

TVOC Hodgemoor Wood Event 23rd October 2011 – Level C

FINAL DETAILS (13th October)

Directions

Please approach from the west. Signed from A355 Beaconsfield to Amersham. Bottrells Lane goes east off A355 from a lay-by almost opposite the Harte and Magpies Pub, Grid Reference SU957942. Signs to a picnic area are also there. The lane has a narrow section - take care. Car parking is in a field on the south side of the road at Stockings Farm, GR SU962941. Car park fee £1. After turning off the road through a gate, there is an immediate right turn through a second gate, then follow the marshals' directions.

SAFETY

There are likely to be many young horse riders in the area - an adjacent riding school uses the wood. Also dog walkers and cyclists. Please be considerate to other users of the wood. The brown and blue courses cross the road and hence due to British Orienteering requirements are restricted to 16+ age groups. The road carries little traffic, but nevertheless please take care crossing.

Competitors travelling **alone** might wish to leave their car keys at Enquiries.

Lost competitors should head north to the field or road and follow paths to the stile.

Planner's Comments - Safety Recommendations

"The signature feature of Hodgemoor Woods is the steep and very deep depressions. Accordingly, competitors on light green, blue and brown courses will face some short but extremely steep climbs to enter/exit these depressions and are strongly recommended to wear spiked or dob-spiked shoes. The green course has been planned to be more sympathetic to older or less agile orienteers, but there are some steepish slopes nonetheless. In the event of wet weather, slopes will be very slippery for all TD4/5 courses. Care should be taken and appropriate footwear worn.

Hodgemoor has an extensive and well-mapped path network and runnability varies from excellent to impenetrable in diverse parts of the woods. Given the Indian summer, the bracken has not died back as much as expected - if there is an undergrowth screen on the map, runnability will be seriously affected and you may wish to take this into account when planning your routes. The planner, where time allowed, has made minor amendments to the map in the vicinity of controls sites but has not fully updated the map. **In particular** the planner and controller ask that competitors on the brown and blue courses should note that BMX riders have created a complex of knolls on the optimum route between controls 118 and 119 in the extreme NW of the map - these knolls, which are up to 2m in height are not mapped and should be ignored.

Finally, thanks to Seamus for stepping in to act as planner on the day - when I was sent overseas a month earlier than originally planned." - Mike Edwards.

Terrain

Typical runnable Chiltern mixed woodlands on a slight southward slope with a good path network and some deep depressions as mentioned above.

Map

Printed on waterproof paper by PRINT5. Base maps will be on display in assembly & in the start lanes. Map scale is 1:10,000 for all courses.

Courses

Course	Distance km	Climb m	Controls	Technical difficulty	Map scale
White	1.5	25	10	Very easy	1:10,000
Yellow	2.1	45	10	Very easy	1:10,000
Orange	3.5	45	14	Easy	1:10,000
Long Orange	5.0	75	19	Easy	1:10,000
Light Green	3.4	65	13	Moderate	1:10,000
Green	4.6	80	15	Hard	1:10,000
Blue	7.2	130	25	Hard	1:10,000
Brown	9.0	150	28	Hard	1:10,000

Courses close at 14:30 sharp.

Control Descriptions

Control descriptions are printed on the map. Loose control descriptions will be available in the start lanes. White, Yellow, Orange and Long Orange courses use text descriptions; all other courses use IOF symbols.

Registration

Pre-entry remains open until midnight on Friday 21st October. Please use it to avoid queues at Registration.

On the day - entry from 10:00 to 12:00, subject to map availability.

Seniors £6.00, (£8.00 non-BOF), M/W80+ and Juniors £3.00. EMIT hire fee £1.00. (Note there is a £40 charge for lost cards).

Dogs

Dogs permitted in woods and car park but under strict control.

Starts

Pre-entered competitors who have their own EMIT cards can go directly to the Start. Pre-entered competitors who have hired EMIT cards can collect them from a table adjacent to the Registration tent.

The start is approximately 400m level walk from the car park field edge via a temporary stile across a fence.

Start blocks

10:30 - 10:50, 10:50 - 11:10, 11:10 - 11:30, 11:30 - 12:00 and 12:00 -12:30.

String course

The string course is sited a short distance east of the colour courses' start.

Finish

The finish is approximately 150 metres southeast of the stile.

You **must** download even if you retire.

Facilities

Drinks at the finish, Tom's Burger Van in the field - please support, First Aid provided by Abingdon Venture Rescue, Ultrasport.

Results

Results will be displayed near the Registration tent and should be posted on the TVOC website (<http://www.tvoc.org.uk>) during the evening.

We would much appreciate your help by using route gadget after the event to help us plan in future.

Organiser: Yvonne Hodson TVOC

Tel: 01628 528569

Email: yvonne@phod.net

Planner: Mike Edwards RAFO, on the day James Cunnane TVOC

Controller: Jim Prowting TVOC

Competitors take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.

Thanks are due to Keith and Elizabeth Bennett – Chiltern Farm Foods.

Traditional breeds pork, bacon, lamb and game in season. Can be found at many Farmers Markets in the area. See their leaflet at Enquiries.