

North Gloucestershire Orienteering Club Western Night League Saturday 25th January 2020 Kidnalls

- **Directions:** Parking and registration is at the Dean Forest Railway Centre, Forest Road, Lydney, GL15 4ET. Coming from the south or north take the A48 to Lydney and then the B4234 (Forest Road) from the town centre. From the west, head for Coleford and then Parkend on the B4234. Parking donation of £1 per car will be collected for the Railway Centre.
- Map: Resurveyed in 2008, converted to ISOM 2017 with subsequent minor updates including in December 2019. A4 waterproof, 1:10,000 scale with 5m contour intervals. There are several very recently created MTB tracks which are not mapped.
- **Terrain:** Mixed forest on both sides of the valley with significant path network, plenty of features and remnants of historic industrial activity. Gradients are steep in places and will require good route planning to minimise climb. One area of crags is particularly steep and is marked as Out of Bounds this will also be marked with hazard tape. The whole area is very wet due to recent rainfall so suitable footwear is advised.

The area is divided by the B4234 which is reasonably busy. Competitors should only use the mandatory road crossing points as marked on the maps and not run along the road. **Due to the road under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.**

- **Course:** 60 minute score with 30 controls and 600 points available. If all controls are visited within the time an extra 1 point per 6 seconds will be awarded. Penalty of 1 point for every 6 seconds late. 8 controls form a yellow course which sticks to paths and is suitable for newcomers to night orienteering. Controls will be in contactless mode although the Start and Finish will need to be punched.
- **Registration:** Entry on the Day only from 16:30 to 17:30. Seniors £5.00, Juniors £2.00. Dibbers are available for hire £1 (or £2 for SIAC) lost dibbers charged at £35 (£70 for SIAC).
- Timings: Starts will be from 17:00 to 18:00. Course closes at 19:30.
- **Safety:** As with all Western Night League events it is compulsory to carry a backup light and a whistle. There will be checks and without them you will not be able to start. It is advisable to carry a mobile phone too there is a generally good reception.

The area crosses a reasonably busy road so competitors need to take care and only cross at the points identified on the map. The western part of the area crosses the Dean Forest Railway line. There will be no trains running but competitors must only cross the tracks at official crossing points.

There are wild boar in the area. They will usually avoid people but if you do come face-toface with one just back away slowly and find another route.

The area is very wet so care must be taken on slopes particularly and on wooden surfaces, such as the bridge near the northern road crossing. Competitors may be required to carry waterproofs if the weather is particularly wet.

In the unlikely event of cancellation this will be posted on the NGOC website (ngoc.org.uk)

Pub of the Night - Fountain Inn at Park End,GL15 4JD (<u>https://www.thefountaininn.info</u>) about 5 minutes drive from the parking area. If you would like to eat it is advisable to call beforehand.

Organiser and planner: Doug Wilson, horseshoe.daw@gmail.com, 07881 951858.