

# EUOC's 2016 Big Weekend

## **Big Weekend Final details 2016**

Edinburgh University Orienteering Club is proud to present the return of the annual Big Weekend on the weekend of the 22-24th of January, forming a terrific weekend of Edinburgh-based orienteering. The weekend will kick off with FWTN on Friday evening, a great opportunity to sharpen up you night navigation skills, at Kings Buildings. The City Race on Saturday will launch both the SOUL and UK Urban Leagues for 2016 and will provide competitors with fine technical urban orienteering, whilst taking in the best sights Edinburgh has to offer. Visiting the fiendish Exchange area used during the Race the Castles weekend, the historic Royal Mile and the classic University and Meadows areas, it is not to be missed! This will be followed by a traditional ceilidh in the evening, just to make sure you've no extra energy. A classic race on the fantastic Arthur's Seat and Holyrood Park will round off the weekend on Sunday. We look forward to seeing you for, what is sure to be, a great weekend!

**Summary:** 

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Assembly	Kings Buildings, Pi in the Sky, KB House.	The Meadows, between Jawbone and Coronation walk	Holyrood Park, beside Roundabout at S end of Salisbury Crags.
Start times	18.30-20.30	10.00-14.00	Brown Mass Start: 10.00 Blue Mass Start: 10.15 Other Starts 10.20-12.30
Start	<5mins from Assembly	Start 1: 400m A, B, C, G Start 2: 1.2km D, E, F	Start 1: 650m with 125m climb: Br, Bl, Grn, Lt Grn, O Start 2: Adjacent to assembly: Sht Grn, Y, W
Finish	< 5mins from Assembly	Adjacent to Assembly	Adjacent to Assembly
Courses close	21.30	15.30	14.30
Toilets	At assembly	600m from assembly	500m from assembly
EOD	V limited	Subject to map availability	Subject to map availability
Special notes	SI AIR available for all competitors if wanted. If not using SI AIR, SI card must be able to hold more than 30 punches.	SI AIR available for all competitors if wanted. SI card for competitors on A and B must be able to hold more than 30 punches. Timed out road	SI AIR available for all competitors if wanted. Map flip involving changes in scale for all courses except White, Yellow and Orange.

	crossings on A-F	

#### **General Information:**

#### **Tshirts:**

If you really want to look the part, make sure you buy a Big Weekend T-shirt! These popular t-shirts will be limited edition green. They will be on sale for £12 at the event. Sizes available are S, M, L, XL.

#### **Cancellation:**

In the case of extreme weather, details will be published on the website - please check in the days leading up to the event. Extreme winter weather is likely to lead to the cancellation of the weekend. http://orienteering.eusu.ed.ac.uk/events/bigweekend

#### **Contactless Punching:**

All the units at the three events over the weekend will be set up for normal, direct punching but also for contactless punching. SPORTident UK are providing SIcards for contactless punching SIcards (SIACs) free of charge for anyone wishing to borrow one. There is no need to tell us in advance, but allow a little extra time at registration. There are some notes on Contactless punching with SI Air+ here: http://www.rstrain.ndtilda.co.uk/SI/Using\_SI\_Air.pdf

SIACs can be used normally if you want the reassurance of a flash from the unit. After using a SIAC on Friday and Saturday you will be asked if you want to use it for the next day or not.

The finish units will also be set for contactless punching but, unlike at some events, the range will be the same as all other controls.

Lost/unreturned SIACs will be result in a £50 charge.

#### **Tour de France theme**

This year we have incorporated a Tour de France style aspect to the courses. There are king of the mountains and sprinters legs on each course. Different legs have been singled out as either King of the Mountains legs or Sprinters legs. There will be a prize for the person in each class with the fastest cumulative time for the specified legs in each of these categories.

The table below states which are the king of the mountains legs and sprinters legs for each course. There will also be green material at the control to indicate the start of a sprint leg and red and white material to indicate the start of a king of the mountains leg.

SATURDAY		

Course	King of the Mountains Legs	Sprinters Legs
Α	7-8,18-19, 33-34	9-10, 36-37, Run in
В	5-6, 12-13, 16-17	14-15, 29-30, Run in
С	8-9, 11-12	4-5, 22-23, Run in
D	None	3-4, 11-12, Run in
E	None	7-8, 16-17, Run in
F	None	7-8, 10-11, Run in
G	None	2-3, 6-7, Run in

SUNDAY		
Course	King of the Mountains Legs	Sprinters Legs
Brown	20-21	
Blue	20-21	
Green	6-7	Run in
Short Green	10-11	
Light Green	2-3	
Orange	6-7	
Yellow	7-8	
White	6-7	

### Privacy:

When entering our events your name may appear in the results section of the website or in newspaper reports.

#### **Hospital/First Aid:**

Limited first aid will be available at the assembly on each day. In an emergency call 999.

The nearest hospital to all three events is Edinburgh Royal Infirmary:

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh 51 Little France Crescent Old Dalkeith Road Edinburgh EH16 4SA

Telephone: 0131 536 1000

#### **Cake Stall**

There will be a cake stall at the event on Saturday and Sunday. The money from the cake stall will be donated to the Edinburgh Sports Union designated charity, MacMillan Cancer Support.

## Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: Fight with the Night

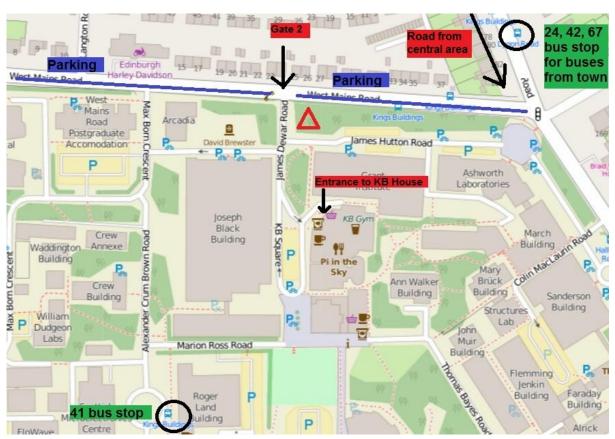
#### Location:

The event will be based in Edinburgh University's King's Buildings campus.

King's Buildings House, King's Buildings, Edinburgh, EH9 3JF

Google maps: +55°55'25.20", -3°10'30.30"

Grid reference: NT 26663 70675



#### Travel to the event:

**Parking:** There is no official event car parking. West Mains Road, the main road beside Kings Buildings, and residential streets adjacent to the campus should have plenty of space for parking. In extreme circumstances there is very limited parking availability in Kings Buildings, outside Kings Buildings house (enter via Gate 2), it would be preferred if competitors parked off campus.

**Public Transport:** Lothian Buses have a number of buses which travel to or near the area. The No. 41 travels directly from the city centre into the heart of King's Buildings (see map above). Every second 41 bus does not travel to Kings Buildings, so if you intend on using this method of travel, please ensure it says Kings Buildings on the front of the bus. As the route to assembly from this bus stop passes through the competition area, competitors are requested to close their eyes along this route.

Other buses such as the 24, 42, and 67 all travel near the campus. More information on all bus routes can be found on the Lothian buses website:

http://lothianbuses.com/plan-a-journey/journey-planner

**Walking/Cycling**: It is also possible to walk or cycle to King's Buildings, it is around a 30min walk or 15min cycle from the central area.

#### Assembly:

The assembly will be Pi in the Sky, upstairs in Kings Buildings House. Please enter the campus through Gate 2, to avoid walking through the competition area. The start will be on the grassy area to the left and the route to assembly will be taped from here. Once inside KB House turn left and go up the stairs following signs for "Pi in the Sky", this should also be taped.

The room will be open from 18.00. Entries, Enquiries, SI AIR pick up and Download will all be in this location. There will be room for competitors to leave bags, at their own risk.

Toilets are available downstairs in KB House, straight ahead instead of proceeding up the stairs to Pi in the Sky.

Please do not enter any university buildings wearing muddy footwear.

#### **Entries and Electronic Punching:**

Pre-entry is now closed. Entries can be viewed on Oentries via the following link: https://oentries.com/entries by category/492-fight-with-the-night-6

There will be very limited entry on the day (EOD) at the assembly. EOD will have the same entry fee as pre entry and maps will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

BOF member - £2.00

Non-BOF member - £4.00

SI cards are available to hire free of charge, but there will be a charge of £50 if lost.

SI AIR is available, from enquiries, for all competitors to use if they wish. (see contactless punching in general information)

The courses have over 30 controls so competitors must use either an SI AIR card or one which isn't version 5 or 8.

Any enquires about late entries, alterations to existing entries or cancellation of entries should be made to Charlotte Watson by emailing: euocbigweekend@gmail.com

#### **Terrain and Safety Information:**

King's Buildings is a complex modern university campus with old and new buildings, courtyards, dead ends, greenhouses, and some grassy areas with bushes and trees. There are steps, slopes and uneven surfaces. These can become slippery especially in wet weather. It is an active university campus and it is likely that there will be moving vehicles - including a bus service – and bikes on campus so please take care throughout the area. Please also be aware of and be courteous to other pedestrians in the area.

In the area in the SE corner of map, there are building works beginning the 18<sup>th</sup> January. There are likely to be unmapped piles of debris associated with these works. This shouldn't affect routechoice, but please take extra care in this area. There should be maps available in the start lanes highlighting the affected area.

It being winter in Scotland the sun will be long since set and a torch is highly recommended. It will be dark and some areas are unlit.

Competitors take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety. It is advised that you carry a spare torch and a whistle during this event.

Should first aid be required please report to download.

#### **Course and Map Information:**

The course will be marked using full sized kites and will use SI electronic timing at every control point.

Course Course Length (km)		Controls	
Long	5 (approx)	>30	
Short	3 (approx)	>30	

Courses will be gaffled (i.e. butterfly loops), therefore there will be **no loose control descriptions available**. Please ensure you follow your map and check your descriptions carefully.

Maps will be printed on non-waterproof paper, but will be in a plastic pocket.

Map scale: 1:4000

#### Start:

Starts between: 18.30-20.30

Start times have been pre-allocated in blocks. The start blocks are: 18.30 - 19.15, 19.15 - 19.45 and 19.45 - 20.30. Your start block can be viewed on Oentries. The time indicated is the beginning of your start block:

https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/492-fight-with-the-night-6

After visiting assembly, if you need to, make your way to the start to arrive within your assigned block and a start time will be issued to you there. Please arrive as early as possible; it is your responsibility to ensure you arrive on time to start within your start block. The event is heavily subscribed and if you arrive late, you may have to wait a long time before there is a gap!

The start will be located on the grass to the E side of the road leading from Gate 2. It is marked on the map above and will be taped from assembly.

#### Finish:

There will be one finish for both courses near the start. All competitors must download after they have finished, even if the course is incomplete, so that we know you have returned from your course safely. Download will be situated in Pi in the Sky in KB House

**Courses will close at 21.30**. Everyone (and their belongings) must be out of KB House by 22.00, when the building will close.

Planner: Andrew Lindsay Organisers: Charlotte Watson Contact: euocbigweekend@gmail.com

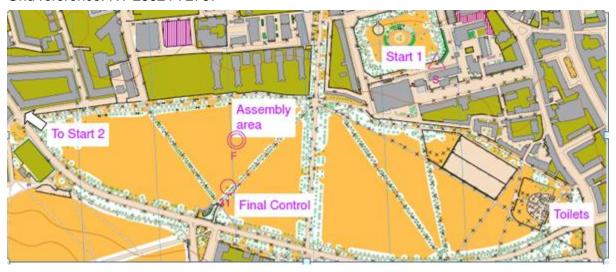
## Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: Edinburgh City Race (SOUL1, UKUL1):

#### Location:

The event will be based in the Meadows, with assembly located in the segment between Jawbone Walk and Coronation Walk.

Google maps: +55.941896", -3.193686"

Grid reference: NT 25524 72757



#### Travel to the event:

**Parking:** There is no official event car parking and it is the competitor's own responsibility to find somewhere to park. Please allow enough time to park and to get to the assembly and starts.

The nearest car parks are at Riego Street or Semple Street, where you can park for a fee. These are both approximately a 15 minute walk away from assembly.

There may also be on street parking available in Marchmont, in the George Square area or on the main road through the Meadows. Please be aware that parking fees do apply on Saturdays in these areas.

Competitors must not park on the grass in the Meadows, even if you see other cars doing so.

**Public Transport:** Several bus routes all pass within close distance of the Meadows, including the 24 and 41. More information on these and several other possible bus routes can be found on Lothian buses website:

http://lothianbuses.com/plan-a-journey/journey-planner

It is also within easy reach of both Waverley and Haymarket Train Stations. They are just a 20-30 minute walk or a 10 min bus ride. (From Waverley catch the 41, from Haymarket catch the 2).

Walking/Cycling: The assembly is also very accessible by bike or by walking.

#### **Assembly:**

The registration, download, enquires, first aid and entry on the day will be situated at

assembly. As will the finish. There will also be a cake stall with cakes baked by EUOC's finest bakers.

#### Unfortunately due to access rules no club tents are allowed in the assembly area.

There will be three tunnel tents at assembly in which competitors can leave bags. Please be aware that these are only for leaving bags in, and not for setting up camp in. Tents will be guarded by officials but bags are left at their own risk.

Public toilets are available at the E end of the Meadows (open 10-18) or at the top of Middle Meadow Walk (open 10-18). The route to the toilets at the E end of the Meadows will be taped with red and white tape.

There are a number of shops and cafes near to the assembly. Following up Middle Meadow Walk, there is a Sainsburys local, a Starbucks and other cafes. There are a number of Student union cafes and bars also located within a 5-10min walk from assembly, in the library and also in Bristo Square, Teviot and Potterrow.

Please do not enter any university buildings wearing muddy footwear.

Water will not be provided after the event. Please use the litter bins located around the Meadows for rubbish.

#### **Entries and Electronic Punching:**

Pre-entry is now closed, entries can be viewed on Oentries via the following link: <a href="https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/496-euoc-big-weekend-2016-edinburgh-city-race-soul-uk-urban-league">https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/496-euoc-big-weekend-2016-edinburgh-city-race-soul-uk-urban-league</a>

There will be limited entry on the day (EOD). EOD will have the same entry fee as pre-entry and maps for EOD will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Senior - £11

Non-BOF members - £13

Juniors and Students - £6.00

Any enquires about late entries, alterations to existing entries or cancellation of entries should be made to Charlotte Watson by emailing: <a href="mailto:euocbigweekend@gmail.com">euocbigweekend@gmail.com</a>

SI electronic timing will be used. SI cards are available for hire free of charge; but if lost there will be a charge of £50.

Competitors may use contactless punching if they wish (see contactless punching in general information)

Runners on course A and B will need an SI card capable of holding more than 30 punches. (i.e. not a type 5 or 8). Competitors affected will be able to pick up an SI from enquires. If you are at all unsure if this will affect you, please do come and check before your run to ensure no disappointments!

#### **Terrain and Safety Information:**

The terrain consists of large road network interspersed with narrow alleyways, detailed housing and parkland. There are also areas of multi-levels in the Exchange area which longer courses will visit. The courses will visit the Grassmarket, Royal Mile and George Square areas of the city, where there are tight alleyways, steps, slopes, some cobbled streets and large height differences for a city centre.

Please note there are some gates/doors which are not under the organiser's control and so may be open or closed on the day of the event. **Please respect the mapping, and do not pass through if mapped as impassable/closed**. Kites will be placed in a nearby, visible position of the control site if blocked off.

Areas of building works come and go. Scaffolding/boarding has (as of Monday 18th) blocked access to control sites on courses A & B. Kites will be placed as near as possible to the correct sites. There will be information about this and any other very recent building works that have occurred, in the start lanes.

All competitors take part in this event at their own risk. Road crossings will be the competitor's responsibility and care should be taken, whilst following the Highway Code. This is a city centre race – be traffic aware. **Timed-out crossings are included in courses A-F which must be used** – these allow enough time to use the pedestrian crossing lights with no time penalty.

The courses will pass through residential areas and competitors must be considerate to the residents as well as to the general public throughout the competition. Slowing down to negotiate sharp corners or alleyway entrances and exits is advised to avoid collisions. The weather in January could be cold, wet and icy so please dress accordingly. There are steps, slopes and uneven surfaces which can become slippery, especially in wet weather.

A number of popular cycle routes go through The Meadows and there are several bike lanes on the route to start 1 and in the latter stages of all courses. Please watch out for cyclists and treat the bike lanes as if you were crossing a road.

Should first aid be required please report to download or the registration tent.

#### Start:

There will be two starts for this event. Please ensure you know which start you are starting from.

- Start 1 400m from assembly
  - Marked with yellow tape
  - Courses A, B, C and G
  - The route crosses a bicycle lane please watch out for bikes when crossing this.
- Start 2 1.2km from assembly
  - Marked with red and white tape
  - Courses D, E and F
  - The route to the start crosses some busy roads, please use the designated crossing points.

The starts will be operated with a 4-minute call up. A clock at the start will display call up times. Competitors will be called into the -4 box according to their start time.

Descriptions will be available in the -3 box and blank maps in the -2 box. There will be a punching start. Competitors must punch the start box to begin their time, then pick up their map and begin their course. The start kite must be visited and a route will be taped to its location.

Starts between: 10.00-14.00

The start interval between competitors on the same course will be 1 minute, with different courses starting on the same minute.

Start times are available on Oentries:

https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/496-euoc-big-weekend-2016-edinburgh-city-race-

#### soul-uk-urban-league

Competitors are strongly advised to check their start times prior to the event. The start block will be very full and if start times are missed there will be limited scope to reallocate you a specific start time. Entry on the day competitors will be allocated start times at registration. Again, due to the full start block they may have to wait for a gap in the start block.

There will be pre-runners starting before the official race.

#### **Course and Map Information:**

Course	Category	Course Length (km)	Start	Map Size	Map turnover
А	Men Open	9.76	1 A3		Yes
В	Women Open	7.51	1 A3		Yes
С	Men Vet	5.26	1	А3	No
D	Women Vet & Men Super Vet	4.86	2	А3	No
E	Women Super Vet & Men Ultra Vet	4.64	2	А3	No
F	Women Ultra Vet	2.76	2	A4	No
G	Junior M/W 16-	2.55	1	A4	No

Optimal route length for courses will be longer than the straight line length stated above. For the longest courses this could be up to 40% longer.

The majority of the courses will be on hardstanding ground with small sections on grass. Choice of footwear is each competitor's decision. In wet weather, running flats would not be advised.

The map scale is: 1:5000

Courses A and B will require the competitors to turn over their maps mid-way through the course to reveal the second half of the course on the other side of the map. The point to do so will be obvious as the controls will run out on the first side of the map.

There will be loose control descriptions provided at the start.

**Timed crossings** – Courses A-F cross Lothian Road which is a major traffic route. There are two crossing points across Lothian Road, each with a control on either side. One or both of these have been included in courses A-F, depending on which start location is used. The time taken to cross, will be excluded from run time, to allow safe use of pedestrian crossing lights. There is no time advantage from crossing more quickly.

Competitors who do not punch at a compulsory crossing will be disqualified.

The junior course has been planned to avoid main traffic routes. However, some traffic will be encountered, and competitors must be aware of the hazards.

There will be no string course.

#### Finish:

There will be one finish for all courses located at the assembly. All competitors must visit the download after their run even if the course is incomplete so that we know everyone has returned safely.

Incoming runners can be viewed running in from the last control.

Courses will close at 15.30.

#### Results:

Results will be displayed in the assembly area during the event. There should also be a local WiFi results service at the events, "o results". Once connected, browse to <u>o.net</u>.

Preliminarily results will be available at the ceilidh in the evening and final results, as soon as possible after the event, via this link: <a href="http://www.rstrain.co.uk/results\_16/euoc\_bw/">http://www.rstrain.co.uk/results\_16/euoc\_bw/</a>

The Scottish Orienteering Urban League and UK urban league are not organised by EUOC. The results from these will be published by the organisers of the respective leagues on their websites.

SOUL: http://www.scottish-orienteering.org/soul

UK Urban League: <a href="http://www.oxfordfusion.com/ukul/">http://www.oxfordfusion.com/ukul/</a>

#### Prizes:

There are trophies for Men and Women Open which were hand crafted by Robin Orr. These, along with prizes for each age class, will be presented at the ceilidh. However, if the winner of an open trophy is from outside of the UK, their trophy will have to be taken back at the end of the weekend.

This year's event also has an exciting twist with some Tour de France style legs in Saturday's courses. As well as the usual age group prizes, prizes for Sprinters, King of the Mountains and Yellow Jersevs will be awarded.

Additionally the SOUL 2015 prizegiving will take place at 14.30 in the assembly.

Planner – William Rigg (EUOC) Controller – Bill Stevenson (ESOC)

Organisers – Charlotte Watson and Bryony Harding (EUOC)

Contact: euocbigweekend@gmail.com

### Sunday 24th January: Holyrood Park (SoSOL 2)

#### Location:

The event will be situated in Holyrood and Meadowfield Parks in Edinburgh. This year the event will be based near the roundabout at the South end of Salisbury Crags near to Pollock Halls student residence.

Google maps: +55.943547", -3.170169"

Grid reference: NT 26894 72874

#### Travel to the event:

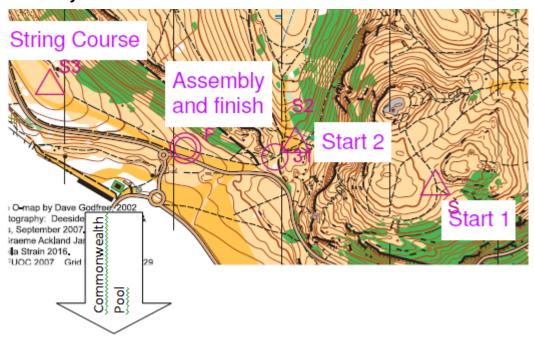
If travelling through Holyrood Park, follow the main road through the park. Please do not cross the hill.

**Parking:** There is no official event car parking. We would recommend parking in the car park beside Holyrood House where there will be plenty of room to park a car. It is then a 1.3km gentle uphill walk to assembly following the road W around the bottom of Salisbury crags. Alternatively there are lots of residential streets close to Pollock Halls and the Commonwealth Pool, or along the road leading to Holyrood Park, where parking should be free on a Sunday. Do not park in the Commonwealth Pool car park, there is another event on and we do not have permission for its use. Please ensure to allow enough time to find a parking space and get to the start on time.

**Public transport:** Bus routes passing nearby include the 2, 14, 30, 33. There are also a number of buses which travel along Nicholson Street. More information can be found on the Lothian buses website: <a href="http://lothianbuses.com/plan-a-journey/journey-planner">http://lothianbuses.com/plan-a-journey/journey-planner</a>

Waverley train station is a 30min walk from assembly

#### Assembly:



The assembly will be based on the grass beside the roundabout below the S end of Salisbury crags.

At assembly, there will be a tent where the registration, download, enquires, first aid, entry on the day and cake stall will be situated. There will also be a tent available for shelter and a place to put bags. There is space for club tents alongside the run in.

There will be no toilets available at assembly. Toilets in the nearby Commonwealth Pool leisure centre may be used. Be aware that these will be very busy as there is another event on at the pool on Sunday. **Please do not enter the leisure centre wearing muddy footwear.** 

The Commonwealth Pool also has a café with various hot and cold food and drink options available.

Water will not be provided after the event. Litter bins will also not be provided, please take litter home with you.

#### **Entries and Electronic Punching:**

Pre-entry is now closed, entries can be viewed on Oentries via the following link: <a href="https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/497-euoc-big-weekend-sosol2">https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/497-euoc-big-weekend-sosol2</a>

There will be limited entry on the day (EOD). EOD will have the same entry fee as pre-entry and maps for EOD will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Senior - £8.00

Non-BOF member - £10

Juniors and Students - £5.00

Any enquires about late entries, alterations to existing entries or cancellation of entries should be made to Charlotte Watson by emailing: <a href="mailto:euocbiqweekend@gmail.com">euocbiqweekend@gmail.com</a>

SI electronic timing will be used. SI cards are available for hire free of charge; but if lost there will be a charge of £50.

You can use contactless punching if you wish (see contactless punching in general information)

#### **Terrain and Safety Information:**

Holyrood Park and Arthur's Seat contains mixed park and grassland with some complex rock and contour detail in places. The area has some large hills which provide a physical challenge. On Arthur's Seat itself the vegetation varies from short, tussocky grass to rougher areas of taller grass and gorse. Meadowfield Park will offer fast running in short grass and areas of woodland. The central location of Arthur's Seat means it is very popular with the general public, especially dog walkers, runners and families - please respect other users of the park. The regular use of the area by the public, and park management, can mean that some aspects of the terrain, for example paths and gorse bushes, are dynamic. Some paths have been left off the map to keep it legible. Therefore, these along with the gorse should not solely be relied upon for navigation. Some boulders and other features on the map are small on the ground but they are significant for the area that they are in. The paths in the woods can be very muddy in places, and the hill may be slippery, so take care. Because of this and the gorse we recommend that orienteering or fell shoes for all courses and that full leg cover is worn.

Cagoules should be taken to the event, as they may be made compulsory on the day if the weather requires it.

All competitors take part in this event at their own risk and are responsible for their own

safety during the event. The weather in January could be cold, wet and icy so please dress accordingly. Holyrood Park is open high ground, and in the case of adverse weather can become a very exposed environment. Competitors must be prepared for this. There are also large cliffs in the area which are OOB, the courses will be planned to stay away from them but care must still be taken. All courses have been planned appropriately for the expected competitors.

Please respect the OOB marked on the map. These areas exist either for your safety or for the conservation of Hunter's Bog. Anyone seen crossing any marked OOB areas will be disqualified.

There is one high wall on the east of the map for Brown and Blue courses. Two gaps exist as shown on the map but it should not be crossed otherwise. Please also be aware that in the Meadowfield Park area there is a boardwalk over a small pond which has the potential to be very slippery.

Should first aid be required please report to download or the registration tent.

Some of the longer courses will cross the park road which also passes the assembly area. This road is in use during the weekends, so please take care.

#### Start:

There will be two starts for this event. Please ensure you know which start you are starting from.

Start	Distance	Climb (m)	Courses
1	650m	125m	Brown, Blue, Green, Light Green, Orange
2	Just beyond the last control adjacent to assembly		Short Green, Yellow, White

In the case of wet weather the route to start 1 could become very slippery. In this case an alternative route to start 1 will be used. The alternative route is 2km with 125m climb. If the weather is wet please allow extra time for this.

Optional mass start for Brown and Blue courses – There is an optional mass start for Brown and Blue courses. If you wish to take part in this please arrive 10 minutes before the start time. Mass start for the Brown course is at 10.00 and the Blue course is at 10.15. If you have already let the organiser know that you would like to take part in this then brilliant, if not that's fine just turn up on the day. If you don't want to take part in the mass start that's fine you will have been given a normal start time. If you take part in the mass start you will not be eligible for ranking points.

All other starts are between: 10.20-12.30 with 1 minute start intervals.

The starts will be operated with a 4-minute call up. A clock at the start will display call up times. Competitors will be called into the -4 box according to their start time.

Descriptions will be available in the -3 box and blank maps in the -2 box. There will be a punching start. Competitors must punch the start box to begin their time, then pick up their map and begin their course. The start kite must be visited and a route will be taped to its location.

#### **Course Information:**

Course	Course Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls	Start	Map turnover?
Brown	7.5	385	29	1	Yes
Blue	6.4	285	27	1	Yes
Green	4.9	250	21	1	Yes
Short Green	4.2	180	15	2	Yes
Light Green	3.5	180	16	1	Yes
Orange	3.0	145	14	1	No
Yellow	2.7	140	11	2	No
White	1.8	45	8	2	No

There will be a string course located at the bottom of the hill from assembly (see map of assembly)

**Optional mass start for Brown and Blue course** – These courses involve butterfly loops therefore please pay close attention to the control order, check your codes, and don't simply follow the runner in front as they may not be going to the same control as you.

#### Maps:

Maps will be pre-marked and printed on waterproof paper. Two maps are being used for the event; Holyrood Park map 1:7500 and Whinny Hill map 1:5000. Both maps have recently been updated by Alexander Chepelin. Contour interval for both maps is 5m.

Map turnover – A number of courses will require competitors to turn over their maps mid-way through the course to reveal the second half of the course on the other side of the map.

Courses at Start 1 (except from orange) will start on the Whinny Hill map and they will need to turn over to the Holyrood Park map for the second half of the course. The orange course will stay on the same map the whole time.

Short Green (Start 2) will start on the Holyrood Park map. Competitors will need to turn over to the Whinny Hill map, for a middle section, before turning back over to finish on the Holyrood Park map. This complicated system is for the runners benefit, as it gives better map quality on Whinny Hill.

It will be apparent where the map turnover is to happen, as there will no longer be any controls to find on that side of the map. It will also be marked in the control descriptions and written on the map. When you turn over the map, the course will start from the control you

are currently at. Green is the exception to this, which will have the leg you've just ran also shown when you turn over the map.

White and Yellow courses use the Holyrood map and are printed at a scale of 1:7500. **Maps** for the white and yellow courses are to be collected at registration before going to the start.

There will be loose control descriptions provided at the start for all courses apart from Brown and Blue. Due to being gaffled the control descriptions for Brown and Blue will be on the map only.

#### Finish:

There will be one finish for all courses, at assembly. Please remember to download at the tent in assembly, even if you do not complete your course, so that we know you are back safely.

The route to the final control on all courses passes very close to the low start. Competitors should take care not to punch in the Clear Unit for the low start as they pass nearby on their way to Finish.

Incoming runners can be viewed running down the hill from the last control.

#### Courses will close at 14.30

If anyone wishes to help collect in controls on Sunday afternoon please report to registration when courses close.

#### Results:

Results will be displayed in the assembly area during the event. There should also be a local WiFi results service at the events, "o\_results". Once connected, browse to <u>o.net</u>.

Preliminarily results will be available at the ceilidh in the evening and final results, as soon as possible after the event, via this link: <a href="http://www.rstrain.co.uk/results\_16/euoc\_bw/">http://www.rstrain.co.uk/results\_16/euoc\_bw/</a>

Planner – Alexander Chepelin (EUOC)

Controller – Sheila Strain (ELO)

Organisers – Charlotte Watson and Bryony Harding (EUOC)

Contact: <u>euocbigweekend@gmail.com</u>

## Ceilidh, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: THERE ARE NO MORE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The ceilidh will be back in our old favourite venue of South Side Community Centre.

South Side Community Centre is located at 117 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9ER. This is opposite the Tesco metro and next to Dominos. Doors will open at 19.00



The ceilidh will be a traditional Burns celebration including live music and dancing from 19.30, provided by Kylestrome Ceilidh Band, along with presentation of prizes from the afternoon's race. There will also be a raffle and the chance to try some haggis and oatcakes. There will be a bar serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, **please do not bring your own alcohol** as our licence does not permit this onsite. All ages are welcome - from grandparents to the young ones. Don't worry if you don't know any dances, as the caller will talk you through them!

Prizegiving, haggis and the raffle will be at approximately 21.00. The ceilidh will finish around 23.00.

Apologies, but there will be no tickets available on the door as we have already sold to our capacity. To check if you already have a ticket reserved follow this link <a href="https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/500-big-weekend-ceilidh">https://oentries.com/entries\_by\_category/500-big-weekend-ceilidh</a>