

BW Edinburgh

A light teal silhouette of the Edinburgh skyline, including various buildings and spires, is positioned behind the 'BW' logo and the word 'Edinburgh'.

Bulletin 2

2025

CONTENTS

WELCOME	2
PROGRAMME + TIMINGS	3
GENERAL INFORMATION	3
FRIDAY DAY INFO	6
SATURDAY DAY INFO	8
SUNDAY INFO	11

WELCOME

Edinburgh University Orienteering Club invites you to its annual festival of orienteering in the heart of Scotland's capital. The Edinburgh Big Weekend is Edinburgh's premier orienteering event attracting over 600 competitors annually.

The weekend consists of a Night Sprint around Edinburgh University's Kings Buildings on Friday, an Urban/Sprint around Edinburgh City Centre on Saturday, and a Classic at Holyrood Park or Sprint around Dumbiedykes on Sunday.



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



PROGRAMME + TIMINGS

Day	Timings
Friday 24th FWTN	17:00 Nucleus open to competitors
	17:30 First start
	20:00 Last start
	21:00 Courses close
Saturday 25th Urban + Sprint	09:00 Church opens
	10:00 First start
	13:00 Last start
	15:00 Courses close
Saturday 25th Ceilidh	18:45 Doors Open
	21:00 City Race Prizegiving
	23:00 End of the ceilidh
Sunday 26th Classic + Sprint	10:00 First Start
	13:00 Last start
	15:00 Courses close

GENERAL INFORMATION

OFFICIALS

Organisers		Cat Chapman, Fiona Eades and Joe Sunley (EUOC)
Friday	Planner	Frank Townley (EUOC)
	Controller	Joe Hudd (EUOC)
Saturday	Planner	Fiona Bunn (EUOC)
	Controller	Roger Scrutton (ESOC)
Sunday	Planner	Ellie Bales (EUOC)
	Controller	Graeme Ackland (INT)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: euocbigweekend@gmail.com

Website: <https://euoc.co.uk/bigweekend>

TRANSPORT

Getting to Edinburgh

Air - Edinburgh Airport (EDI) is the primary international gateway to the city and serves a number of low cost airlines from various Domestic and European destinations. The city centre is easily reached via bus and tram links.

Train - Edinburgh Waverley is the major train station in the city. It serves rails links to major UK Cities. To reach Edinburgh by train, it takes around 4hrs30 from London, 3hrs from Manchester, and 1hrs 30 from Newcastle.

Car – Edinburgh is readily accessible by car. We encourage you to explore more sustainable transport options – public transport will be available when travelling to every event.

Getting to the event

All areas have good transport links from the various Park & Rides around the city. **There will be no event parking provided and competitors are not permitted to park at the arenas.**

If you are unable to use public transport or require parking close to the event arena please contact the organisers at euocbigweekend@gmail.com. Please note requests will be taken on a case by case basis and may not be approved.

Edinburgh City Centre is now covered by a Low Emission Zone. More information can be found online at: <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/lowemissionzone>.

ACCOMMODATION

Edinburgh offers a variety of accommodation types and caters to various budgets and requirements. Travelodges and Premier Inns provide budget hotel accommodation. The city also has numerous independent 'Bed and Breakfasts' and hotels. Moreover, there are many self-catering options available through sites such as AirBnB and Vrbo.

HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICE

All competitors should use caution when crossing roads, running round blind corners and should give way to pedestrians. Competitors are responsible for their own safety whilst running their courses.

In the case of dangerous levels of ice, we will inform competitors on our decision regarding the voiding of courses or event cancellation no later than 1 hour before first start for each event. This will be communicated via Email, SMS and the EUOC website.

ENTRIES + START TIMES

Entries are now closed. Any enquiries should be sent to euocbigweekend@gmail.com. Start times will be published on SiEntries.

ENTRY RESTRICTIONS

Those aged under 16 on the day running on courses 1-5 and 8-9 on Saturday and courses 8-9 on Sunday must be shadowed by a responsible adult.

CLIMATE + CLOTHING

The temperature in Edinburgh during January has a daily average high of 6°C and a daily average low of 1°C. During the competition days, sunrise is at around 0830 and sunset is at around 1630.

There are footwear recommendations/restrictions for each day, please refer to the day-by-day sections. There is no restrictions on clothing, however we ask competitors to dress appropriately to weather conditions. In the event of adverse weather conditions waterproof clothing may be compulsory.

RESULTS

Results for the weekend can be found at results.euoc.co.uk/bw25. Live results will also be available through the same link.

CONTROL DESCRIPTIONS

Loose control descriptions will be available in the start lanes for all courses on all days.

START AND FINISH PROCEDURE

There will be a -4 minute call up at the start, during which control descriptions and blank maps will be available. If you are late for your allocated start time, please speak to a volunteer when you arrive at the start and they will sort out a new start time for you.

It's a punching start and finish, so please ensure you punch the control boxes for both even if you're using a SIAC.

PUNCHING SYSTEM

SportIdent with contactless punching enabled for those using SIACs.

RULES

The races will be held under British Orienteering Federation rules. All competitors must follow [British Orienteering's Participant Code of Conduct](#). Competitors must not attend the event if they have been advised to self-isolate / quarantine.

PHOTOGRAPHY

There will be photography of runners out on the course and at the finish. If you would not like your photo taken, or would not like it to be posted on our social media coverage for the event, please let us know at euocbigweekend@gmail.com. We will be avoiding photography of children.

MERCHANDISE

We will be selling merchandise for the event at assembly on all days. The t-shirts will be on sale for £12. (low quality example shown below)



FIRST AID

There will be first aid services at assembly at all times at all 3 events from a qualified first aider. The closest A&E hospital for all days is The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, 51 Little France Crescent, Old Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh EH16 4SA.

SOCIAL EVENT

There will be a Ceilidh and traditional Burns Supper on Saturday night. Hosted at [St Peters Scottish Episcopal Church, Lutton Pl, Newington, Edinburgh EH8 9PE](#). There will be a raffle, and a serving of Haggis on an oatcake. The doors will open at 18:45, the ceilidh will start at 19:30, there will be a break at 21:00 where there will be the prizegiving for the city race and an address to a haggis, the ceilidh ends at 23:00.

The ceilidh is suitable for all ages, however under 18s should be accompanied by a parent or guardian due to the presence of alcohol.

FRIDAY 24TH FIGHT WITH THE NIGHT - KINGS BUILDINGS CAMPUS

VENUE

The Nucleus Building, University of Edinburgh
Thomas Bayes Rd
Edinburgh
EH9 3FG
What3Words: [dates.inch.headed](#)



Open to competitors from 17:00. The assembly will be located in the Alder lecture theatre on the lower ground floor. This can be accessed through the main doors on the south side of the building and down the stairs from the lobby area.

Please take care entering the campus/ getting to assembly after 17:30 as there will be competitors actively running their courses around campus. Please also be aware that the nucleus is still a live working university building and there may be students in lectures and studying, please be mindful of this. There is also a cafe in the building that will be open until 17:30.

HOW TO GET THERE

There is no car parking available by the competition area. Competitors are encouraged to take buses wherever possible. From central Edinburgh, the number 3, 7, 8, 29, 31, 37, 47 and 49 buses can be ridden to the Lady Road bus stop, which is a ten minute walk from the competition area. The number 12 and 24 buses can be ridden to the Rankin Drive bus stop, which is immediately outside the competition area. The number 9 bus can be ridden to the King's Buildings stop, which is on the edge of the competition area.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls
Long	4.0	25	24
Medium	3.2	15	20
Short	2.1	10	12
Junior/Novice	1.9	10	12

DISTANCE TO START

The start is approximately 150m from assembly and will be signposted.

MAP

Survey and Cartography by Graham Gristwood 2024. Updates by Joe Hudd 2025. Map Specification: ISSprOM 2019-2 v6.

Maps will be A4 at a scale of 1:4000.

Building works are occurring to the south-west of the campus, and the map has been updated to reflect this as accurately as possible. Whilst courses have been planned so there should be no need to enter areas where work is occurring, competitors are reminded to stay out of restricted areas.

TERRAIN DESCRIPTION

The university campus is mostly tarmac ground, with some grassy areas. Climb is minimal within the area. As the area may be slippery/ icy, trainers with some grip would be recommended. Shoes with metal spikes are not permitted.

IMPORTANT START INFORMATION

Due to high demand on the long course, we have a very tight schedule for start times on this course. Because of this it may not be possible to start you within a reasonable time period if you do not make your allocated start time.

COURSE CLOSING

Courses close at 21:00. By this time you must have reported to download.

TOILETS

Male, female and accessible toilets are available on the lower ground floor of the Nucleus Building, close to the assembly area. A gender neutral toilet and a baby feeding room are available on the ground floor.

SPECIAL SAFETY CIRCUMSTANCES

As this is a night orienteering event, you're required to carry a headtorch, and recommended to carry a back-up torch.

SATURDAY 25TH URBAN - CENTRAL EDINBURGH

VENUE

Buccleuch Free Church
10 West Crosscauseway
Edinburgh
EH8 9JP
What3Words: [cotton.blunt.fell](https://www.what3words.com/cotton.blunt.fell)



Open to competitors from 09:00.
Toilets and space to leave kit will be available.

We ask that muddy shoes are removed before entering the hall please.

HOW TO GET THERE

There is no car parking available by the competition area. Competitors are encouraged to take buses or walk wherever possible. There are 2 bus stops nearby; Chapel Street that serves the number 9 and 12 bus and St Patrick Square that serves the number 2,3,5,7,8,29,30,31,33,37,47,49,51.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course	Classes	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls	Map Scale	Map Sizes
1	MOpen	10.7	310	36	1:4000	A3*
2	M40+, WOpen	9.7	295	30	1:4000	A3*
3	M55+, W40+	7.9	210	23	1:4000	A3*
4	M65+, W55+	6	145	20	1:4000	A3
5	M/W75+, W65+	4.1	105	15	1:3000	A3
6	M/W16-	3.8	30	13	1:3000	A3
7	M/W12-	2.6	10	13	1:3000	A3
8	MSprint	4.0	105	17	1:4000	A4*
9	WSprint	3.7	90	15	1:4000	A4*

All lengths are along the optimal route choice.

Courses 6 & 7 start from the junior start, all other courses start from the main start.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) have a double-sided map.

Note that Courses 1 and 2 have 30 or more controls. **SI Cards 5 and 8 are unsuitable for this.** If this is the case you will be contacted about using a hire card, free of charge.

DISTANCE TO STARTS

The main start is 1km from the event centre (allow extra time as there are multiple sets of traffic lights on the route). We recommend

allowing 15 minutes as a minimum to walk. The junior start is co-located with the finish, 250m from the event centre. The route to/from the event centre crosses one road with moderate traffic at a traffic island. Please follow the taped route.

MAP

The map is drawn to ISSprOM 2019-2 v6. Original survey and cartography by Graham Gristwood, with updates in 2024 and 2025 by Alasdair Pedley and Fiona Bunn.

The following special symbols are used:

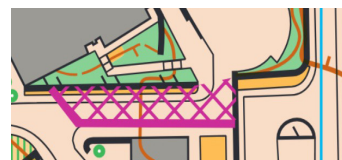
- ✕ 531 is used for play equipment
- 530 is used for other man-made objects

Uncrossable features will not be additionally taped or marked in the terrain, but must not be crossed. Temporary construction sites have been mapped to the best of our ability, but as it is a constantly changing urban area, there may be changes in the days leading up to the event. Any significant changes will be displayed in the start lanes.

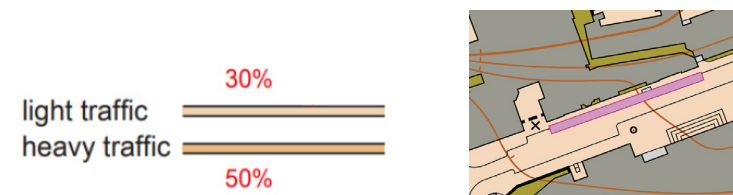
Impassable Symbols

Impassable Wall	—
Impassable Fence	—
Impassable Hedge	—
Impassable Vegetation	■
Building (not passable)	■
Area with forbidden access	■
Temporary Out-of-bounds area	■
Impassable Artificial Boundary	XXX

Artificial barriers may be used. These will be marked on the map using a purple line, with purple hashing behind if there is space. They will be marshalled and marked with cones and/or flour line. Map extract shown to the right.



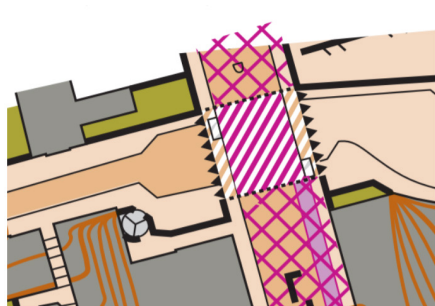
There will be no traffic calming measures or road closures for the event. It is the competitors responsibility to check for cars before crossing roads and driveways and be courteous to pedestrians. Roads are marked with light brown for areas of lighter traffic and darker brown for areas with expected heavier traffic of vehicles or pedestrians (e.g. Royal Mile). It is a good idea to allow yourself time to cross these roads when planning routes.



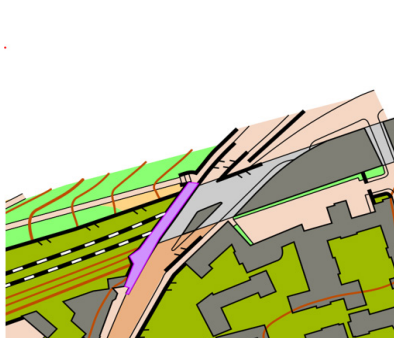
There are some narrow pavements in the area, and construction sites (marked with purple temporary out-of-bounds) where the pedestrian route is enclosed within scaffolding (example shown above). Please take special care in these narrow passageways.

Some of the busiest roads in the area are marked as out-of-bounds to competitors using the purple hashing (symbol 709). **Please use underpasses to cross these**, or cross in the sections not covered by the out-of-bounds purple overprint.

The Scotsman Steps are shown by the spiral staircase symbol as shown in the map extract below to the West of the underpass. There are 104 marble steps, covering four storeys of elevation which cannot be depicted on the map. Map extract shown below.



There is a pedestrian walkway diversion under the railway bridge in the North of the area (visited by the longer courses only). It is marked as follows on the map, with the purple temporary construction symbol showing the block to the pavement, but it is possible to pass by following the diversion. The temporary barriers have not been mapped for clarity.



TERRAIN DESCRIPTION

Running surfaces will be mostly paved, with some cobbles which could be slippery if wet and many stairs. There will be a few sections of grass and other natural surfaces encountered by courses.

Within the area there are many hazards such as heavy traffic roads, busy pedestrian areas and blind corners. Competitors should show caution out on the courses and be mindful of all of these hazards.

JUNIOR COURSES

Courses 6 and 7 (junior courses) will have a separate junior start and the terrain will be 25-50% grass. Courses have been planned to avoid busy traffic, however competitors may still encounter slow moving traffic, and definitely will encounter pedestrians and potentially fast-moving cyclists. Please warn juniors to check before crossing cycle paths as if they were crossing a road.

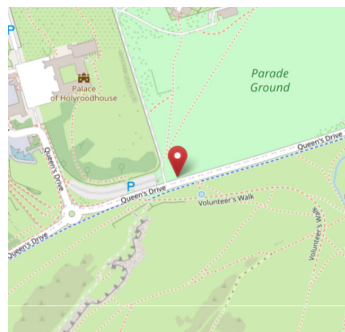
PRIZES

Prizes will be given to the podium places for each age category. The prize giving will be held during the interval of the ceilidh. Prizes will be available for collection at enquiries at assembly the next day.

SUNDAY 26TH CLASSIC/SPRINT - HOLYROOD PARK/DUMBIEDYKES

VENUE

Near Holyrood carpark
Edinburgh
EH8 8AZ
What3Words: [gent.beam.herb](https://www.what3words.com/gent.beam.herb)



There will be a tent provided for kit drop, but club tents are welcome.

There will be a ScotJOS cake stall, so please bring change to help raise funds for the Scottish junior squad.

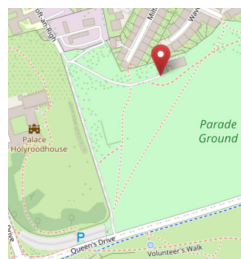
HOW TO GET THERE

There is another event that is using the car park adjacent to assembly, competitors are not allowed to park there. Competitors are encouraged to take buses or walk wherever possible.

The 2 closest bus stops are Scottish Parliament serving the 35 or Calton Terrace Brae serving the 15,26,44,113,124,X5,X6.

TOILETS

We are using the public toilets located on the map below. We do not have sole use of the toilets and so if there is a member of the public wishing to use the toilets we ask that you please give them priority.



COURSE DETAILS

Course	Class	Distance (km)	Climb (m)	Controls	Start
1	Brown	6.7	430	25	Main
2	Blue	5.1	295	21	Main
3	Green	2.9	155	14	Main
4	Short Green	2.3	130	12	Main
5	Light Green	2.7	120	12	Main
6	Orange	3	85	11	Junior
7	Yellow	2.1	65	13	Junior
8	White	1.3	30	9	Junior
9	MSprint	3.5	65	19	Sprint
10	WSprint	3	55	17	Sprint

The course lengths are measured on the straight line and feature a significant amount of climb resulting in the shorter course lengths.

MAP

Holyrood Park map and cartography by Matthew Gooch 2023. Updates Matthew Gooch 2024 using ISOM 2017-2.

Dumbiedykes map and cartography by Graham Gristwood 2024. Updates by Alasdair Pedley 2024 using ISSprOM 2019-2.

DISTANCE TO STARTS

1.2km to the main start with 140m of climb, 1.2km to the junior start with 25m of climb, 1.2km to the sprint start with 45m of climb. Please leave an appropriate length of time to get to the starts.

TERRAIN DESCRIPTIONS

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.

Dumbiedykes is predominantly paved with sections of grass, the whole area is very steep. Please take care when running on the grassy slopes. We recommend that orienteering or fell shoes with good grip and full leg cover is worn for all classic courses. If conditions are very wet or icy then metal spiked shoes may be beneficial.

For the sprint, we recommend shoes with grip (no spiked shoes) however flat road shoes will be acceptable with care taken on the grassy slopes.

SPRINT SAFETY CIRCUMSTANCES

Most of the sprint course will be in very quiet streets with minimal traffic. However at the end of the course it will cross some potentially busy roads, please take care and cross with consideration.

CLASSIC SAFETY CIRCUMSTANCES

Holyrood park features many hazards that most of the courses will encounter. The junior courses are planned (where possible) to avoid these features. There may be high winds throughout the area especially on the top of the hills. There are several large and dangerous crags all around the area. There are also some very steep and narrow paths, these may be very slippery in all weathers but

especially in the ice. Participants are responsible for their own safety, please take care

COURSE CLOSING

All Courses close at 15:00. By this time you must have reported to download even if you haven't finished your course.