

DORSET SCHOOLS SCORE CHAMPIONSHIPS Friday May 10th 2019

Final Details

The event will only be signed from the entrance to Avon Heath Country Park, BH24 2DH. Access is via the A31 – turn south at Woolsbridge Roundabout at Grid Ref SU 114033 . Parking/Assembly will be in the Avon Heath Country Park Centre. **Parking charges apply.** Car parking fees are £1.30 for an hour, £2.60 for 2 hours and £3.70 all day. Minibus drivers please note that there is a height barrier in place, with a max height of 2m. Minibuses and coaches may be able to park in the lorry park.

Facilities The Heathland Discovery Centre closes at 4pm, although a ranger may be on site until 5.30pm. The Café usually closes around 4.30/5pm but they are aware that there is an event on so they may open longer. There is a water tap on the side of Education room building, as well as a sink and tap inside the Education room.

Registration (opens 13.30)

When you arrive, the person in charge of the school team should collect an envelope from Assembly and Registration, which is situated in the Education Room (adjacent to the toilet block). The envelope will contain a corrections/amendments sheet for updating your entries, all the SI cards for your team and also a team score sheet. **Please ensure you issue the correct Si card to your children.** We have not allotted specific start times. Turn up at the start when you are ready to go. Members of the same school team will be separated by intervals of 3 minutes. There may, however, be more than one runner starting at any one time in order to fit all children into the time period.

If you have any name changes, please fill in the corrections form and hand it in to the tent at the Start/Finish area before your team starts so we can amend computer details.

Map

The map is at a scale of 1:7 500. The map for this event was updated in March this year. The map is printed on waterproof paper. It will be pre-marked with text control descriptions on the front of the map. The controls are numbered on the map from 131 to 157). Numbers 131 to 140 constitute an easy yellow standard loop. The control descriptions are on the front of the map, in text. There are no loose descriptions

Procedure

Start times are between 14.00 & 17.30. The course closes at 18.30.

Competitors should report to the Start a few minutes before call up and clear their SI card. The Start and Finish are both within 5 minutes' walk of Registration. Control descriptions are printed on the map but also loose control descriptions will be available at the Start.

When their start time is called, the competitors should enter the Start box and use the SI Check box. With a minute to go they may pick up their maps, which are pre-marked with the controls. They will then be able to study their maps for a minute to plan their route. Pairs are entitled to a map **each**. Please remind your children to punch at the Start. After they start, runners have **45** minutes to get as many controls as possible and return to the finish. (Please remind your team to bring their watches with them).

If they are later than the time limit, runners will **lose 5 points** for every minute or part of a minute that they are late.

There are 25 controls all worth 10 points. With the exception of the Yellow course loop, the numbering of the other controls is random, so as not to suggest a sequence. Maximum Score if you punch all the controls is 270 points.

Finishers must punch the Finish control, and then report to download their SI card at the Registration/Download point in the Education Room. Pairs must finish together. The results team will

process the results as quickly as possible and the results will be displayed on a screen at the computer point with the points scored and the time taken. After the event, a full set of results will appear on the internet on the schools pages of the Wimborne Orienteers web site. Printed results will be available on request.

When all of a team's competitors have finished, the team leader should complete the team score sheet, select the scorers they wish to count for a team, and bring the completed form to the Download tent. Remember that it is the best **Four** runners to count for Junior/Prep/Middle schools and also the best **Four** for secondary schools but in each case the scorers must be from at least **two** different age/sex classes. If two runners have equal points, the one with the faster time is the winner. The same criteria will be used in the event of a tie on points between teams. In the case of difficulties, the organisers will act as mediator. Their decision is final.

Course

There is only one course. All controls are orange/yellow standard and will largely be placed alongside the tracks or paths. Wimborne orienteers have been given permission to run this event, on the understanding that competitors **keep to the paths at all times unless they have to leave them to punch a control** off the path. It is very important that this is adhered to between March and September.

Avon Heath is an important site for some rare ground nesting species of birds (Nightjars and Woodlarks), and has all 6 species of native reptile resident, including Adders. Keeping to the paths, not only protects vulnerable birds and their nests, but also reduces the risk of competitors encountering snakes and lizards.

There will be plenty of controls available for the younger competitors running perhaps 2.5 to 3.0k within their time allowance.

Safety

As usual, all runners compete at their own risk, and are responsible for their own safety. Any competitor becoming lost or disorientated should head South -West and follow the many signposts to the Visitor Centre. In addition, it should be possible to relocate from any inadvertently found controls, which are all printed on the map. There will also be a few adults, patrolling the course either on bike or on foot, wearing distinctive yellow bibs, to aid misplaced runners.

In the unlikely event of getting bitten by an adder,

- ☒ Keep effected person calm
- ☒ Keep bitten area lower than heart
- ☒ Keep warm to ease the pain
- ☒ Put a tight bandage above the bite, NOT TOO TIGHT
- ☒ Immobilise bitten area / limb
- ☒ Call ambulance ASAP

Prize giving

It is hoped that the prize giving will take place as soon as possible after the course closes at 18.30. With luck this will be around 18.45. (*Runners with late starts are asked to report promptly to download when they finish rather than waiting for team-mates so we can calculate the final results in time for prize-giving*) The Prize giving will be at Assembly. There are small trophies for the winning school in each class and medals for the best scores in each year group.