



Berkshire Orienteers

Concorde Chase Weekend 2024

Saturday /Sunday 27th/28th January

FINAL DETAILS

Saturday: UK Urban League Event - Birch Hill, Bracknell



Event Centre

The event centre is the **Terrace Room at South Hill Park (SHP)** where Registration, Download and Enquiries will be located. We have access to the SHP toilets and the Atrium Bar and Restaurant. The Atrium Bar is open at 0930 on Saturday and serves hot and cold drinks, breakfast between 0930 and 1100 and main meals after 1200. First Aid is provided for this weekend by Face2Face Medical who will be based at the Terrace Room.

Travel and parking

South Hill Park is easily accessible by public transport and is 1.8 miles (around 35-minute flat walk) from Bracknell Railway Station. There are several bus services that serve the area and stop close to SHP and the railway station. Reading bus Lion 4 and Thames Valley Buses number 194 (Bracknell to Camberley).

For those travelling by car, parking will be in the free public car park of South Hill Park (SHP), Ringmead, Bracknell. This car park will be shared with members of the public visiting SHP. If you struggle to find a space, please go to the alternate car park in Leppington (see the details below).

- **Main Parking area - South Hill Park Car Park**

Post code: RG12 7PA
W3W: wounds.green.rooms
GR: SU870668

Note: There is a function at the Wilde Theatre, SHP that starts at 1400 ('Tarzan', a dance and aerial spectacular – tickets still available on the SHP website) and they have requested that anyone arriving for our event after 1200 park in the secondary car park in Leppington to allow theatre goers to park at SHP.

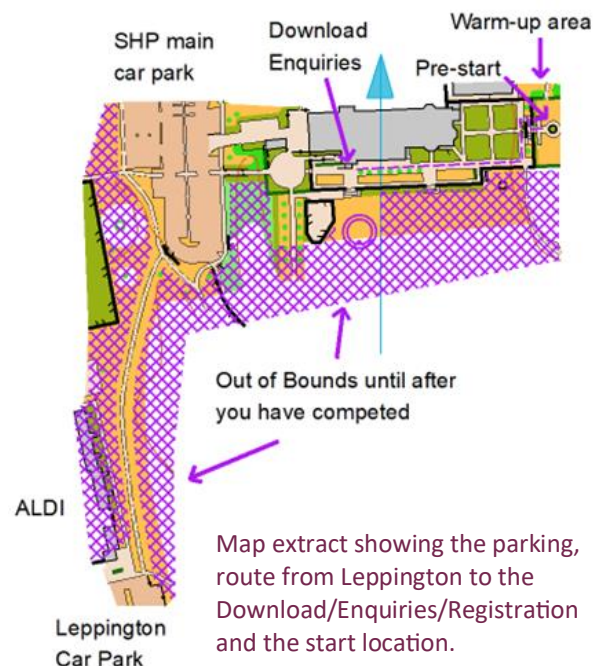
- **Secondary Parking - Leppington Car Park**

Post Code: RG12 7WW
W3W: weds.props.hood
GR: SU869665

Enter this car park down the road marked as 'Leppington'. There is a car park that serves the Aldi supermarket just before the Leppington turning but that is VERY BUSY, almost always full and the parking spaces are tiny – Leppington has over 100 spaces and always has plenty of free spaces. There are 6 EV charging stations in the Leppington car park and a public toilet. It is a very short, flat walk to assembly from this car park. The walk does go through the competition area, the route will be marked - please stick to the marked route.

Medical Conditions

If you have a medical condition, please download and complete a medical form, seal it in an envelope with your details on the front and deposit it with Registration whilst you compete. This will be passed to the First Aid team if required (and shredded after the event if not collected).



Map extract showing the parking, route from Leppington to the Download/Enquiries/Registration and the start location.

https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/images/uploaded/downloads/officials_handbook_safety_firstaid_medical_form_280514.doc

Registration

Pre entry for this event is through www.racesignup.co.uk Pre-registered competitors with their own SIAC or SI dibbers can go straight to the start. Any competitor who has hired a SIAC should collect it from Enquiries. A charge of £72 will be made for lost SIAC dibbers hired on the day.

There will be no EOD, however if you have changed dibbers, or need other changes this can be done at Registration. Registration/Enquiries will be open from 0930.

Start and Finish

Start times are between 1000 and 1200 and the courses close at 1430. Call up at –4 minutes. The pre-start is at the top of the steps at the eastern end of the terrace next to assembly. It is less than 5-minutes' walk. There is an area immediately to the north of the pre-start where you may warm up. The Finish is very close to assembly. Please do not go out onto the lawn area until after you have competed, however you may accompany children in the playground next to the Finish.

It will be a **PUNCHING START** and a **PUNCHING FINISH** with the rest of the controls SIAC enabled. Please ensure that you clear your SI dibber before you run (clear, check and SIAC test will be in the start area).

REMINDER – Please remember to report to download after to finish or if you retire and do not finish your course.

Results

For this event we will be using SI Timing, and we aim to have provisional results displayed during the event on a monitor in the Terrace Room at SHP and on our website (bko.org.uk). A link to results will be printed on your splits printout as well as being available as a QR code in the download area.

We aim to have a complete set of Provisional results loaded to the BKO website and 'RouteGadget' by the end of the evening.

Courses

Birch Hill is an area of complex housing with multiple footpaths and passageways with some open and wooded areas. Courses will be technically testing with complex route choice.

Course 7 (M/W12-), stays within the park and adjacent footpaths and does not cross any roads. Course 6 (M/W16-) crosses quieter roads, with two compulsory underpasses (with controls immediately before them) being used to cross the busier (darker brown) roads.

Courses 1-5 cross these busier roads, these are still 30mph but carry through traffic which tends to travel faster. Underpasses give options on some, but not all, legs.

Please take care when navigating the narrower passageways, especially around blind bends and respect the right of way of residents.



There is currently work ongoing to lay cables in the western part of the area. As far as we are aware, no footpaths are going to be blocked on the day of the event. There will be areas barriered off, possible earthworks and plates overlying trenches. Please respect any workers on the day and take care in areas with temporary conditions underfoot.

Map / Control Descriptions

The map has been converted to the latest version of ISSprOM 2019 and updated November 2023 to January 2024. All maps are 1:4,000 with 2.5m contours, maps for courses 1-6 are A3 (courses 1 and 2 have back-to-back maps) and course 7 has an A4 map. There is a limited legend on all maps with the following special map symbols –

- Green cross X tree stump.
- Black cross X bench or play equipment.
- Black circle O sculpture or statue

Control Descriptions: The only special control description used is a X for a bench. Two new or relatively rarely used symbols are as follows: -

- Turn the map over 
- Canopy / underpass 

Juniors running course 6 should be aware of the canopy/underpass symbol on the map with the hatched brown symbol. The example (right) shows a road underpass and a bridge.

Control descriptions for courses 6 and 7 are text, all others are pictorial. Loose control descriptions will be available at the start.

Competitors running course 7 will be able to view their maps before entering the start boxes.



Course	Classes	Length -optimal route	Climb	No. of controls
1	Men Open	10.4km	110m	27
2	Men Vet 40+, Women Open	8.0km	85m	28
3	Men Supervet 55+, Women Vet 40+	6.7km	85m	22
4	Men Ultravet 65+, Women Supervet 55+	4.8km	65m	18
5	Men Hypervet 75+, Women Ultravet 65+, Women Hypervet 75+	3.2km	35m	14
6	Men Junior 16-, Women Junior 16-	3.7km	40m	14
7	Men Young Junior 12-, Women Young Junior 12-	1.9km	15m	14

Note course lengths have been calculated according to the 2024 rules, as they stand at 1 Jan 2024. Lengths are now measured as: “... the shortest route which a competitor could reasonably possibly take.... (Rule 17.5)” for all events. As this method effectively shortens courses compared to the 2023 Rules course lengths have generally been planned towards the top of the given range, particularly for the longer courses.

Sunday: Concorde Chase - Barossa, Camberley

Travel and parking

Parking will be in at Collingwood College, Kingston Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 4AE in 3 different locations and using sensible local street parking. Please follow the parking marshals' directions and be courteous to the local inhabitants.

Collingwood College is easily accessible by public transport with several bus services and is a 2.6km walk / cycle from Camberley Railway Station. Please click [here](#) to view the College Travel Map and please remember to check for Sunday services.

Car Park 1 - Collingwood College Staff Car Park

Post code: GU15 4AE
W3W: clapper.appeal.knowledge

Car Par 2 - Collingwood College Playground

Post code: GU15 4AE
W3W: snails.bungalows.forge

Car Park 3 - Curtis Staub Gym (Disused) Car Park

Post code: GU15 4AJ
W3W: resources.game.unscathed

See Map on
next page

Event Centre

The event centre is at **Barossa Hall, Collingwood College** (GU15 4AN – W3W: trackers.proudest.watching) where Registration, Download and Enquiries will be found. There will be 8 x portaloos just inside the entrance gate. First Aid is provided for this weekend by Face2Face Medical Limited who will be based here alongside Tom's Food Wagon who will provide excellent catering facilities.

The weather forecast at this time for the weekend looks like it may be pleasant (for January) however if this



suddenly changes to some sort of severe cold/adverse weather we may require cagoules to be worn/taken. Signage will be placed all over the place if this is the case.

Registration

Pre entry for this event is through www.racesignup.co.uk. Pre-registered competitors with no dibber hire can go straight to the start. Any competitor who has hired a SIAC should collect it from Enquiries. Registration/Enquiries will be open from 0915. A charge of £72 will be made for lost SIAC dibbers.

Start and Finish

Start times are between 1000 and 1215 and the courses close at 1345. Call up is at -4 minutes.

The pre-start is approx. 600m / 10 min walk from the Event Centre. There is an excellent warm up area immediately to the East of the pre-start. The Finish is close to the start so a 600m / 10 min cool down walk to the Event Centre to download.

It will be a **PUNCHING START** and a **PUNCHING FINISH** with the rest of the controls SIAC enabled. Please ensure that you clear your SI dibber before you run (clear, check and SIAC test will be in the start area). Normal SI dibbers will also work but need to be 'dibbed' at every control as usual.

REMINDER – Please remember to report to download after to finish or if you retire and do not finish your course.

Results

For this event we will be using SI Timing, and we aim to have provisional results displayed during the event on a monitor by Download and on our website (bko.org.uk). A link to results will be printed on your splits printout as well as being available as a QR code in the download area.

We aim to have a complete set of Provisional results loaded to the BKO website and 'RouteGadget' by the end of the evening.

Terrain, Map and Courses

The majority of terrain is the army training area known as **Barossa**. The area provides an interesting mix of forested and open sections with many path networks, also some smaller areas of intricate contours. There is an abundance of pits and depressions throughout. In late January the bracken is low, giving mostly fast running in all sections.

- A long marsh running NE-SW splits the terrain. It is crossable with wet ankles for optimal routing but avoid the green bush sections. Drier routes are available but may require significant detour.
- In the forested sections, there are many areas of broken ground, accurately mapped with multiple brown dots. Most are flat and can give good running, but all tend to have some 'log brashings'; some parts have significant quantity, which can slow progress.
- Some pits are large, more like deep-sided depressions, but still use the pit symbol. The largest pits have their

dimensions on their CD. Controls in these are inside the pit, not on the edge: be prepared to see the pit first then the control, not the other way round.

A second area is **Poors Allotments (PA)**, attached to the eastern side of Barossa but non-Army terrain. This is significantly different from Barossa, mainly open heathland with areas of tussocks and heather, deep valleys and spurs plus small parts of sloping forest terrain. The area is used for the final parts of all courses, progress will be slower than on Barossa. There are multiple entries onto PA, some with kissing gate for pedestrians, all are clear on the map, but none are highlighted. A fence runs along the edge of PA, but the southern part is quite worn with barbed top strand and not recommended for crossing: path routes will be faster. One section is marked uncrossable: stay clear. The north section, used by the longest courses, has newer fencing which can be crossed for optimum routing.

Please note that both areas are popular for dog-walkers, many of whom nowadays seem to have more than one dog. Try to avoid passing closely, be polite and be prepared to wait a bit if a crossing point is busy – this may occur on some courses early in their race. Cyclists also are users, though not so plentiful: please be considerate to their passing.

Finally, a Planner's plea to use **Routegadget** more. If you've had a top ten finish, mere mortals would like to see how you got round so well.

Maps: (updated November 2023 by Roger Maher)

- A3 1:10,000 for Courses Black to Green.
- A4 1:7500 for courses Short Green to Yellow.

Power lines are not marked on the map, bases are mapped.

Non IOF Symbols:

- × Hide
- Horse jump
- × Rootstock

Course	Map Size	Map Scale	Course Length (km)	Course Climb (m)	No of Controls
Black	A3	1:10k	12.0	335	28
Brown	A3	1:10k	10.3	285	24
Sh Brown	A3	1:10k	8.1	180	20
Blue	A3	1:10k	7.0	165	20
Sh Blue	A3	1:10k	5.4	150	18
Green	A3	1:10k	4.6	115	17
Short Green	A4	1:7500	4.1	85	17
V Sh Green	A4	1:7500	3.6	55	16
Lt Green	A4	1:7500	3.7	85	15
Orange	A4	1:7500	3.6	45	14
Yellow	A4	1:7500	2.5	35	13

Officials

Birch Hill:

- Planner: Katy Stubbs (BKO)
- Organiser: Fiona Clough (BKO)
- Controller: Craig Blackford (BADO)

Barossa:

- Planner: Martin Wilson (BKO)
- Organiser: Eddie Walsh (BKO)
- Controller: Pete Jones (SN)

Thanks: Berkshire Orienteers are grateful for permission to use both areas for this weekend of events. Bracknell Town Council and South Hill Park for Saturday and DIO, Poors Allotments and Collingwood College for Sunday. Thanks also to both the Controllers for their support to BKO in delivering this weekend of events.