



## BUCS Individual @ Birchen Edge 1st March 2025

Final details, Version 1 (09/02/25)

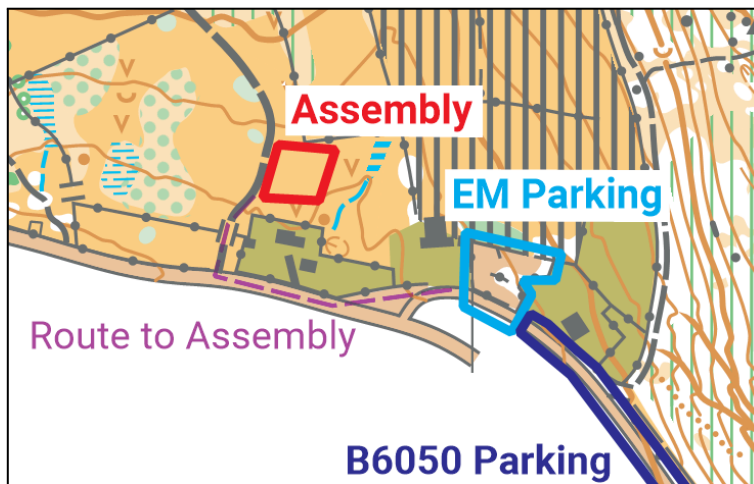
### Location:

Parking is at Birchen Edge Eastern Moors Car Park, Baslow, Bakewell, DE45 1PU  
[what3words///helpers.extremely.frogs](https://www.what3words.com/what3words///helpers.extremely.frogs)  
SK 28044 72099

Assembly is located 400m west from the car parking, in the fields of Eric Byne farm.

Follow the B6050 to the junction of the A619 (by the Robin Hood Inn) and then follow the A619 west to the farm track. Please use the pavement as this is a busy

road. Assembly is just on the other side of the farm gate. See map of route to the right. The route will be taped.



>> There is livestock in the farm fields so **please close any gates**.

### Car parking:

The **upper** half of the Eastern Moors (EM) car park has been group booked and reserved so you will not need to pay for parking here. In order to maximise the use of space, cars parked here may be blocked in to maximise the use of the available space. Parking here will be used first to maximise the use of off-road and free parking. This will work on a first-come-first-served basis.

Following this, if spaces remain in the **lower** half of the Eastern Moors car park you are welcome to use these, though these have not been booked and as such you will have to pay for parking (£4 for 4 hours, £6 for all day).

Once the Eastern Moors car park is full (or the upper half is full and you don't want to pay for parking), parking marshals will direct cars to park along one side of the B6050. The road is narrow, especially in close proximity to the Robin Hood Inn; as such, cars will be parked in 'blocks', leaving periodic spaces to allow cars to pass each other when travelling in opposite directions.

**If you can car-share, then please do so.** Parking is tight at this event so space is at a premium!

### Entries:

All BUCS entries are conducted through University clubs via BUCS system - please contact relevant committee members for entry details. If your University club isn't affiliated with BUCS, please contact Eleanor Ellis for details.

>> Please go straight to the Start; unless you have hired a dibber, in which case go to Registration.

### Timing:

SI electronic timing will be used, with the boxes in contactless mode. Those with non-SIAC dibbers must punch as normal. **Those with SIAC dibbers MUST punch at the Finish for safety reasons.**

### Facilities:

Registration, Enquiries and Download will be located in tents in the Assembly (400m from Parking), along with First Aid & Toilets. There will be portable toilets adjacent to Assembly and further toilets available in the Eric Bryne's campsite toilet 500m north of Assembly following the main track. An additional tunnel tent will be erected to provide competitors with some shelter in assembly and provide somewhere to leave bags whilst out on the course. Space may be at a premium so we encourage participants to be considerate with what they leave in the tent.

### Courses:

Courses	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Number of controls	Map size	Scale
Women's C / Men's C	4.5	105	14	A3	1:10,000
Women's B	4.9	160	15	A3	1:10,000
Women's A / Men's B	6.8	175	19	A3	1:10,000
Men's A	7.9	195	22	A3	1:10,000

### ***Subject to final controlling***

### Dogs:

On leads in parking and Assembly only as there is livestock in surrounding fields. Dogs are NOT allowed on the orienteering courses (British Orienteering rules).

### Terrain:

The spectacular Birchen Edge and Gardom's Edge (also on the map further west) are a destination for walkers, climbers and historians; exposed gritstone scarps offering views over the Derwent Valley. For orienteers: rough open moorland and birch wood, most heather with some faster patches of grassy tussock, as well as marsh and a lot of rock detail.

**Please be considerate of other users of the area.**

### Map:

All BUCS courses will be on a 1:10,000 map, again with 5 m contours. Survey and cartography completed by Richard Parkin in 2024, with minor amendments made in 2025.

The previous event map can be seen at: <https://www.dvo.routegadget.co.uk/rg2/#210>



### **Special symbols:**

With regards to special symbols, the pile of stones is not a cairn-style pile, more like a burial grave. No controls have been placed on them due to their cultural and archaeological significance (so I suggest you don't run on them at risk of being haunted!)

- pile of stones, monument
- × boundary stone/post
- 'plastic' boulder

The plastic boulder is buried in the ground, so doesn't look like much from afar, but is quite novel (see photo above). Nearby controls have been placed to avoid running over it and eroding it.

### **Starts:**

The BUCS start is 1.1km following a taped route from Assembly. Competitors should not stray from the taped path. Allow 15-20 minutes.

If competitors want to warm up more thoroughly, they are invited to use the fields crossed on the way to the start. Please stay within the field boundaries and be respectful of the land and the livestock.

Control descriptions will be available in the start lanes and are also printed on the map.

Starts will be from 10:30 am till 12:30 pm for starts (subject to the number of entries).

Runners will have allocated start times based on BOF rankings. These will be distributed to clubs prior to the event, and be available at Registration. **Starts are punching starts**. There will also be a punching start for latecomers - although we stress to turn up on time, especially for the Men's A, which is a popular course. Any latecomers may be waiting around for a while!

Start box countdowns will be the same for both EML and BUCS starts with **T-5 call-up**.

T-5: Name-call

T-4: Notices

T-3: Control descriptions

T-2: Blank map

T-1: N/A

This BUCS event is not a world-ranking event, so feel free to chat, cheer and chant at the startline. You may well see competitors out near areas of the start, so be vocal!

### **Finish:**

The finish for all courses is 350m from Assembly. Please proceed immediately to download. You will need to dib conventionally at the Finish, it is not SIAC enabled.

**>> There will be a map collection bag for your University at the finish. Maps can be collected after the final start.**

### **Results:**

Live results should also be available at [www.dvo.org.uk](http://www.dvo.org.uk), technology permitting. Final results will be uploaded to [derwentvalleyorienteers.org.uk/dvo-results](http://derwentvalleyorienteers.org.uk/dvo-results) after the event.

### **Club tents:**

Should clubs wish to bring their own tents to erect in the Assembly, they are more than welcome to. The finish is not entirely visible from Assembly but it would provide additional shelter.

### **Planners comments:**

"I'd like to preface this section by admitting this is the highest-profile event I've planned for. Sure I've done a local SYO event, a few SPOOK relays and most prestigiously the English Unis relays back in 2020, which earned such glowing reviews from CUOC "Horizontal snowstorm? Yes. Ferocious river crossing? Have two. Waist high brambles? Oh yes". What I'm trying to portray in this is I have no mercy when planning courses, it is wild orienteering and conditions may be "challenging" - these are

unavoidable on an area like Birchen, and especially for the longer courses, you'll have a heat map reminiscent of Steven Gerrard back in his glory days. This is (pretty much) The North, you can deal with a bit of cold, bracken, and tussocks.

I recommend bringing a towel specifically for this event. This will be the closest to a triathlon orienteering event that you can get. The northern part of the map is typically very wet, so avoid athlete's foot, or worse frostbite if it's cold/snowing, and dry off after your run. Apart from that I'm quite happy with the design of the courses - I think they make the most of the area and hopefully will yield ~60 min win times for the A courses. Like I mentioned earlier, I'm relatively sadistic, especially since leaving Sheffield and missing running in the Peaks on a daily basis, so prepare to curse me on multiple occasions. There's a good physical element but also some complexities that will mean you have to be on your game!" Tom 'Tenty' Entwistle

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### **Safety:**

Birchen Edge can be very exposed, and running on the Peaks at the end of winter, the weather may be challenging. **Please come prepared with a hat, gloves and a waterproof jacket. Goggles may be compulsory. NO WHISTLE, NO GO.** A sign indicating the mandatory equipment will be displayed on entry to assembly if this is the case. **Full leg cover is required.**

Competitors are reminded of the following British Orienteering Rules:

7.1 Competitors are responsible for their own safety

9.2 Please show respect and consideration to other users of the area such as walkers and mountain bikers

9.10 Competitors are required to help an injured competitor, even if this means abandoning their run.

There may be people bouldering and rock climbing on the gritstone edges.

Emergency contact number is 01332 653899.

There are very dangerous large crags on the western and central part of the map. These are not fenced and as a consequence, the course has been designed to stay away from these. Courses are designed to anticipate route choices and use the marked paths in coming through the crags.

The Highland cattle grazing on the competition area are very docile.

25EightMedical will be providing first aid in the Assembly. The nearest A&E department is Chesterfield Royal Hospital (S44 5BL).

**All competitors must report to download, even if they retire.**

**Courses close at 14:00**, after which control will be collected. **You must still report to the Finish and Download even if you miss the cut-off time as this will avoid a search being instigated.**

**Safety bearing: Head north**

A comprehensive risk assessment will have been carried out by the organiser, but participants take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety during the event. If a competitor has a pre-existing medical condition that they think should be declared, please complete a medical form at enquiries. The sealed envelope will only be opened in an emergency.

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**Environmental issues:**

Eastern Moors Partnership asks you to please avoid causing any damage to archaeology/badger setts and to cross maintained walls only at marked crossing points.

Please also ask children not to climb on the many ruined walls, especially near the Assembly.

**Photography:**

You are welcome to take photographs or record video, but please respect people's privacy and avoid photography close to the first-aid and toilet facilities, or in areas where runners are changing. Photographs may be posted on the internet. Please report any concerns about inappropriate photography to the Organiser.

**Officials:** Planner: Tom Entwistle (OD)  
Controller: Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO)  
Permissions: Sal Chaffey (DVO)  
Organiser: Benjamin Stevens (SYO) +44 7472 895 922  
Email: b.stevens6428@gmail.com

**Thanks to Chatsworth Estate, the Eastern Moors Partnership & the farmer, Richard Smedley.**

