor Woods is administered by Forestry England, who state that "Many of our trees are under threat from the spread of pests and diseases. As human activity is a key factor we ask all organisations and individuals to adhere to this biosecurity advice."
The following precautions have been recommended by British Orienteering: 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.

Results
Live results will be available at https://tvoc.org.uk/results-live/ There is a QR code link on the maps and on splits printouts. Note that mobile phone signal can be sporadic in Seer Green. Our aim is to publish final results at https://tvoc.org.uk/results/ by 6pm on Sunday evening.

2023/24 SCOA League prize-giving
The prize-giving for the 2023/24 SCOA League will be held at 13:30 in the Assembly area at PerkinElmer. This will take place at the far end of the car park.

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 event 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.

Officials

Organiser: Paul Taylor (TVOC) email organiser Tel: 07712 033388
Planner: Robin Bishop (TVOC)
Controller: Mark Thompson (TVOC)

If you have any reason to complain about your course or the event arrangements, then please talk informally with the Organiser in the first instance, who will contact other officials as necessary.

Courses close at 14:00. You must punch the Finish by 14:00, and then report to Download before 14:10 even if you do not complete your course. Controls will be collected from 14:00.

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 inclement 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.

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