

Welcoming back Orienteering – Landowners

British Orienteering have drawn up a Guidance Document for clubs and a Code of Conduct for participants, which have been approved by the DCMS and sports governance bodies.

Orienteering by its nature is an outdoor, socially distanced activity, making the health rewards from taking part outweigh the risks which are carefully and strictly managed. We are encouraging and supporting clubs to return to activity.

Here are 6 illustrated steps which orienteering clubs will put in place to ensure landowners that it is safe to return. (Note: these photographs were taken at Covid Safe Orienteering events with between 90 and 300 participants during Aug/Sept 2020)

Step 1 Pre-entry

Clubs will provide participants with a pre-register/pay system. This will greatly reduce the need for contact, handling cash, queuing, and gatherings on the day. It will also ensure participants are provided with any specific instructions before they arrive at the venue and they agree to the Participant Code of Conduct.

Step 2 Registration and Download

If clubs decide a registration desk is required, it will be set up in a well-ventilated space. Officials will wear appropriate PPE and hand sanitiser will be provided which participants will be asked to use.

Top Tip: Family groups can be used to operate registration and download - this will further reduce the risk of transmission.



Step 3 Clear Signage and Instruction

Before the event, clubs will ensure that promotional material and on-line registration information provides participants with clear Covid Safety instructions.

On the day, clear signage will be placed at registration, start, finish, other appropriate points and queuing areas to remind participants to adhere to the Participants Code of Conduct.

Check out: the British Orienteering Website for up the up to date Guidance, the Participant Code of Conduct and downloadable signage for events.



Step 4 Managing queues

Participants will be allocated start times/windows. This prevents lengthy queues and gatherings.



Top Tip: Canes will be set out at 2m intervals, some with signage. Participants will naturally use them to socially distance, but the start official will ensure this is adhered to.



Step 5 Out on the course

The Participant Code of Conduct and



safety signage in place

will educate and remind participants to keep a safe distance and be courteous of those around them, both participants and the public - if they can find anyone!

Step 6 Participant facilities

Club officials will adhere to landowner requests regarding participant access, car parking requirements and toilet facilities. If additional portable toilets are required, club organisers will ensure they are properly spaced to allow for social distancing and hand sanitiser will be made available.

