

ESOC Dalkeith Country Park SoSOL Event

10th March 2024

Final Details

Location Information:

Near: Dalkeith

Lat, Long: 55.89870,-3.06360

OS Grid Ref: NT335684

Postcode: EH22 1BU

Open an interactive map in:

[GoogleMap](#) - [OpenStreetMap](#) - [AppleMaps](#) - [BingMap](#)

The event will be based at [Dalkeith Country Park](#) with parking in the Steel Park field close to the park amenities.

Directions: Vehicles should enter the park by the Town Gate in Dalkeith town centre off the High Street as requested by the Estate and to avoid driving past the Starts. Once in the park, follow the estate road, respecting the 15 mph speed limit, to the car park. Once parked, make your way up the field towards registration and/or your start. Signs and markers will be there to guide you.

There is a £3 charge for parking – pay [online](#) or by card when you arrive at the car park booth.

There are plenty of options for getting there. Please use public transport or share cars if at all possible, there will be a dedicated bag drop tent near registration.

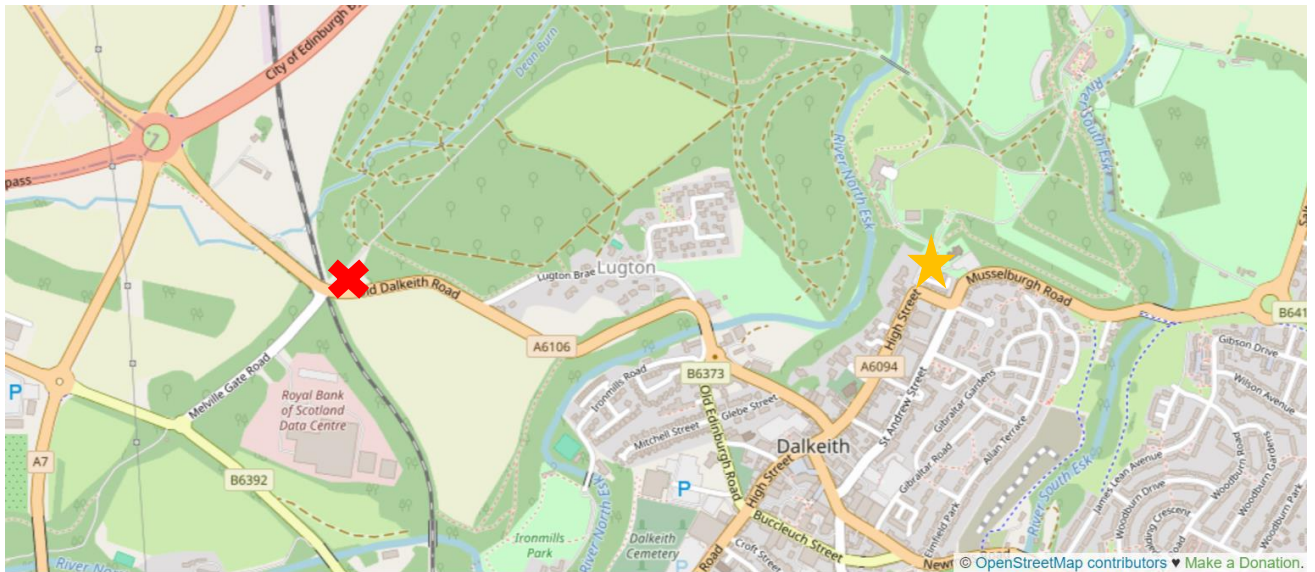
Edinburgh based orienteers are welcome to join the newly expanded Edinburgh Orienteers - Car sharing WhatsApp group. Please contact eventadmin@esoc.org.uk for the joining link.


By Bus: Check [Lothian Buses](#) website to plan your journey. If you're travelling from Edinburgh to Dalkeith, take [Lothian Bus](#) number 3, or number 46 from Tesco Hardengreen to Dalkeith High Street. Dalkeith Country Park is then a short five to 10 minutes' walk away.


By Bike: Access The Park through the Town Gate, off the A6094 or Smeaton Gate, which is closest to the [National Cycle Route](#) no.196. The entrance to the Park postcode is EH22 1AD.

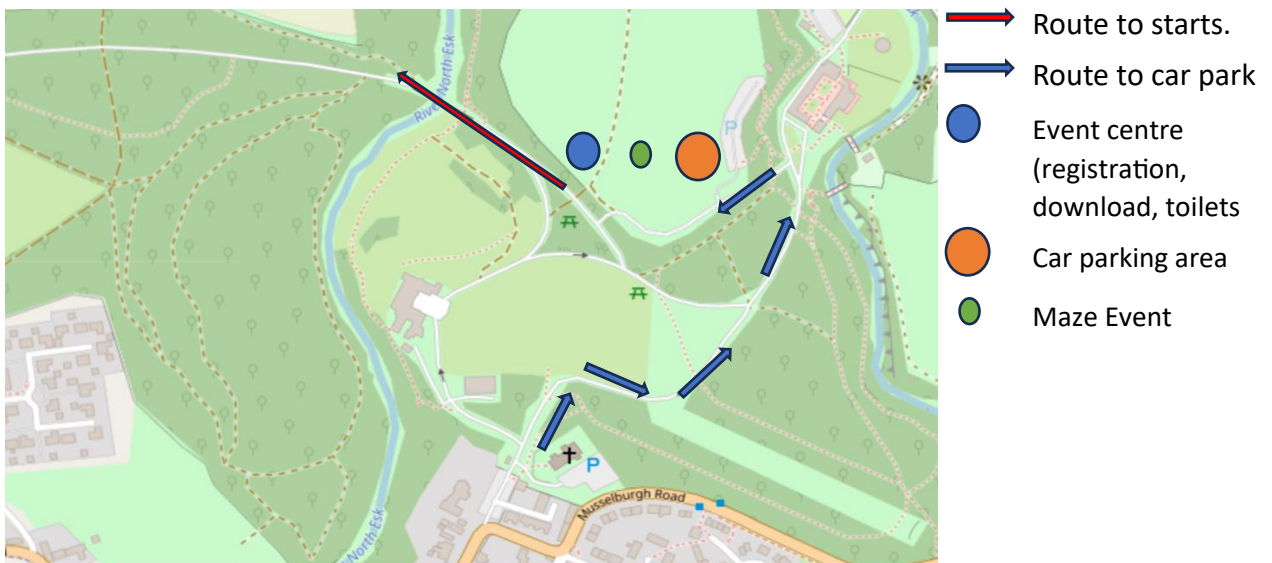
By Train: There are regular trains from the Borders and Edinburgh City Centre to Eskbank Station, a 25 minute walk from The Park.

Event Layout:



 Please **do not** enter the park here

 Please **do** enter the park here



Safety: General points here, please also read the important Planners notes under Terrain

- Traffic. Competitors will have to walk through a carpark to reach registration/download and will cross Estate roads during the event. Please be vigilant for traffic.
- Other Users: The Estate is very well used by the general public, including dog walkers, runners, families out for a walk, bikers etc. Please respect their right to be there at the same time as you are orienteering.
- Please slow down to a walk and give plenty of room if passing off-lead dogs and stand still if an off-lead dog is agitated.
- Well behaved dogs welcome within the rules of the park but **CANNOT** be taken on the courses.

- Take care when running along or crossing the estate roads, although quiet there may be traffic. All courses are in the confines of the park. There is no requirement to leave the park as part of the event.
- You must report to Download even if you do not complete your course, so we know you are back safely (and don't need a search party). Please return to Download by 3pm.
- It will be muddy so we strongly recommend that competitors on all courses wear studded or grippy shoes if they have them, as the steep slopes can be slippery in both wet and dry conditions.
- The "Maze" course is located in a fenced off area in the car parking field. Extra care should be taken getting to the Maze event area and younger children should be accompanied by an adult across the car park.
- Whistles are strongly advised, and we require full leg cover for all competitors, as per standard rules. Brambles, thickets etc may be present. Ticks may also be present in the park especially due to the presence of deer and livestock in the area. If you find a tick on you remove it as soon as possible and seek medical advice if necessary. A tick remover will be available at registration.
- Poor weather. In the case of rain please ensure you wear an appropriate rain jacket. In the event of extreme weather the Organiser will review the conditions and may cancel the event. Please keep an eye on weather forecasts and information on the ESOC website.

Map:

The park was originally mapped by Peel Land Surveys in 2007 and updated in 2014 by Stirling Surveys. Some recent corrections have been made owing to changes to paths and fences.

The map will be printed on waterproof paper, the control descriptions will be printed on the map and there will be loose control descriptions at the Start.

The maps for White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green and Short Green do not have a key to map symbols. Competitors should familiarise themselves with map symbols before starting which can be viewed [here](#) (choose Normal (ISOM 2017-2)). Paper copies available at Registration

The map scale will be 1:7500 for all course except Yellow (1:5000) and White (1:4000).

Brown and Blue courses have double sided maps with the course in two parts. The control descriptions indicate where to flip the map.

Map sizes and scales are in the Course table below

Terrain:

Dalkeith Park is managed parkland, but with some wilder wooded parts. There is an extensive path and track network with some contour detail and a number of open fields surrounded by fences. There are steep slopes in places (mostly embankments) and quite a lot of undergrowth vegetation in parts of the woods

- There is a shallow stream with very high, steep banks running SW-NE near the NW side of the map. The stream is crossable, although its banks are 2m high in places. For an easier crossing, competitors are encouraged to use any of four bridges which are marked on the map with crossing point symbols. The marked crossings are not compulsory.

- The large rivers should not be crossed under any circumstances other than by marked bridges.
- Yellow and black tape marks a particular hazard, e.g. a sudden drop. Do not cross this tape.
- Areas marked Out of Bounds (OOB) on the map must not be entered into. These areas are designated OOB for your safety or for the protection of areas of the park or for the grazing of livestock.

Courses:

Usual courses for a SoSOL plus we will have a free “Maze” course for very young juniors (and everyone else).

Course lengths: Note too that whilst the length given is straight line, the climb given is based on optimal route choice.

Course	Scale	Paper size	Distance (km)	Climb (m)	No of controls
Brown	1:7,500	B4	9.0	130	23
Blue	1:7,500	B4	7.5	130	18
Green	1:7,500	B4	4.3	65	11
Short Green	1:7,500	A4	3.6	35	12
Light Green	1:7,500	A4	3.3	30	11
Orange	1:7,500	A4	2.9	25	11
Yellow	1:5,000	A4	2.1	15	12
White	1:4,000	A4	1.2	15	12

There will be ESOA junior training taking place before the event. Competitors on courses Brown to Orange should ignore any small training kites they encounter on their courses

Registration:

Registration and Download will both be in the Parking field and Registration will be open from 10.30am until 12.45pm

- For the collection of hired dibbers and White & Yellow maps
- To leave car keys (lone runners should leave in a named envelope)
- EOD if maps are available (fees as on the [event webpage](#) ie no fee surcharge). Number of maps available will be on [RaceSignUp](#) page

There will be a dedicated bag drop tent at Registration. for those coming by bike or public transport.

Starts and Finishes:

There will be 2 Starts close together ~300m from Registration and taped from there . There will be a main Start for all courses except White, whilst White will have a separate start and co-located Finish.

The route to/from the White Start/Finish crosses the main drive and will be marshalled.

The main Finish for all courses except White will be close to Download.

ALL courses close at 3pm. If you are still out beyond this time please make your way back to download as soon as possible. Competitors who have not returned by 3pm will be considered missing and a search party may be sent out.

Start Times:

Starts will run from 11am to 1pm. You must be back at Download by 3pm when courses close.

Please arrive at the Start in time to start within your chosen time block. It is not however necessary for everyone to be there at the beginning of their chosen block. You can view an entry list for all competitors and their chosen start blocks on [RaceSignUp](#) (scroll down to Start List section).

Covid:

Please don't come to the event if you have Covid or symptoms of Covid. Please also try to respect other people's personal space at all times

First Aid:

We encourage you to bring your own first aid kit and administer as necessary, although a basic first aid kit, and a qualified ESOC club member will be available at Registration/Download.

The main hospital for A&E services in Edinburgh is:

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
51 Little France Crescent
Old Dalkeith Road
Edinburgh
EH16 4SA
Telephone: 0131 536 1000

There is also a Minor Injuries (for children 12 years old and over and adults) at the Western General Hospital Crewe Road South, EH4 2XU

Depending on where you live you may prefer to attend A & E or the minor injury unit local to your home. Note that current advice is to ring 111 before attending A&E if the situation is not life threatening.

Officials:

Planner: Martin Caldwell (ESOC)

Controller: Sheila Strain (ELO)

Organiser: Matthew Ball (ESOC)

Entry enquiries once entries open: eventadmin@esoc.org.uk

Acknowledgements:

We are grateful to Dalkeith Country Park for access and support in enabling the event to take place

Public liability and Data Privacy Notices:

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE INFORMATION: Please note that all participants will be covered by Public Liability insurance provided by British Orienteering's insurance policy.

To become a member of an orienteering club, such as ESOC, which includes membership of British Orienteering and/or Scottish Orienteering visit our website www.esoc.org.uk or ask at Registration. There are many benefits of being a member of an orienteering club and one of these is lower entry fees at most events.

Privacy: Read our [Privacy Policy](#) to see how we look after your personal data.