

Orienteering Event Information

Kinver Edge Sunday 21st January 2018

Harlequins Orienteering Club welcomes you to this competition. The Edge is a National Trust property on the Staffordshire-Worcestershire border three miles west of Stourbridge. For more information about the area, please see the event flyer.

This is a West Midlands League event. League categories can be seen at www.wmoa.org.uk/competitions.html#westmidlandsleague but it is not compulsory to run in your specified category. If you're not sure which course to choose, our Registration team will advise you.

This is an open event: non-members are welcome to take part, running or walking.

As usual, go to the website www.harlequins.org.uk before travelling, to check that there have been no changes.

Car parking

There's a £2 charge for parking. Please share transport if possible.

The main parking area will be on hard-standing next to the farmer's barn at the Kinver Edge Farm Shop on Sandy Lane DY7 6HU. The access road is just to the south of the entry to the Farm Shop car park. Please follow signs and marshals' instructions. The hard-standing is made of crushed building materials ó it's not very attractive but it's fine for parking on. There's **farm machinery** in the parking area ó please keep **children** off it. There's a field of cattle next to the parking area so if you have a **dog** please keep it in your vehicle or on a lead.

Overflow parking. Once the main parking area is full we'll put cars on the field behind the Farm Shop car park. If there's been a period of **wet weather** we'll operate a slightly different plan: we'll park **4x4's** on the field, rather than using it as an overflow area.

Registration and download

These will be located in an area behind the Farm Shop. If you have one, bring your SI card to Registration. **Toilets** will be located in the same area.

Entry fees

Adults Members of orienteering clubs £8
 Non-members £10
 Orange/Yellow/White £5

Juniors and students: £1

SI card hire: £1

Start

The Start is **10 minutes' walk** south from Registration/Download along Sandy Lane. Keep to the EAST side of the lane, using the verge where possible. The Start is on the other side of the road at the end of the lane, and there will be a crossing marshal on duty. Please do not cross if he/she instructs you to wait. Follow tapes from the road to the Start.

Before you walk to the start, check: have you got whistle, compass, SI card. Control descriptions will be at the Start.

It's a queuing and punching Start, i.e. you can start any time between 10.30 and 12.30.

Finish

The Finish is close to the Start. Therefore follow the same route along the lane back to Download.

Clothing dump

There will be a clothing dump at the Start. Don't forget to pick up your clothes when you finish! After 12.30 the remaining bags of clothing will be transferred to the Finish.

Courses

<u>Course</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Climb</u>	<u>Technical difficulty</u>
Brown	8.1km	310m	5
Blue	5.6km	200m	5
Green	3.6km	140m	5
Short Green	3.1km	115m	5
Light Green	3.0km	110m	4
Orange	2.3km	80m	3
Yellow	2.2km	50m	2
White	1.5km	35m	1 (easy)

The **White** and **Yellow** courses will have smiley/frowny faces at certain points to help children check that they are going the right way.

Warnings and advice

Under the terms of use of the area, fences must not be climbed or straddled. For the sake of clarity the map has not been overprinted to show this, but you will be reminded of this at the Start, and runners seen crossing fences will have to be disqualified.

If you open a **gate**, you must close it behind you. Gates may be climbed if necessary.

There are many **crags** in the area, so take care in areas where these are shown on the map. If you need to go near them, try to approach them from below.

Do not enter the mountain biking area. This is marked as out of bounds on the map.

Wear suitable clothing and footwear. Remember that you will be out for some time and if you get lost you may get cold. Full leg cover is compulsory since there are areas of brambles and other undergrowth. Shoes: a sole with some grip is useful for the steep and slippery surfaces.

Water is not supplied. Less experienced participants are advised to carry water.

You must carry a **whistle**. In an emergency the signal is six blasts, repeated every minute.

Emergency telephone: 07444 002954.

Emergency bearing: if you are totally lost and need to retire, go East to the lanes.

If you do retire, you must inform Download. We need to know that all participants are safe.

The area is heavily used by walkers, bikers and riders. Please be courteous towards them. **Horses** are easily spooked so please try to avoid doing this if at all possible.

A headcam video from the 2015 event is online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKJAiiwIOV0

Officials

Organiser Adrian Bailey (HOC) 07444 002954 dadge@hotmail.com
Planner Barry Houghton (HOC)
Controller Ian Hopkins (WRE)

Acknowledgements

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