



Event Information
Event Information V3
as of 30th Oct 2020

Harlequins Orienteering Club

Virtual Orienteering in the Wyre Forest

(near Bewdley)



Orienteering in
Worcester, Hereford,
South Shropshire, Black
Country and
Birmingham.

Venue, Travel & Permission

The Start & Finish are located in the North part of the Wyre Forest near Buttonoak which is located approximately 3 miles North West from Bewdley on the B4194 (Postcode DY12 3AQ).

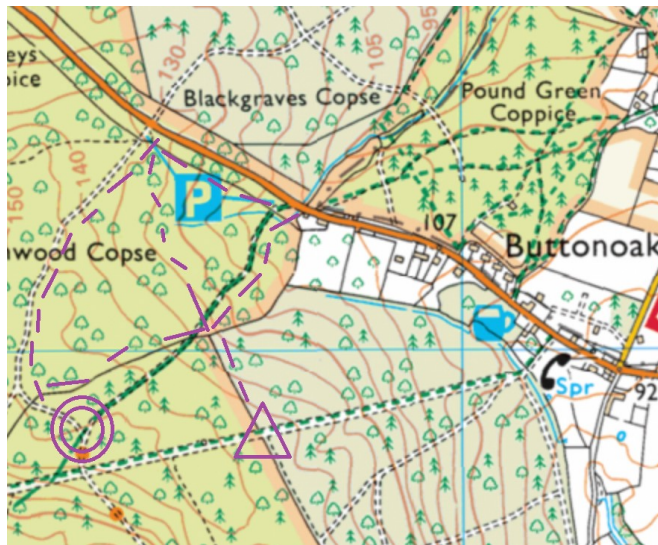
Please take note of the new start and finish locations.

This activity has been approved by Forestry England from **Sunday 1st November 2020 - Sunday 31st January 2021 at 7.00pm.**

Please do not take part in this activity outside of these dates.

Parking:

Drive through Buttonoak and park at either of the car parks indicated below. The car parks are not obviously signed with the first appearing immediately on your left as you start to leave the village. The further car park (named Earnwood Copse) can also be found on the left of the road, a further 300m from Button Oak. It is also possible to park directly opposite on the Postensplain side of the road if Earnwood Copse is full. Please note that in good weather these car parks (and Bewdley) can get very busy at weekends.



Forest Information:

The Wyre Forest summer vegetation which is still prevalent in places should start to die down as we approach winter.

The Forestry Commission has placed No Entry signs near some areas of activity / felling - these are not marked on the map - please do not enter any of these OOB areas.

Roaming Cows - there are some free roaming cows to the north of the Start / Finish location. I understand that they are managed within an "invisible boundary" using some sort of technology. They appear to be quite docile even though they have large horns! Roaming cows may also be present to the South West of the map depending when you run.

The area is frequented with Dog Walkers, Mountain Bikers and Horse Riders, please be courteous.

Map:

A4, Scale 1:10000, partially updated - October 2020 by Alison Sloman for this event.

Start Location:

From either car park follow the forest road / track to the start (possible routes are indicated on the OS Map above). It is approximately 600 - 700m uphill to the start from the car park which is located on the large ride / small path junction. The finish is located at the main forest road / track junction. And is approximately the same distance back to the car parks.

Courses:

The following colour coded courses are available. Planner: Paul Basher

| Course | Distance | Climb | Controls |
|-------------|----------|-------|----------|
| Brown | 8.0 km | 350 m | 16 |
| Short Brown | 7.0 km | 275 m | 16 |
| Blue 1 | 6.0 km | 190 m | 12 |
| Blue 2 | 6.0 km | 275 m | 13 |
| Green | 4.1 km | 165 m | 11 |
| Short Green | 3.2 km | 125 m | 8 |

Additional courses may be possible using the same set of controls if there is sufficient interest. E.g. reversing the direction. Contact the planner if you are interested.

Please note that controls 57 and 40 have a temporary hide constructed of fallen branches to help identify the exact location of the control site.

MapRun Information:

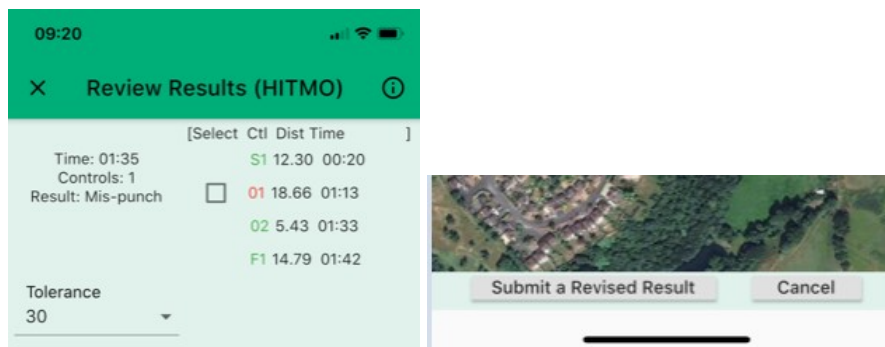
See the instructions on the HOC website on how to use the **MapRunF** app. If you don't have the app the course can be recorded on a GPS watch and can be sent to the MapRun admin to upload. If you have a smart GPS watch then the **MapRunG** app for Garmin watches is the best option.

There is very little / no mobile network coverage near the car parks so please download the event before you leave home by pressing the "Select Event" option and then navigating to: UK - West Midlands - Wyre Forest - <selected course>. **No PIN is required**

A pdf of the course and control descriptions are available on the HOC website or via email (VOCs@harlequins.org.uk). Please print before leaving home also.

Using GPS in the Wyre Forest can be tricky at times particularly when the phone loses the mobile network. If this happens and you don't receive any punch confirmation do not spend too long looking for it (as long as you are confident of your location....).

After your run if you think that you should be credited with more controls, you can provisionally revise the controls visited by using the HITMO option accessed from the top right menu on the results screen (see screenshot below). You can select any controls highlighted in red and then submit your revised results using the button at the bottom of the screen. The MapRun admin will review and allow or disallow as appropriate based on your GPS track.

**Dogs:**

Dogs welcome, please keep under control and respect other forest visitors. The area is frequented by walkers, runners, mountain bikers and horse riders.

Facilities:

None.

Safety:

Competitors take part at their own risk. These courses are not covered by British Orienteering insurance, so are at your own risk as if you were going out training on your own.

Neither British Orienteering or Harlequins accepts any liability for your use of the course or map. Please use them safely looking out for yourself and other members of the public who may be in the area. Also please follow the latest government advice on social distancing.