

# Heyshott and Ambersham Commons, 29 Oct 2023

## Guildford Orienteers Regional event

### Final details



#### Getting there

The event will be signposted from Selham, post code: GU28 0PL. Cars should approach from the A272, turning south at [W3W ///affair.scoping.trickling](#). Be careful over the hump-backed bridge – there is a restricted view of oncoming traffic.

Those coming from the south, through Cocking, may get to Selham by turning east off the A286 at [W3W ///uttering.flagged.walking](#).

All other approaches are very much discouraged owing to the single-track roads which suffer serious delays with heavier traffic. As it is, we can't avoid them entirely but have minimised.

#### Assembly area

The assembly area has toilets and the dibber hire/Download tent. On-the-day entries are also available (**cash required**) subject to maps being available for the course being entered.

To the Near Start is about 700m (White and Yellow courses) and to the Far Start is 1.25km. Unless collecting a hired SI dibber you can go straight to the Start. The SIAC battery test box will be at the exit from the car park towards the Starts.

There will be no Results displayed in the assembly area. Results will be on our website ([www.guildfordorienteers.co.uk](http://www.guildfordorienteers.co.uk)) after the event.

We recommend that lone competitors leave their car keys (or something else they value) at Download as an additional confirmation that they are not back from their course.

#### Things to know

**Whistles** are recommended and **cagoules** may be compulsory if there is extreme weather.

**Control descriptions:** on the map and loose in Start lanes. *Text* for White/Yellow; *Pictorial* for Brown/Blue/Green/Light Green; *both* for Orange. White/Yellow/Orange maps have a **legend**.

**Well-behaved dogs** are welcome. Keep them on a lead in the assembly/start/finish areas.

#### Clothing dump

Clothing left at your own risk, on the way to the Start (600m from Download, near the Finish). It will not be manned, nor protected from the elements so please bag your clothes accordingly.

#### Location of Starts (Near and Far) and Finish (all courses)

**700m from Download to the Near Start**, for White and Yellow courses. This Start is located close to the Finish and 100m from the clothing dump.

**1.25km from Download to the Far Start**, for Brown, Blue, Green, Light Green and Orange courses. It is 650m beyond the clothing dump.

There may be horses in the field on the way to both Starts. They won't be interested in you.

There is a road crossing (minor road) on the way to the Far Start which may not always be marshalled. **Parents/guardians are responsible for the safe passage of their juniors.**

Please try to arrive near to the time of your start block, to reduce congestion and queuing.

#### Map and terrain

Scale 1:10,000 for all courses. Surveyed for the JK Middle race 2017, updated 2023 from LiDAR and to show recent changes. All maps are A4 on waterproof paper.

Heyshott and Ambersham is a lovely area, and we are very grateful to the Cowdray Estate who have given permission for the race and welcomed our return. The map was originally surveyed to show the land in spring conditions (for the 2017 JK Middle race) and in some places the vegetation such as the gorse has grown significantly since then. Please take account of this as you read the runnability screens on the map, as the vegetation is higher in late October, so the terrain can be significantly less runnable than it was in spring conditions.

The recent lack of rain means that water features on the map may be drier than shown (at the time of writing many ditches are dry, and the marshes are tussocky rather than waterlogged).

There are "reptile-counters" in the area. These consist of flat sheets on the ground (e.g. corrugated iron) which attract reptiles to the warmth beneath them, enabling a census to be taken. Controls are not near them but if you come across them please do not step on them.

### Start and courses

Simply queue at the Start to take the next available start slot. It is a punching start, including for contactless SIAC dibbers.

SIAC contactless dibbing is enabled for all controls **but the Start and Finish must be punched.**

If a control fails to register (no flash/beep) use the pin punch and report it at Download.

Courses close at 14:30. You must report to Download if you fail to finish your course.

Remember our Code of Conduct: give space, be courteous to, all who you meet on your course.

### Far Start courses only

#### Road crossing

There is one road crossing on the Brown, Blue, Green, Light Green and Orange courses. This minor road crossing has a two minute time-out. Punch the control before the road crossing, you then have up to two minutes "time out" to cross the road carefully, and then on to punch the next control (when your running time resumes). Under-16 competitors should identify themselves to the marshal and follow his/her crossing instructions. Other competitors should heed any marshal guidance – the road traffic cannot be controlled.

#### Additional notes for runners on Far Start courses

We've planned the courses to avoid the worst of the bracken, but runners on the Brown, Blue, Green, Light Green and Orange courses will encounter patches of high bracken. On Brown, Blue and Green courses there are unmapped ruined fences around plantation edges.

There has been a program of tree felling in some western parts of the map, which has been updated to show the changes to the forest. (In the unlikely event of further felling work after the maps go to the printers, the changes will be shown on maps in the Start lanes).

We have not attempted to map the extraction lanes used by the forestry machinery, as these are temporary and changeable.

We are not expecting any forestry work on the day of the race itself, but during your run please keep clear of log stacks and any forestry machinery.

### Miscellaneous

<b>Safety and Risk:</b> A comprehensive risk assessment has been carried out but <b>participants take part at their own risk</b> and are responsible for their own safety during the event.	<b>Safety bearing:</b> White/Yellow and Far Start courses after the road crossing, go north-east until reaching the field crossed on the way to the Start. If you reach the old railway first, go east to the field.
<b>Clothing:</b> Wear suitable clothing for the terrain and the likely weather in October. Full leg cover is required (no shorts) and check for ticks after your run. As per <i>BO</i> Ash Dieback precautions, your kit (especially shoes) should be cleaned after use at any previous orienteering event.	Far-Start courses before the road crossing go east to road then north-east as above.
	<b>Personal Data:</b> By taking part you agree to your name appearing in the results section of our website.

**Organiser:** Helen Rivers and Jeremy Wilde (organiser at [guildfordorienteers.co.uk](http://guildfordorienteers.co.uk))

**Planner:** Pete Couldery

**Controller:** Alan Wallis (SN)

*With thanks to the Cowdray Estate for permission to orienteer on their land.*