



Thames Valley
Orienteering
Club

TVOC Chiltern Challenge

Christmas Common

Sunday 22nd March 2026

FINAL DETAILS

Key points

- Drivers must have booked a parking space (early, late, or all day) when entering through SiEntries.
- Parking at [///milder.defensive.dogs](http://milder.defensive.dogs), OX49 5HG, grid ref SU710918. Note that Google and on-the-ground signage may indicate that the access road is closed. The contractors for Thames Water have assured us that it will be open from both directions. You should not have to follow diversions.
- **Drivers** - be alert for competitors on courses 1, 2 and 3 whose courses require them to cross the car park and the access road.
- We have limited parking space. Please park tightly, as instructed by car park marshals. And please share cars if you can. Lone drivers are asked to leave car keys at Enquiries.
- The car park is in a farm yard and residential area. Please respect equipment and privacy.
- Drivers who have 'early' parking spaces are asked to leave the car park promptly once they have run, so that their space can be reused by a 'late' shift driver.
- Toilets in the car park.
- SPORTident punching. SIAC enabled, including Finish. Punching Start.
- Start times listed on [SiEntries](#)
- There are two starts – make sure you know your course number and which Start you need to go to!
- North Start – Courses 1, 2 and 3 only
 - Start is approximately 500m from the car park across the access road (*note the South Start is NOT en route to the North Start*).
 - Part-way through these courses, there is an 8 minute time-out which involves crossing the public road again and transiting our car park. Be cautious of cars moving in the car park, whose drivers may not have spotted you.
 - At control at end of time-out, discard part 1 map into bin, punch control, and pick up part 2 map beyond.
- South Start – Courses 4 to 12
 - Start is approximately 700m South from the car park.
- Last start is 14:00. Courses close at 16:00. **You must return to the Finish by that time.**
- Control descriptions in Start lanes. Competitors on White and Yellow can see their maps before entering their start lane – ask the Start Official for it.
- *There are some bee hives in the forest. They are marked on the map in text. Courses have been planned to avoid them*
- No post-race water. Make sure you bring your own.

- Warren will have his refreshment trailer in the car park. Was Toms – same outfit and menu
- Please do not show maps to later competitors and do not post them on Strava or other social media sites until after 2pm.
- The Finish is not far from the South Start. There is no formal clothing dump - clothing left at your risk. It is approximately 700m return to Download/Car Park

Safety issues –

- **Routes to Starts and from the Finishes.** The routes to and from the North Start involve road crossings. Please take care.
- **Public Access** The competition area is used by the public. Please be considerate and courteous towards other users – our future use of these areas depends on this.
- **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 an emergency phone number which can be used on the day to contact the Organiser in the event of an emergency.

Animals etc. There are bee hives in the wood. Take avoiding action should you happen upon them. The woods have a large population of deer. We recommend you check for ticks after your run.

Notes on the area

We are grateful to the following:

- *The National Trust*
- *Andrew Ingram of Greenfield Farm who has not only allowed free access to his woodland, but has allowed us to park on his land too*
- *Andrew's neighbours for their forbearance during our presence*
- *Thames Water and their contractors for opening the road for us!*

Travelling by car

We only have space at the event for 170 cars. Only drivers who have said that they are bringing a vehicle when they entered through SiEntries, will be permitted to park. If you do not have a parking space, please arrange a lift with a club colleague who does. Please do not attempt to park on the roadside. Our continued access to the area is contingent on our, or rather your, good behaviour.

Parking space is tight. Please share transport if at all possible. If you are meeting friends at the event, one option would be to meet near to the event, and share one car to the event. There is a free parking at the car park in Hill Road, Watlington and along the B4009 at Junction 6 of the M40.

Parking for the event is at the Tree Barn, at Greenfield Farm just south of Christmas Common, which is on the road between Nettlebed and Stokenchurch.

Please be alert for competitors on courses 1, 2 and 3 who will be crossing the car park between their two competition areas.

Please park as directed by the marshals, and be prepared to be parked tightly – space is limited

Entries

Pre-entry, through [SiEntries](#) only, remains open until noon on the morning of the event, but subject to map availability.

Enquiries / SIAC hire

Please ensure that you collect your hired SI card before heading to the Start – it's a long walk back! Note that lost SIACs will be charged at £65.

Lone travellers are encouraged to leave car keys with Enquiries.

Courses, Map and Terrain

There will be no blank maps in start lanes

You need to know your **course NUMBER!**

Course	Classes	Length km	Climb m	Controls	Start
1	M21	11.5	335	33	North
2	M35, M40, Brown	9.8	270	31	North
3	M18, M20, M45, M50, W21, Short Brown	8.5	190	28	North

The above courses have a map exchange via an 800m, 8 minutes, timed out leg.

4	M16, M55, M60, W35, W40, Blue	6.8	185	19	South
5	M65, W18, W20, W45, W50, Short Blue	5.7	185	17	South
6	M70, W16, W55, W60, Green	4.6	110	14	South
7	M75, M80, W65, W70, Short Green	3.8	110	12	South
8	M85, M90, W75, W80, W85, W90, Very Short Green	3.0	60	12	South
9	M14, W14, Light Green	3.5	90	13	South
10	M12, W12, Orange	2.7	75	9	South
11	M10, W10, Yellow	2.5	75	9	South
12	White	1.3	50	7	South

All courses use an A3 10,000 5m map, updated January 2026.

The bulk of the woodlands are gloriously open and runnable. Most of the greener bits are also relatively easy to pass through. There aren't too many paths, so direct running is usually the best option.

The whole of the area is undulating, with a few steep slopes in places.

Due to access restrictions a number of the longer courses will use some quite narrow areas of woodland.

North Start – courses 1, 2 and 3

The Start is approximately 500m from the car park. (*Note the South Start is NOT en route to the North Start*).

The competition area is in two parts, separated by an 8 minute time-out. This will involve navigation, completing a 800m track run, crossing a public road and crossing the event car park, and then passing through competitors walking to the South Start and returning from the Finish. Please take care when crossing the road; also be cautious of cars moving in the car park, whose drivers may not be aware of your presence.

On reaching the control at the end of the time-out, competitors should discard their part 1 maps into the bin provided, punch the control, and pick up their part 2 map after the control.

South Start – courses 4 to 12

The Start is approximately 700m from the car park.

Starts

It is a punching Start.

Those on White, Yellow and Orange courses do not have set start times; those competitors can just turn up at the Start, where they will queue (if necessary) and go.

Competitors on White and Yellow will be provided with maps before the Start. Just ask the Start Official for a map.

For all other courses:

- Competitors have set start times which can be viewed at https://www.sientries.co.uk/list.php?event_id=17025 Start times will NOT be posted at the event.
- Please aim to arrive at your Start at least 4 minutes before your allocated time
- If you are late for your start, you will be started as soon as possible. Note that some courses may be quite full, requiring a long wait to a vacant slot

For all competitors:

- Loose control descriptions on waterproof paper will be available in the start lanes. White and Yellow courses use text descriptions; all other courses use IOF symbols.

At -0: You must Punch the Start station and then pick up your map

Finish

The Finish is a fly-by contactless Finish. Download is about 700m beyond the Finish. Please go directly to Download after finishing. You MUST Download, even if you retire.

Water will **NOT** be provided. Please bring your own drinks

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. TVOC's policy is no dogs to accompany competitors on their courses although there may be other members of the public in the woods with dogs. Please clean up after your dog.

Facilities

First Aid is provided by White Star Medical

Toilets

Water / squash is **NOT** being provided. Please bring your own supplies.

Warren will have his refreshment trailer in the car park. Was 'Tom's' – same outfit and menu

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 print-outs. Our aim is to publish final results at <https://tvoc.org.uk/results/> by 6pm on Sunday evening.

Complaints and Protests

If you have any reason to complain about your course or the event arrangements, then talk informally with the Organiser in the first instance. He will contact other officials as necessary. You may also complain in writing on a form held in the Enquiries tent.

If you feel you still need to make an official Protest, you must do this in writing to the Controller (using the form obtainable in the Enquiries tent). The Controller will discuss with the Organiser. If they agree with the Protest, the appropriate action will be taken.

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.

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.

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Mapper: Mark Thompson
Planner: Neville Baker
Controller: Davey Averill, SMOC

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.**

www.tvoc.org.uk