



Dartford Orienteers and the British Schools Orienteering Association

present the

BRITISH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

Sunday 17 November

Shorne Woods Country Park, Kent

This weekend's events are being staged in Kent by Dartford Orienteers and the British Schools Orienteering Association.

These event details should be read in conjunction with the rules for this event found under National Competitions at www.bsoa.org

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BRITISH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

Sunday 17th November 2024 at Shorne Woods Country Park near Gravesend

FINAL DETAILS

Event officials

General Enquiries: Before the event to Melanie Elkington bsoasecretary@gmail.com Tel no. 01926 854639 (9am to 9pm)

Organisers: Mark Collins and Andrew Evans DFOK

Planner: Geoff Goodwin DFOK

Controller: Barry Elkington OD

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Kent County Council for permission for us to use the area and the facilities at the Visitor Centre.

Cancellation

It is very unlikely that we will need to cancel either of these events, but if you are concerned about cancellation please check the website www.bsoa.org or telephone enquiries on 07941 352053, before 9pm.

Getting there

Shorne Country Park is less than 500m from the Shorne signposted exit accessed from either carriageway of the A2. Follow the brown tourist signs to the main entrance to the country park.

The grid reference is TQ685700, the postcode is DA12 3HX, w3w is assure.happy.active and the GPS coordinates are 51.404310,0.419757.

Parking, Event Centre and Facilities

Vehicles will be parked on hard standing in the large main public car park for Shorne Woods Country Park. You will pass the Visitor Centre on your left on your way to our parking.

All vehicles should follow the one way system and the red/white Orienteering signs to the furthest part of the car park from the entrance.

Coaches and minibuses will be accommodated in a specially reserved area for this event. There is no height barrier on entry. Coaches and minibuses should have been booked in advance and been included in the entry form information. If there are any changes to the information already provided please contact bsoasecretary@gmail.com with your revised transport plans.

Parking charges are £4 for cars; £9 for minibuses and coaches, valid all day.

Download and Enquiries will be at the entrance to an upstairs room above the Visitor Centre, accessed only from the rear of the Visitor Centre. Look for the tall dark blue DFOK sail banner and follow the Orienteering signs.

The Assembly area for schools is about 50m from the nearest point in the car park and 150m from the Visitor Centre. The route to the Assembly area will also be signed.

Toilets are available in a separate building in front of the Visitor Centre, facing towards the entrance to the car park. There is a shop and cafe at the Visitor Centre. First aid cover will be on hand near to the Visitor Centre.

Enquiries

A responsible adult from each school needs to come to Enquiries, which will be at the far side of the Visitor Centre, to collect a school package consisting of race numbers, safety pins, and participation certificates for each child. Pairs will have a number each.

These will also be available to be picked up at the training day at Trosley Country Park.

(Note: Pairs will be issued with a map each, but only one SI card, at the start.)

There is no entry on the day. However, if illness or injury requires substitution of a runner or runners, please enter the new names on the spare form provided in your school bag and hand it in to Enquiries. This should also include cases where only one of a registered pair now intends to compete.

If there are any mistakes or changes needed to an entrant's class, then this **MUST** be done before the event by email to bssoasecretary@gmail.com

Those borrowing SI cards will collect them during call up at the start. Lost SI cards will be charged to the school responsible at £20.

Competitors who declared their own SI card on the entry form should bring it. If you wish to use your own but haven't declared it then you may use it but must let us know before you run.

Race Numbers

Competitors must wear their numbers on their chest so that the number is clearly visible. For pairs, each runner will have the same race number. Pairs will be issued one race number with a black number and one race number with a black number and a red line. Please use only the black numbered one if a member of a pair drops out. If they are still running as a pair a red line will be put on the number without one at Enquiries.

Safety

Whilst we will do everything we can to make this event as safe as possible, competitors do take part at their own risk.

It is your responsibility to ensure that competitors are properly prepared for the event and clothed in a manner suitable for the conditions on the day. There are some brambles in the woodland so leg protection is essential.

- Full leg cover (O trousers, tracksuit trousers or similar) is required. Not shorts.

- Arm cover over at least the shoulders must be worn. Not running vests.

Anyone not wearing the appropriate clothing will not be allowed to start.

It is compulsory for whistles to be carried whatever the weather.

In the event of very bad weather the wearing or carrying of waterproof jackets may be compulsory – please come prepared. Notices will be put up at enquiries if they are required.

The park is very popular so there will be members of the public, some with dogs, walking around the area and occasional horse riders and cyclists. Please respect their right to enjoy the area.

There will be official event marshals in the woods who will be wearing Hi-Vis jackets. These can be approached at any time if assistance is required by any child.

It is imperative that all competitors report to both the finish and download whether or not they have completed their course.

We will, of course, be monitoring the time that runners are out their course, but you can help us by letting Enquiries know if you are concerned about one of your team.

Adults & Teachers

Accompanying Teachers & Adults **must not enter the competition area or accompany competitors into the Start area after call-up.** If they do so, the competitor will be disqualified. **Please ensure that all adults accompanying your team are aware of this.**

Map and Control descriptions

A waterproof five colour map at a scale of 1:7,500 with 5 metre contours, overprinted with the controls and control descriptions in written format.

Written control descriptions for the championships will be printed on the front of the map. Separate, loose control descriptions will not be available.

A blank map will have been emailed to each school with these final details.

Terrain

Shorne Woods Country Park consists largely of woodland of variable runnability interspersed with open spaces, some with scattered trees, and water features such as lakes and marshes. The area is quite hilly with many brown features such as pits, gullies and depressions. There is a well-defined path network. There is a large children's playground near the finish area.

SI Control Punching

The SI electronic punching system will be used and SI cards will be provided at the event.

Competitors may use their own SI card, but this should have been indicated on the entry form. The SI card used must match the card number shown on their race number label. If not, Enquiries must be notified, and any changes made before the competitor proceeds to the start. In the interests of fairness, the ability to punch "contactlessly" with your own SI card (i.e. active SIAC) will be disabled by turning off all contactless SI cards in the Start lane.

Starts

Start times are from 11.00 to 12.30.

Please allow enough time to get to the starts. Start times cannot be adjusted for late arrival. You have been warned!

There are two starts, one for girls and one for boys, which are both 300m from the Visitor Centre and 400m from the Assembly area. The gathering point for two starts is at the same place. Follow the red and white tapes from the Assembly area or from the Visitor Centre.

You must adhere to your allocated start time. If you arrive late for your start, you will be able to start when allowed to do so by the start officials but your start time **will not be adjusted.**

No spectators/teachers/parents are allowed beyond the call up.

The start procedure is as follows:

- Make sure you know which course you are on and what your start time is before you arrive at the start. This information will be on your race number.
- If you do not have a whistle you should ask for one before you enter the first start box
- Call up by name at your start time minus five minutes and enter the first start box
Issuance of your dibber will be within this first start box
The start lanes will be divided into two. Girls will be on the left and boys will be on the right.
Move forward to the next box at each subsequent minute

- At -4 mins, you will:
 - Use the Clear station to clear your SI card
 - Use the Check box to ensure that your SI card was cleared
 - Put your SI card into a third box which will ensure all contactless punching has been disabled. All competitors need to do this, including those with a hired dibber
- At -3 mins, you will walk forward to the -2 mins box. During this minute, girls will turn left at a path junction whilst boys will turn right
- At - 2 mins, you will be able to look at a blank map of the area. It will contain a start triangle to show the location of your start and the two concentric circles which are the finish
- At -1 min you move into the end box to be ready to start. When your start time arrives, there will be a bleep of a start clock
- When you start, you **must dib your SI card** into the start box, then move forward to the correct map tray for your course to pick up your map. Check that the course number on your map is the correct one.

Courses

Class	Technical Standard	Length (km)	Height gain (m)	Controls
G5	White	1.4	30	12
G6	White	1.9	40	16
G7	Yellow	2.0	35	11
G8	Yellow	2.2	50	12
G9	Orange	2.6	70	13
G10	Orange	2.9	80	14
G11	Light Green	3.0	90	16
G12	Light Green	3.4	65	15
G13	Green	3.6	75	15
B5	White	1.5	45	13
B6	White	2.2	65	16
B7	Yellow	2.4	55	12
B8	Yellow	2.7	65	13
B9	Orange	2.8	90	13
B10	Orange	2.9	75	12
B11	Light Green	3.2	85	13
B12	Light Green	3.6	90	14
B13	Green	4.0	85	16

On your Course

Rulings on mis-punching, possibly due to “dibbing” too quickly etc. will be strictly applied at these Championships.

It is the competitor’s responsibility to register accurately and completely at all controls

There are many controls in the area, and competitors can expect to see some that are not on their course. Please make sure control codes are checked carefully. If, however, a competitor does mistakenly “dib” a control that is not the correct one, this will not matter as long as they also “dib” at all the right controls, in the right order.

Finish and Download

There is a single final control and then a taped route to the finish which you must also dib into.

The run in to the finish will be between two rows of white staves with red and white tapes in between the staves, one row on either side of the run in to the finish. There is space for school tents on the south side of the run in. The north side must be kept completely clear for use by members of the public.

Competitors competing in pairs must stay together and both be at finish when dibbing. If one of a pair arrives at the finish on their own, they will be asked to remain there until their partner arrives.

No water will be provided at the finish, so please bring enough in your own containers. Courses close at 2.30pm so please ensure everyone is back by 2.30pm and has reported to download to hand in their SI card whether they have completed their course or not.

After finishing, your map must be placed in a labelled school bag which can be retrieved from there after the last start.

After handing in your map, you must proceed immediately to Download which is outside of the upstairs room at the rear of the Visitor Centre, up the stairs by Enquiries. Follow the red and white tapes. At Download, you will get your print-out with all your split times and will be able to sort out any problems.

Results

Results will be on display near to download and updated regularly during the race. They will also be available via the British Schools Orienteering Association website at www.bsoa.org.

Prizegiving:

This will take place as soon as is possible. Extra medals for non-counters in winning teams will be available from a BSOA representative at £1.50 each once the prizegiving has finished.

Jury

Ray Barnes, Brenda Morgan, Henry Morgan

Please note all complaints must be submitted within half an hour of the end of prizegiving otherwise they will not be considered.

First Aid and Local A & E Hospital

First Aid will be available within the Assembly area.

The nearest NHS A&E hospital is Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford, DA2 8DA (10 mins).

Photographs

As usual, Ray Barnes will be taking photographs in several places at BSOC so that they can be placed on the BSOA web site. Jim Clarke will be taking photos at the finish. The photos will be published without names or ages attached. If you wish to use any of the photos then please email bsoasecretary@gmail.com to ask for permission. If you include the photo’s number we will email you a higher resolution photo and ask that Ray Barnes/Jim Clarke be credited.

Timings and Prizegiving

Prizegiving will take place as early as possible, but provisionally should be at around 2.00 pm.

Awards and Trophies

Medals will be given to the first three individuals in each age class, the first three teams (of three) in each age class, and the first three schools in each category of school.

Participation Certificates are awarded to all competitors, and are included in your school package.

Trophies will be presented to the winning school for each age class and the winning school in each category of school.

If you hold a trophy from BSOC 2023 please return it to enquiries as soon as you arrive at the event on Sunday.

Dogs

Dogs are welcome providing they are kept on a short lead in the parking area and cafe. Dogs are not allowed on the courses.



BRITISH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024 TRAINING EVENT

Saturday 16th November 2024 at

Trosley Country Park, near Gravesend

FINAL DETAILS

There will be training opportunities on the afternoon before the Championships for those competitors that have registered in advance for this. There is no entry on the day for the training.

Enquiries will open at 1:45pm. Please do not arrive before 1:30pm as there is another orienteering event on until that time and parking will be very limited. The training will be available from 2pm to 3:45pm.

Officials

General Enquiries: Melanie Elkington bsoasecretary@gmail.com Tel no. 01926 854639 (9am to 9pm)

Organisers: Mark Collins and Andrew Evans DFOK

Planners: Karen Ransley and Beryl Pring SAXONS

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Kent County Council for permission for us to use the area and the facilities at the Visitor Centre

Safety

The nearest hospitals with A&E services are Maidstone Hospital, Hermitage Lane, Maidstone, ME16 9QQ and Darent Hospital, Darenth Wood Road, DA2 8DA, both about 8 miles away.

Location

Trosley Country Park, Waterlow Road, Vigo DA13 0SG. The grid reference is TQ633612, the postcode is DA13 0SY, w3w is long.paused.raft and the GPS coordinates are 51.326232,0.344354.

The hard standing part of the car park is adjacent to the Visitor Centre but is small. There is an overflow car park on grassy verges nearby which will be our primary parking area.

Coaches and minibuses will be accommodated in the same car park. There is a height barrier and coaches must be booked in advance. You should have indicated on entry if you will be bringing a coach or minibus. Contact bsoasecretary@gmail.com if your transport plans have changed.

Parking charges are £3.50 for cars; £9 for minibuses and coaches, valid all day.

Event Centre

The Event Centre will be a tent on the grass verge near to the far eastern end of the parking areas. This will be to your left as you enter the country park. Look for the tall dark blue DFOK sail banner.

The Event Centre will contain Enquiries and Download.

There will be a First Aid kit for use largely on a self-help basis with a qualified sports first aid qualified DFOK club member present.

There are toilets and a cafe at the Visitor Centre approximately 300m from the Event Centre.

The start and finish are within 100m of the Event Centre.

If you require any help then please contact Mel Elkington bsoasecretary@gmail.com

Entry Details

There is no entry on the day for the training activity.

Training options available

There will be no coaching provided by the organising club but club members will be on hand to get schools started.

There will be controls in the woods with kites and SI control units. The courses available will be of Yellow, Orange and Green standard. As a training event, the Yellow course will be a suitable practice and challenge for those doing the White course at the Championships on Sunday but there will not be control at each decision point, unlike at the Championships. The Green course at Trosley will be of similar standard to both the Light Green and Green courses at the Championships. These three courses can be run as Line courses by taking the controls in order.

There will also be All Controls maps which can be used as a Score course or for training purposes e.g. walking round noting the mapped features.

There will be an opportunity to practice using the SI kit with all of the above training options. You will be able to download your SI card after the training but no aggregated results will be provided or made available afterwards.

Terrain

Trosley Country Park is similar terrain to Shorne Woods Country Park. It consists largely of woodland of variable runnability interspersed with open spaces, some with scattered trees. It differs in not having water features. The land has a flattish plateau in the northern half of the map. To the south, the land descends steeply with a height difference of about 25m. The area has many brown features such as pits, gullies and depressions. There is a well-defined path network.

Equipment Required

Personal gear needs to be either Orienteering kit or a T-shirt or long-sleeved shirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers (or good grip soled shoes). No Shorts or Jeans. Long sleeve shirts are recommended for the Orange and Green courses.

A compass is strongly recommended.

Dogs

Dogs are welcome providing they are kept on a short lead in the parking areas and cafe. Dogs are not allowed on the courses.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND THE BRITISH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

Other activities

For anyone bringing a school group to the event, there are numerous places of interest to visit in the area. These include:

Ightham Mote	https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/kent/ightham-mote
Leeds Castle	https://leeds-castle.com/
Chatham Dockyard	https://thedockyard.co.uk/

British Schools Orienteering Association

The British Schools Orienteering Association (BSOA) exists to provide a link between schools and mainstream orienteering. It is affiliated to the British Orienteering Federation. Membership of BSOA is at present £0 and open to all British schools.