



# Western Night League 2021

Blakeney Hill

Level: D (Local)

Saturday 9th October 2021


NGOC are pleased to invite you back to Blakeney Hill in the Forest of Dean for the first Western Night League of the season. The area is mostly deciduous forest and generally very runnable.

**Please note** Forestry England have found **phytophthora ramorum** present on larch trees in this area and are carrying out thinning operations. Courses have been planned to avoid the affected areas which are marked out of bounds on the maps. In addition, there are problems of non-native crayfish infestation in the forest. Permission for this event has been granted on strict condition that participants:

- **Clean shoes thoroughly before and after the event**
- **Do not walk or run through streams or watercourses, but use existing crossing points**
- **Keep out of the affected areas**
- **Keep away from machinery and do not climb on log stacks**

We will provide a shoe cleaning station at the Start/Finish. Please use it both ways as you pass.

<b>Directions and Parking</b>	<p>Parking and assembly are at <a href="#">Wenchford picnic area</a>. We should be using the main entrance to Wenchford picnic area, provided FC change the lock to a standard one. If not, we will be using the Northerly entrance, next to Blackpool bridge. Access will be signed from Blackpool Bridge, at What 3 words: <a href="#">fragments.spike.hiring</a> – a point that all routes will pass however you choose to arrive at the event.</p> <p><b>Please note that the road south from this point towards Blakeney Hill village is closed due to a landslip, so the area must be approached from the north.</b></p> <p>From the east, the recommended route is the A4151 from Elton then the B4226 to Speech House. Turn left at Speech house and left again at the T junction. Continue past Mallards Pike.</p> <p>From the south-west, approach via Lydney and Parkend. <b>If you are using Google maps, or any system which directs you through the back streets of Blakeney, you should ignore any such route, and take an option through Lydney and Parkend. Those lanes are not suitable for through traffic!</b></p> <p><b>If approaching from the Bristol side of the Severn, note that contrary to V2 of these details, the M48 old Severn Bridge appears no longer to be closed Westbound; the closure has moved to weekday nights. However, given the frequency of changes in Highways England's plans, you should check before you leave whether you can use the M48 bridge to get to the event. The best way to do that is to look at the Highways website at: <a href="https://highwaysengland.co.uk/travel-updates/the-severn-bridges/">https://highwaysengland.co.uk/travel-updates/the-severn-bridges/</a></b></p>
<b>The Area</b>	<p>The area consists mostly of open runnable woodland with a good network of paths and plenty of the usual ditches, depressions, platforms and crags. Slopes are generally gentle, although the course does extend over to the steeper slopes on Staple Edge. Wild boar are present and in some places the ground is loose and stony due to their digging. There are very few mountain bike trails in the area.</p>
<b>The Map</b>	<p>This is printed on waterproof paper at 1:10,000, A4 size, with 5m contours. Control descriptions will be printed on the front of the map.</p>
<b>Start and Finish</b>	<p>The <b>Start and Finish</b> are adjacent to assembly. You can start at any time after 18:30 provided it is dark enough.</p> <p>Touch Free punching is enabled, but all runners must punch both Start and Finish.</p>

<b>Courses</b>	Standard WNL Score course, 30 controls. Controls 30-39 are worth 10 points, 40-49 are worth 20 points, 50-59 are worth 30 points
<b>Timings and Fees</b>	<p><b>Starts: 19:00 – 19:30</b> Courses close: 20:45</p> <p>Fees: £6 Seniors, £3 Juniors, by pre-entry only, via Fabian 4 £7/£2 for non-BOF members SI hire: £1 Seniors, or £2 for touch free hire, Juniors free</p> <p>Entries close at midnight on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October.</p> 
<b>Refunds</b>	<p>Under British Orienteering COVID guidelines you may claim a full refund of your entry fee <b>if you or a member of your household has COVID-19 symptoms, or because they have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace</b>. NGOC will carry the costs associated with the entry and cancellation transactions.</p> <p>In this event you must email the Organiser requesting cancellation of your entry.</p> <p>There are no refunds available for cancellation for any other reason.</p>
<b>Dogs</b>	Allowed, under control, and in fields, on leads, in Parking, Assembly and on courses
<b>Facilities</b>	None!
<b>Safety</b>	<p><b>Spare torch and whistle are obligatory at WNL Events.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orienteering is an adventure sport. All runners take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.</li> <li>• The longer courses encounter large crags which should be approached with care.</li> <li>• You may encounter wild boar in the forest. They will usually depart very quickly but if they do stand their ground, back away and find an alternative route.</li> <li>• A risk assessment has been completed, and a copy will be held at Registration in case competitors wish to consult it before their run.</li> <li>• A first aid kit and trained first aiders will be available at Registration.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Please observe the biosecurity and safety measures at the top of this document: i.e. clean shoes, keep out of OOB areas, don't climb log stacks.</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">COVID code of conduct. It is vital that all attendees at the event:</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as ambassadors for the sport of orienteering at all times and consider how their actions may appear in the eyes of landowners or members of the public.</li> <li>• Observe social distancing at all times, including keeping their distance from other participants, volunteers and members of the public.</li> <li>• Use hand sanitiser on arrival and departure.</li> </ul> <p><i><a href="#">Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, who is living in a household with someone who has a possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection, or who has been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace should remain at home.</a></i></p>
<b>Officials</b>	Organiser/Planner: Andy Creber, email <a href="mailto:ac@ghost.org.uk">ac@ghost.org.uk</a>