



British Night Orienteering Championships, Touch, 8th February 2025

1. Key points

- You have been allocated a place on the buses to the event area, you must check the [start list on the website](#) and ensure that you arrive in time to go through kit check and catch the correct bus.
- There will be a kit inspection, check the mandatory kit below.
- Starts are timed, call up is 4 minutes before start time.
- Finish – follow instructions on the road back from the finish and
- **DON'T FORGET TO DOWNLOAD**
- Facilities at event area:
 - Enquiries
 - Kit dump
 - Dibber collection
 - Download
 - Toilets
 - Trophy return
 - First aid
- Facilities at car park:
 - Enquiries
 - Key drop
 - Traders
 - Toilets

2. General

Touch Estate was used at the (second ever) Scottish 6-day event in 1979 and has always had a strong reputation for providing high quality orienteering. Since 1979 it has staged a range of other significant competitions including Scottish Championships races, UK Cup elite races and GB team World Championship selection races.

This area is challenging to access and consequently the logistics for the event are relatively complex. Please read the arrangements for getting to the event carefully and ensure that you arrive in time to catch your allocated bus.

We appreciate your cooperation with arrangements to get to the event and look forward to welcoming you on the night!

Acknowledgements

We could not have put on this event without the support of many people. Thank you to all those that have contributed, we are particularly grateful to:

Touch Estate and Forestry Land Scotland for granting permission to use their land.

Mike Bisset for moving his sheep in advance of the event.

Tayside Mountain Rescue Team for providing first aid, search and rescue and other logistical support at no cost.

The event officials and the huge team of volunteers that have sacrificed their time, most of whom are not competing.



3. Getting to and from the event

Car parking

Parking is free at [Castleview Park & Ride](#) near junction 10 on the M9, FK9 4TW/ NS 7784 9483 / W3W: ///hobble.tasks.clan. [There is no height restriction at the car park.](#)

The car park is adjacent to junction 10 on the M9, follow signs to Stirling on the A84, there will be orienteering signs from the A84. There will be marshals to direct traffic within the car park, please park considerately, remember that the car park remains open to the public.

There will be an enquiries tent at the car park. The enquiry tent and toilets will be near the bus waiting room building. The team will have a copy of the start list and bus time allocation. A key drop will be available.

If you are bringing a trophy from last year's event, these will be collected at the enquiries tent in the car park.

Kit check

There will be a kit check before you can join the bus. Once you have passed through the kit check you can move to the bus waiting area.

Bus to event area

There will be a shuttle bus that will take around 10-15 minutes and will run every 15 minutes between here and the [event area](#).

There will be no parking or drop off at the event area.

There is limited space on the buses. You will be allocated a bus number and time (see start list). You must be at the bus pick up point (adjacent to the car park) by the bus departure time. If you miss your bus, you may miss your start.

At the event area

There will be a marquee for kit dump before and changing after your run at the event area, should you wish to do so.

There will be a registration/enquiries desk where hired dibbers can be collected.

Return buses

There will be buses from the event area back to the car park every 15 minutes. Places on return buses will be on a first come, first served basis. It is possible that you will need to wait for up to 30 minutes after you have finished before being able to return.

The bus drivers will probably be grateful if you could ensure that your shoes (and you!) are not too muddy before getting on the return bus. There will be some ponchos available to be used to cover you or the seat if required!

Buses into Stirling

There will be two bus runs into Stirling from the car park, one at 21:30 and one at 22:30. The bus will drop off at Stirling bus station.



4. Facilities and practicalities

Changing, kit dump etc

We recommend that you change into your running kit at the car park and wear extra layers for the journey to the event area. There will be a marquee for kit dump before and changing after your run at the event area, should you wish to do so.

Do consider that you will be hanging around waiting for a bus after your run and ensure that as a minimum you have a change of top, extra layers and warm clothes to wear while you wait.

When changing in the car park, please remember that the car park is open to the public and do so discreetly.

Toilets

There will be toilets at the car park and the event area.

Traders

The following traders will be located at the car park:

[Coull Beans](#) – selling coffee and cake from around 16:30.

[Stirling Pizza](#) – wood-fired pizza from around 17:00. They will take (and would appreciate) advance orders.

[Compass Point](#) – for all your last minute and essential kit needs.

Please take care not to drop litter. We would be grateful if you could take your rubbish home.

Dibber hire

Hired dibbers will be available for collection at the event area.

Drinking water

Drinking water is not available at the car park or event area – please bring your own and consider taking some to the event area with you.



5. Safety Precautions

- Orienteering is an adventure sport and participants take part at their own risk.
- There are numerous, and some very large, crags in the event area.
 - Courses are planned to avoid the large crags.
 - See safety bearings below if you need to relocate.
 - You must follow the marked route from the finish.
- Safety bearings:
 - When on the moor (only courses 1 & 2): head north to the wall.
 - Within the forest: head east to the fence.
- Vehicles
 - You must follow the instructions of the event team at the bus stops.
 - The route back from the finish is along a road that is used frequently. You must follow the instructions of the marshals and only cross at marshalled crossing points.
 - There are two road crossings on the way back from the finish, both marshalled.
- Weather & kit
 - The area is north facing and at an altitude of 20-150m (250m for courses 1 & 2). Most of the courses are within woodland, providing some shelter. Courses 1 & 2 include several legs on the moor, which is very exposed. It is Scotland in February, please check the forecast and plan your apparel accordingly.
 - The following kit is mandatory:
 - Full body cover (as standard for an event of this type)
 - Whistle
 - Spare (charged) headtorch
 - For courses 1 & 2: additional layer of clothing (e.g. jacket)
 - This list may be extended as we get closer to the event in response to the weather forecast. Additional items that may be mandated are:
 - Whistle
 - Spare (charged) torch (may be head/handheld or body-worn)
 - Long sleeved top either warm (e.g. thermal) or a long sleeved top plus another layer
 - For courses 1 & 2 (which go on the moor): wind/waterproof jacket with hood or separate hat
 - ~~Waterproof jacket with hood~~
 - ~~Waterproof trousers~~
 - ~~Thermal top~~
 - ~~Hat and gloves~~
- Things you may encounter
 - You may come across deer in the woods.
 - On courses 1 & 2: You may come across sheep on the moor.
 - All fence crossings are via designated crossing points (gates, which will be open).
 - There is a large pond/lake in the woods, it is clearly visible on approach.
- In case of emergency
 - Tayside Mountain Rescue Team will be present and are providing first aid cover
 - There is good mobile reception across the event area
 - Please contact the organiser on 01786 619189 (forwards to organiser's mobile), this number is printed on the maps



Forth Valley Orienteers





6. Maps / Courses / Start / Finish etc

Course details

Course	Start	Distance (km)	Climb (m)	Classes
Course 1	Far	9.3	475	M21L
Course 2	Far	7.6	305	W21L / M20L / M35L / M40L
Course 3	Near	5.2	280	M18L / M45L / M50L / M21S
Course 4	Near	4.8	230	W20L / W35L / W40L / W21S / M55L / M20S / M35S
Course 5	Near	4.1	190	W18L / W45L / W50L / M16 / M60L / M18S / M40S / M45S
Course 6	Near	3.3	165	W16 / W55L / M65L / M50S
Course 7	Near	2.9	160	W60L / W40S / W35S / W20S / M70L / M55S
Course 8	Near	2.1	105	W65L / W70L / W18S / W45S / W50S / W55S / M75L / M80 / M60S / M65S
Course 9	Near	1.3	60	W75 / W80 / W85 / W60S / W65S / W70S / M85 / M75S / M70S

Courses close at 21:45 you must report to download even if you retire.

Maps

The area was remapped in 2024 using Lidar data by Martin Bagness. All maps have symbols to ISOM 2017-2 and 5m contours.

Courses 1 & 2 are at 1:10,000 scale. All other courses are at 1:7,500 scale.

There will be loose control descriptions. There are control descriptions on all maps.

Controls

SPORTIdent will be used. Touch free punching will be activated, there is no need to punch the finish.

There will be back up punches on all controls. Please punch your map if a control does not appear to be working.

Controls are stakes with flags, neither are reflective but the kites are shiny new.

Start times & seeding

The first start is at 18:30, the last start is at 20:00. Call-up is at T-4, you must be at the appropriate start area by this time.

Competitors with a BO ranking in the top 10 have seeded starts.

All competitors have an allocated [start time](#). There is no need to punch the start. The allocated start time will be used in the results unless the organiser agrees that you can have a punching start (see below).

If you are not able to reach the start for your allocated start time due to an issue within the organiser's control (e.g. late running buses), you may request a punching start. You must request



permission for this from the organiser at the event area, this will then be communicated to the start team. The start team will allocate a revised start time.

Near start

The near start (for courses 3-9) is approximately 400m from assembly with 55m ascent. The route crosses a small stream which is approximately 2m wide and 30cm deep with a gravel/stony bed. There will not a marked crossing point but no bridge, you will get at least one foot wet!

The route includes a steep bank on slippery ground for 40m or so. There will be ropes to help. Please take care on this section and look out for others that may need assistance.

There is limited space for waiting at the start area, you must not pass the start area or go above (to the east of) the route to the start.

Competitors may warm up on the forest road near assembly or on the (very old) track above the steep slope approximately 150m before the start area. The track has been grassed over and may be very wet, don't expect to be able to run very far!

Far start

The far start (for courses 1 & 2) is approximately 1.7km from assembly with 135m ascent. The route is along a forest road for the majority, the start area is approximately 200m off this road

Competitors may warm up on the forest road.

Finish

There is one finish with a taped route to it. The finish will be manned. The route from the finish to assembly is approximately 600m, 400m of which is on a public road.

The finish unit is touch free. **You must punch the safety control after the finish** to ensure that we have a record of you finishing the course when we do final safety checks.

The route from the finish is down an old track to a road. There will be a marshalled road crossing. You must follow instructions and walk on the right hand side of the road until you reach the crossing point near the bus dropoff, where you must wait until you are told it is safe to cross.

Download

Download will be at the marquees. **You must download, even if you do not complete your course** (failure to do so may trigger a search).

7. Results

Results will be published live online at <https://www.fvo.org.uk/live/>

8. Prize-giving

There will be a prize-giving ceremony at the UKOL event at Pleau on Sunday at 10:30.

9. Officials

Planners: Alasdair Mcleod with support from Paul Hammond

Organiser: John Heaton

Controller: Duncan Archer (LOC)

Safety Officer: John Owen



Forth Valley Orienteers



Jury: Alan Rosen (HH), Keith Tonkin (BL), David Esson (GRAMP)