



Thames Valley
Orienteering
Club

Chiltern Challenge TVOC Regional Event Penn Wood and Common Wood Sunday 22nd February 2015 Emit Electronic Timing

FINAL DETAILS

Summary

- Parking on hard standing at SU 923956, HP7 0PX. £2 fee.
- Electronic Punching – Emit
- Control descriptions in Start lanes.
- Two Starts
 - Near Start (White to Short Green) 300m from Assembly
 - Far Start (Green to Black) 1500m from Assembly
- Far Start courses have a road crossing; one minute time out for crossing.
- Finish 300m from Assembly.
- Courses close at 14:15.
- String Course suitable for all-terrain pushchairs
- Tom's Burger van and Ultrasport in assembly.
- Waterproof jacket may be required if weather is bad – come prepared.

Please check TVOC website www.tvoc.org.uk in case of inclement weather.

Safety issues

- **Routes to the Starts and from the Finish.** All these routes involve marshalled road crossings. Please take care, and follow marshals' instructions.
- **Road Crossing – Green to Black.** All these courses start at the Far Start which is situated in Common Wood. These courses will cross a road into Penn Wood. This road is not busy but traffic can be fast. **There will be a one minute time-out to cross the road.** The road crossing will be marshalled; please follow the marshals' instructions.
- **Public Access.** Penn Wood and Common Wood 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.
- **Log piles.** Some forestry work has recently been undertaken in Penn Wood. There are some large piles of logs in the wood, particularly around the Finish area. These may well be unstable, so please stay well clear of them. **Parents – please ensure your children fully understand this requirement.**

- **Clothing and Safety Equipment.** Competitors' torso and legs must be covered. We may require a waterproof jacket to be worn or carried if the weather is bad – if so, notices will be displayed in Assembly and on the route to the start. For safety reasons we recommend you carry a whistle (not obligatory). The distress signal is six short blasts, wait one minute, 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 for emergencies.
- **Ponds.** There are a number of ponds in the competition area. More importantly, there is a large pond on Penn Street Common; parents should ensure children do not play around this area.
- **Cattle and other animals.** Penn Wood has some fenced areas (with access gates) which are being used for cattle grazing. Competitors should take particular care when passing by any cattle. Competitors should also be aware that the woods contain deer and other animals, but they are very unlikely to come anywhere near you.

Notes on the area

The 436 acres of Penn Wood is one of the largest ancient woodlands in the Chilterns. The adjacent Common Wood and Two Sisters Plantation have been semi natural ancient woodland managed by man for over 400 years, cover over 250 acres, and are new to orienteering.

We are grateful to the following for allowing use of these areas:

- The Woodland Trust (Paul Jarczewski) for Penn Wood.
- The Penn and Tylers Green Residents Society (Mike Morley) and Larchlands Woods Ltd (David Winder) for Common Wood.
- Anthony Miller for Two Sisters Plantation.

The commercial premises on which we are parking was a furniture factory for many years. During the war, the woodworking skills of the employees were utilised to manufacture fuselage parts for De Havilland Mosquito aircraft, hence the name given to the redeveloped section of the estate. We are grateful to Sam Buckles for allowing use of the Commercial Estate and the De Havilland Court offices for car parking.

Travelling by car

Parking space is very tight. Please share transport if at all possible. If you are meeting friends at the event, one option would be to meet in Amersham, or the north side of High Wycombe, and share one car to the event. The following car parks are free on Sunday and are just off the route you will be taking:

- in Old Amersham at SU 959972, nearest postcode HP7 0HL, and
- in Hazlemere at SU 890956, nearest postcode HP15 7BD.

Parking for the event is at Penn Street which is just off the A404 between High Wycombe and Amersham.

Please approach the event along the A404.

- If coming from the High Wycombe direction, turn right off the A404 onto Penn Street (confusingly, the road has the same name as the village) at grid reference SU 924965, nearest postcode HP7 0QW. Parking is signposted left off this road after approximately 1000m.
- If coming from Amersham, turn left from the A404 into School Lane at grid reference SU 928963, nearest postcode HP7 0QJ; at the far end of School Lane, turn left onto Penn Street. Parking is on the left after approximately 800m.

Car parking is on hard standing / tarmac in two areas adjacent to the Hit or Miss pub. Please be alert to pedestrians, who will be sharing the entrance driveway with you. There is a £2 car park fee to be donated to a charity nominated by Sam Buckles.

Please park as directed by the marshals, and be prepared to be parked tightly – space is very limited. There is a short walk from the office block parking, past the pub, to the Commercial Estate where Registration, Tom's Burger Van, Ultrasport and Toilets are located. See map at end of these final details.

Some cars will need to be accommodated in overflow parking some 350m away from Assembly. This road has no footpath, so **please be aware of traffic**. Priority for the main parking will be given to cars with more than one occupant.

Please do not park on the roadside in Penn Street or in the pub car parks.

Travelling by Public Transport

Penn Street is approximately 3 miles from both Amersham and High Wycombe, served by the Chiltern Line, from London Marylebone and Birmingham. Amersham is also on the Metropolitan Line. There is an hourly bus service between Amersham and High Wycombe (Carousel Buses, number 1), with stops near the railway stations. Disembark at the stop on the A404 close to its junction with Penn Street; Penn Street (the road) runs south from its junction with the A404, about 50m east of the bus stop – assembly is about 1000m along Penn Street.

Enquiries / Entry on the Day / EMIT hire

Pre-entry through Fabian 4 (www.fabian4.co.uk) remains open until midnight on Wednesday 18th February. Map numbers will be determined on Sunday 15th February, and entries after that date will be at the Entry on the Day price – see below – and subject to map availability.

Enquiries, entry on the day, and hired Emit card collection are housed in a loading bay at the back of the main Industrial Buildings – see map on final page. They will be open from 9.00am to 11:30am.

On the day Registration, subject to map availability.

Seniors £14.00, (£16.00 non-BOF)

Seniors on White, Yellow, Orange courses £6.00

Juniors £6.00

Emit hire fee £1.50. **Lost Emit cards will be charged at £45.**

Lone travellers are encouraged to leave car keys with Enquiries.

Starts

Pre-entered competitors who have their own Emit cards can go directly to the appropriate Start.

A single copy of each of the White and Yellow course maps will be available for perusal at Enquiries. Competitors' maps will be available in the pre-start area. **NB** An entry does NOT provide an extra map for any shadower!

The **Near Start** (White to Short Green) is 300m from Assembly. Turn **right** out of the car park following the tapes, keep to the footpath, and only cross the main village road at the marshalled road crossing. Walk around the left hand side of the Common. The call up area is on the edge of the Common beyond the clothing tent (where clothing can be left for collection after finishing) and the First Aid tent.

The **Far Start** (Green to Black) is 1500m from Assembly. Turn **left** out of the car park following the tapes, and cross the road at the marshalled crossing, then through a gate onto a footpath; continue following the tapes for approximately 1400m. The route then crosses another road, and enters Common Wood; the Start is approximately 100m from this point.

A clothing transfer will operate from the entrance to Common Wood; deposit clothing into one of the bin liners provided, remembering the number of the bag. These bags will be transferred to the clothing tent on Penn Street Common.

Start times are pre-allocated and can be found on Fabian4. It will be a punching start. If you are late, you will be slotted in to the next available time.

Finish

The Finish is close to the Near Start. The route from the Finish passes the drinks station, clothing tent and the First Aid tent, then across the marshalled road crossing back to Assembly.

Course close at 14:15. Please ensure you have reported to Download by then, to avoid a search for you being initiated. **You must report back to Download even if you retire.**

String Course

A free String Course will be found near the Near Start, approximately 300m from the Assembly Area, and is reached by the same route via the marshalled road crossing. The course is suitable for all-terrain pushchairs.

Map and Terrain

The newly extended map by Bob and Pattie Beresford is at 1:10000 scale, with 5m contours, on waterproof paper – A3 for Green to Black courses, and A4 for White to Short Green courses. It has been drawn using OCAD 11.

Common Wood and Two Sisters Plantation were newly mapped in 2014 and Penn Wood was updated in Winter 2014.

Penn Wood is generally flat and Common Wood is more gently sloping. Both areas have a good network of paths although some minor paths may still be obscured by fallen leaves. The areas have a very varied mixture of conifer, beech and oak, and some semi open areas. There are a number of ponds which resulted from the land being used for grazing until the 19th century. There are many pits and depressions, some quite large, as a result of ancient clay and flint workings. There are many small knolls and generally only those more than 1m high have been mapped. There are also many rootstocks with an associated pit and knoll left after fallen trees have long been removed and generally these have not been mapped.

Parts of the south and west of Penn Wood are enclosed with barbed wire or Rylock cattle-proof fences and are being used for cattle grazing. Competitors should use the access gates to enter or exit these areas, and should take particular care as they pass by any cattle. Competitors are positively discouraged from climbing over these fences and any damage caused by competitors who climb over these fences must be reported at Download.

One internal barbed wire fence in the northern part of Penn Wood is not part of the cattle grazing area and has one crossing point (marked on the map) for competitor use. This fence can also be crossed (with care) at other points, by rolling underneath.

Both woods have a number of small fenced enclosures (some are being used for nature studies and others are around individual trees) which are marked as a square fence.

✚ Power lines are not shown on the map.

There has been significant forestry work in the north east of Penn Wood to thin out some plantations. This has resulted in some areas with brashings, rootstocks and windblown trees. These areas have been marked as dense undergrowth with vegetation boundaries.

Non-standard symbols:

Bench = **o**

Hide = **x**

Out of Bounds areas. All OOB areas are clearly marked on the map. This includes fenced off fields, the golf course and settlements adjacent to Common Wood. There are two areas on the west side of Common Wood which are not fenced, but have paths as a boundary and are clearly marked as OOB on the map. There are no direct routes through these areas and the courses are planned to avoid them.

Courses

Course	Start	Distance km	Climb m	Controls	Technical Difficulty
White	Near	1.5	5	11	Easy
Yellow	Near	2.7	10	15	Easy
Orange	Near	3.3	15	11	Moderate
Light Green	Near	3.8	20	11	Difficult
Very Short Green	Near	3.6	20	12	Very Difficult
Short Green	Near	4.2	30	12	Very Difficult
Green	Far	4.3	85	13	Very Difficult
Short Blue	Far	5.0	90	17	Very Difficult
Blue	Far	6.4	100	20	Very Difficult
Short Brown	Far	8.0	110	25	Very Difficult
Brown	Far	10.0	135	26	Very Difficult
Black	Far	11.8	155	36	Very Difficult

Control Descriptions

Control descriptions are printed on the map. 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.

Electronic Punching

EMIT electronic punching system will be used. A demonstration EMIT control will be available at Enquiries. It is the competitor's responsibility to check that their EMIT card has been registered, including on the back-up card, at each control and the Finish. Reinstatement for missing electronic punches will only be made on visible evidence of the correct pin punch on the back-up card. Hire cards will include back-up card on collection. Spare back-up cards will be available at Registration.

Dogs

Well behaved dogs are permitted in the car park and in the woods, but only on leads. Please clear any 'deposits' left by your dog.

Facilities

First Aid will be located on Penn Street Common close to the Finish and clothing tent.

Water / squash available near the Finish. Please dispose of drink cups in the bag provided. **It is essential that none are dropped by the wayside on the way back to Assembly**; our future use of these woods is contingent on maintaining good relations with the residents.

Toilets, along with Tom's Diner and Ultrasport will be located in the Assembly Area. **Please support Tom and Ian.**

There are two good pubs in the village – The Hit or Miss and the Squirrel. Both serve food on Sunday lunchtimes, but they do become very busy. If you want to eat there after your run, you are recommended to book (Hit or Miss 01494 713109, Squirrel 01494 711291). There are also some good pubs in the nearby villages of Winchmore Hill and Penn.

Results

Results will be displayed near to download and will be posted on the TVOC website (<http://www.tvoc.org.uk>) shortly after the event.

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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Planner: Steve Long, TVOC
Controller: Philip Gristwood, MV

Courses close at 14:15. You must report to download even if you do not complete your course.

www.tvoc.org.uk

