

Harlequins Orienteering Club

Invites you to take part in a

Level C Orienteering Event

at

The Clent Hills

On

Sunday 29 November 2026

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

Final Details- V1

Event Overview:

With the permissions of the National Trust and the Sunfield Garden School, HOC is holding a Level C orienteering event which forms part of the West Midlands Orienteering Association's 2026 League competition. This is the first time in 20 years that the Clent Hills have been used for such an event.

The event is open to experienced orienteers, as well as first timers, with courses, of various lengths, for all age groups. Entries are open to all, not just club members.

Venue:

The event centre will be in the car park at the Sunfield Garden School, Clent Grove, Woodman Lane, Clent, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY9 9PB, https://what3words.com/blocks.solved.bolts

Enquiries, download and first aid will be set up in two tents in the north of this car park, together with portaloos.

Travel:

There is no public transport to the event centre other than travelling by bus or train to Hagley followed by a walk on public footpaths of nearly 3km. Please make arrangements to car share given the finite amount of parking available at the event centre. Anyone who would like to get to the event centre on foot is advised to walk from Hagley (where there is a station), via Hagley Hall, and to approach the Sunfield School car park from the west on a public footpath which passes through the car park.

Parking:

All entrants arriving by car must use the staff car park at the Sunfield Garden School. The National Trust has specifically asked that the Trust's car parks are not used for this event. Competitors are asked to respect this to enable us to return to the Hills in future years and to avoid walking through the competition area to get to the start.

The Sunfield Garden School is operated by the Ruskin Mill Trust. The Trust provides therapeutic education and care for children, young people, and adults with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Given the sensitivity of the location, cars attending the event will be met by a marshal at the school gate and checked off to ensure that the car details have been registered. Cars will then proceed directly to the car park. Competitors must not access the school grounds on foot but and must leave, and return to, the car park on the public footpath between the car park and the Hills.

Please arrive at the school entrance before 12:00 to allow for changing and getting up to the start, and to let the parking marshals have a run. If anyone is going to be later than this to travel disruptions please telephone the organiser (John Leeson, 07756 103886) to arrange for late entry to

the school and a hasty walk to the start!

There is no public parking in Clent Village and the lanes are narrow so please use the event car park unless arriving on foot from Hagley or Lower Clent.

The parking fee will be £4/car with all parking proceeds being donated to the School Trust following the event. Entrants are encouraged to car share to ensure that the 100 car parking spaces available are adequate.

Terrain:

The Clent Hills are on the outskirts of Birmingham and a short distance from the M6 but comprise over 400 acres of land rising to almost 300mAOD in places.

The hills are cared for by the National Trust and have a mixture of heath, plantation and low naturally seeded beech and oak woodlands with a complex network of footpaths and some steep gradients.



The courses have been planned to avoid any road crossings. The roads around the perimeter of the Hills are out of bounds as are several areas of private land within and adjacent to the Hills.

Map:

The map has been updated in 2026 by Alison Sloman of HOC. Maps for all courses will be A4 sized and will be printed on waterproof paper at 1:7,500 scale. Separate control descriptions will be available which will be in text format for white and yellow courses.

Runners on Blue and Brown courses will have a double sided map and a map flip mid-course.

The National Trust has erected timber fences in parts of the area and has required that competitors DO NOT cross them even if they are at a height that some runners may be able to. Such fences are shown with the Uncrossable Fence symbol 518 and must not be crossed.

CLENT HILLS- WML EVENT - FINAL DETAILS

Courses:

Nine colour coded courses, from White to Brown, will be offered.

The start will be approximately 500m from the event centre car park and will involve a 40m climb on a well-made path. To avoid a downhill run in on steep paths, the finish will be approximately 1000 m from the car park. Routes to the start and from the finish will be marked with tape. Please follow these to avoid potential interference with runners in the event area.

Entrants may enter and run any course but if you want to score WM League points for your club, you should run one of the courses assigned for your age group as per the League Rules. Course lengths and climbs are set out below:

Course	Course Length/km	Climb/m	Technical Difficulty
Brown	7.3	305	Hard
Blue	5.7	250	Hard
Green	3.9	175	Hard
Short Green	3.2	160	Hard
Very Short Green	2.5	145	Hard
Light Green	2.9	140	Medium
Orange	2.5	115	Medium
Yellow	2.0	100	Easy
White	1.4	85	Easiest

Controls will be SIAC enabled with punching start and finish.

Registration and Entries:

Entries are open on Fabian 4 at this link:

https://www.fabian4.co.uk/default.aspx?EventID=4343

Entries will close on 23 November (or a later date if advised on the HOC website).

Entry on the day will be NOT be possible due to the need to control vehicle numbers in the event car park.

Entry Fees:

The parking fee is payable, via Fabian 4, when entering. If you are being given a lift to the event, please enter the registration number of the car you will be travelling in.

Entry fees are set out below.

Fees	Entry for HOC/BOF members	Non- HOC/BOF member supplement
Adult	£10	£2
Junior	£4	£1

Start Times:

Starts will be from 10:30 am to 12:30 and due to limited daylight, and having regard to the safety of competitors and control collectors, all courses will close at 2:30pm after which controls will be collected in promptly.

Accordingly, if you want to run a long course, and expect to be out for over two hours please start in good time.

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Everyone who starts the race must report to download in the Event Centre, so please report back so that we don't start looking for you!

Officials:

Organiser	:	John Leeson, HOC, e-mail johnleeson@aol.com
	:	tel 07756 103886
Planner	:	Ian Chafer, HOC
Controller	:	Clive Richardson, WRE

Safety:

A risk assessment has been completed and has identified that the Hills are well used by the general public such that competitors will encounter other footpath users and should take care to avoid collisions. Mountain bikers also use the hills and runners are advised to be vigilant before crossing or entering steep paths.

British Orienteering provides public indemnity insurance to its members. Non members do not benefit from this insurance and could be liable if they injure a member of the public while taking part.

Latest Info:

For further updates see the Harlequins website at:
www.Harlequins.org.uk