



Not an ordinary run!
Newcomers welcome!
v1.1

Harlequins Orienteering Club
Invite you to take part in a
**Virtual Night Street League
Event**

in

Stourbridge

Between Thursday 17th December 2020 and
(date to be advised)



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

- Parking:** Public car park in Church Street; nearest postcode DY8 1LZ or NGR SO904839. If you approach from the north, you will need to take account of one way streets. Currently, all parking charges have been waived, but if they have resumed the first two hours parking is still free as long as you take a free ticket from the machine.
- Travel:** Nearest Stations - Stourbridge Town Rail, and Stourbridge Interchange Bus Station are both just a few minutes walk.
- Terrain:** Urban orienteering and map running with options to run along streets, and some small urban parks. A wide variety of old and new residential areas with several footpaths.
- Map:** A4 sized 1:10,000 scale map on Open O map. Will be available on HOC web-site beforehand for participants to download and print. No separate control descriptions: Controls numbered 1-12 are all postboxes. All other controls can be pinpointed by map reading.
- Course:** 60 minute score, with controls taken in any order worth 20 points each. Any time over 60 minutes will be penalised at the rate of 10 points per minute, or part thereof.
- Entries:** To maintain social distancing, there are no fixed start times and a lengthy start window, so starts will be at the participant's time and date of choosing subject to local guidance on coronavirus restrictions.
- Scoring:** Using MapRun. Competitors may adjust scores using the "HITMO" function. Organiser can help if you are unfamiliar with this.
- Facilities:** There are toilets in the bus station (20p) near control 22, and outside Tesco in the Crown Centre (free) near control 2.
- Officials:** Organiser/Planner: Robert Vickers (Tel 01384 377008)
- Safety:** Competitors take part at their own risk. Hi-vis clothing recommended at all times and headtorches should be used in dusk/night conditions. Some of the potential routes pass through dark alleyways and secluded paths. Crime is not unknown in Stourbridge. Participants are expected to observe social distancing and other coronavirus guidelines issued by the government.

Read and remember this: You must only cross the very obvious town centre Ring Road by means of the pedestrian crossings and subways which have all been overprinted on the map. It has not been possible to show all the entrances to the subways accurately at this scale, so you may need to look around for them. In particular, one subway has entrances in the bus station itself, as well as one portal immediately on the east side of the Ring Road - but its only western portal emerges about 30m beyond the ring road, leading into the town centre. An enlarged plan showing details of the subways is below.

And this: Several unlit footpaths and open areas have steps and unexpected obstructions, so must always be treated with caution - and only if you have a good light. If you choose to use the canal towpath, that requires obvious precautions.

Notes:

The car park has three entrances off Church Street and the start/finish is set by the middle one. So it is a good idea to park at the top (far) end of the car park to set up your phone, and move down for your start beep. Beware using a route passing the start zone again during your run, or you will finish prematurely.

The approaches to control 15 both look a bit “private” but it is a public footpath, clearly lit by lamp posts. From the south, there are signs which suggest you are entering the grounds of Rufford School. From the north, it looks very much like you are entering the drive of a private house and going very close round the side of it. Note that there is a lamp post near this point to give you confidence that you are right.

Website & Availability Updates:

For the latest information check NSL pages at: <http://www.harlequins.org.uk>

Supplementary Map of Ring Road Crossings

This enlarged map of the Ring Road may be helpful:

Magenta lines show subways and their access points.

Blue lines show surface pedestrian crossings controlled by light signals.

