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Location                      The event will be based at Thirsk Hall ([SE427822](#), YO7 1PT), Kirkgate, close to the town centre.

**Please Note:**

There will be a Race Meeting at Thirsk Race Course on the same day. The first race will be 13.55 and the last race 17.25. The race course is to the north of the A61 on the western side of the town. Please be aware of the following:

- This will impact on travel to the event and competitors should allow for traffic congestion for most of the day in the town centre and the approaches to the town.
- The town's cafes, restaurants and pubs are likely to be very busy throughout the day. Race days attract many visitors to Thirsk, some of whom do not go to the races!

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Directions by road        **Approaching from the north (A19): Recommended**  
Diverting on to the B1448 north of Thirsk will avoid having to pass through the town centre. From the A19 take the South Kilvington exit. At the roundabout take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit onto the A168 (Northallerton). After 500m, take the B1448 to Thirsk. On entering Thirsk on the B1448, as you pass St Mary's church on the right look for the right turn, immediately after Thirsk Hall, onto the cobbled drive to the parking area.

**Approaching from the north (A1M): Not recommended**  
At J50, take the A61 to Thirsk. This route passes the racecourse as it enters the town. At the market place turn left onto Kirkgate (B1448) and look for the 'O' direction signs. The entrance to the parking area is on the left, approx. 250m from the Market Place turn.

**Approaching from the south (A1M):**  
At J49 take the A168. After approx. 4.5 miles take the B1448 slip road to Thirsk. Follow the signs to the town centre (don't take the Tesco turning onto the A61). At the market place turn left onto Kirkgate (B1448) and look for the 'O' direction signs. The entrance to the parking area is on the left, approx. 250m from the Market Place turn.

**Approaching from the south (A19):**  
At the junction with the A168, carry straight on to the A170 (Scarborough). At the next roundabout take the first exit on to the A61. Drive to the end of the Market Place and turn right onto Kirkgate (B1448 – Northallerton). Look for the 'O' direction signs on Kirkgate. The entrance to the parking area is on the left, approx. 250m from the Market Place turn.

As an alternative to the southern approach routes above, consider by-passing Thirsk on the A168/A19 and approaching from South Kilvington, see 'Approaching from north (A19)' above.

**N.B. Google Maps does not have the correct location for 'Thirsk Hall', close but it's actually on the west side of Kirkgate and 50m further north!**

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| Parking                            | <p>Ample free parking will be available in the field behind Thirsk Hall. All vehicles must enter Thirsk Hall from Kirkgate (<a href="#">SE427822</a>, YO7 1PT). <b>Parking will be very difficult in Thirsk on the day and we must keep the Hall site secure – orienteers' vehicles only!</b></p> <p>Please note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be no entry to the Hall grounds before 11.30am.</li> <li>• From 11.30, there will be a marshal at the entrance on Kirkgate. Please have an SI card (dibber) ready (one per car) to show the marshal. If nobody in your car is likely to have an SI card, you must contact the Organiser before the day of the event.</li> <li>• Continue slowly along the cobbled drive, through the gateway at the end into the parking field and follow the directions of the marshal.</li> </ul> |
| Leaving the parking field          | <p><b>Vehicles must leave the site from the exit at the south west corner of the field (follow the signs) on to Newsham Road. The gate will be open from 15.00. There will be no vehicle egress from the parking field onto Kirkgate via the cobbled drive.</b></p>   |
| Registration, enquiries & download | <p>This will be located on the lawn on the Hall side of the ha-ha wall. Access to the lawn from the car park field will be via the wooden bridge. The ha-ha wall is otherwise uncrossable!</p> <p>Registration will open at 12.30 and close at 15.00</p> <p>You must report to Registration before your run if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you have requested to hire an SI card on your online entry;</li> <li>• you need to Enter on the day;</li> </ul> <p>Entry on the day (subject to map availability); £12 Adult, £6 Junior/Students. EoD competitors will complete an entry form at Registration and will be given a ticket with their course and Start time. They will need to hand this to the marshal when their time is called at the Start.</p> <p>There is a £40 charge for lost or damaged hired SI Cards.</p>                             |
| Facilities<br>Dogs                 | <p>Toilets will be located in the parking area. Water will be available near to download. Dogs on leads in the parking area only.</p>   |
| Start                              | <p>The Start is approximately 1.1km from Thirsk Hall. Competitors must exit the Hall grounds via the north gate (adjacent to the north end of the Hall) which will be unlocked at 12.30. The route to the Start will be taped from the North Gate. Public Conveniences are available at the end of the car park before crossing the road bridge over Cod Beck. There is a light-controlled Pelican crossing over the A61 on the taped route.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no pedestrian egress from the parking field via the cobbled drive.</li> <li>• Parents of Junior competitors are responsible for their child's safety from the Hall to the Start.</li> </ul>  |
| Timing                             | <p>The event will use the Sportident timing system and all SI cards can be used. <b>SIAC will not be available at this event.</b></p> <p>SI cards will be available for hire at registration.</p>   |
| Start times and procedure          | <p>Starts will be from 13.30 to 15.30. Start times will be allocated to competitors and published on Fabian 4.</p> <p>Pre start at -4 minutes.</p> <p>Loose control descriptions (-3) and example maps (-2) will be available. Control Descriptions will be printed on the maps. Courses A-F will use the IOF Standard description format. Course G will use text descriptions.</p> <p>A punching start will be used by all competitors. However, competitors should ensure that they arrive at the Start before their allotted Start time. If they miss their Start time they will have to wait until the next</p>   |

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| Finish                   | <p>available time slot for their course. For some courses this may require a significant wait.</p> <p>There will be an arena Finish at Thirsk Hall.</p> <p>All competitors must report to download, even if they retire or do not complete the course.</p> <p>The course will close at 17.30 prompt.</p>   |
| Controls                 | <p>SI control stations will be mounted, with a standard kite, on street furniture, lamp posts, telegraph posts, fences and on top of stakes, as appropriate to the location of the control. The control number will be marked on the control unit. Gripple wires will be used to secure the SI stations to the feature.</p>  |
| Courses                  | <p>See table below for details.</p> <p>It will not be possible to offer a String Course at this event.</p>   |
| Map                      | <p>1:5000. Original survey 2013 by Bill Griffiths. The map has been updated and significantly extended for this event. There are no contours on the map as the area is essentially flat.</p> <p>Maps (A3 size) will be printed on waterproof paper and will not be bagged.</p> <p>Competitors must comply with the ISSOM forbidden crossing symbols for fences, walls, buildings and vegetation. Legends WILL NOT be printed on the map and will be available to view at Registration.</p>   |
| Terrain                  | <p>Thirsk is a busy market town in the Vale of York. Cod Beck flows north-south through the town with some wooded and open spaces adjacent to its banks. The large Market Place (car park) in the town centre has numerous alleyways exiting from it. Also in the competition area are a number of car parks, open parkland areas, wooded areas and residential estates on the outskirts. Local schools and any associated fenced areas have been marked as out of bounds on the map.</p>  |
| Safety                   | <p>There are two mandatory road crossings on courses E, F, &amp; G:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Light-controlled (Pelican) crossing on the A61, Marshalled and Timed-out. There is a 5 minute time out allowance at this crossing to allow for the sequencing of the green lights. Competitors should not take undue advantage of this and they should punch the second control as soon as they have crossed the road. Marshals will encourage competitors to move through the two controls in a fair and honest manner.</li> <li>2. Zebra crossing, Marshalled and Timed-out with a 2 minute allowance.</li> </ol> <p>There is an additional mandatory road crossing for competitors on Junior Courses (F &amp; G) only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Road Crossing, Marshalled but not timed-out.</li> </ol> <p>Competitors must follow the Marshal's instructions not to cross, if directed.</p> |
| Mandatory Road Crossings |  |
| Safety                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitors take part at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.</li> </ul>  |
| All competitors          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitors are required to carry a whistle.</li> <li>• Car keys may be left at Enquiries/Download, if necessary. Competitors travelling alone should leave their car keys and particulars at Registration.</li> <li>• Please be courteous to pedestrians and take care when turning blind corners, around buildings, in narrow alleyways and in crowded areas. Be aware that some surfaces will be slippery when wet.</li> <li>• Courses A to E, will cross busy roads as well very quiet</li> </ul>   |

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|                               | <p>residential streets. It is your responsibility to cross them carefully, giving way to all vehicles and cyclists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courses A to E will pass through the central Market Place area and streets and alleyways in the immediate vicinity. These are likely to be very busy with a large number of pedestrians and cars passing through with some seeking and leaving parking spaces.</li> <li>• Competitors must not enter Cod Beck and cross it only by the road and footbridges marked on the map. In many places there are no barriers on the beck sides and care should be taken when running close to the beck.</li> <li>• Rainfall has been much higher than normal in the area over the past few weeks. Consequently, the open and wooded land adjacent to the beck and the numerous unmetalled paths and tracks around the town will be very muddy with some standing water. Competitors are advised to wear rubber stud grip rather than flat-soled running shoes. However, leg covering is not compulsory.</li> <li>• Goggles may be compulsory in the event of adverse weather conditions. In the unlikely event that this should be necessary, competitors will be notified upon arrival at the event.</li> <li>• All competitors must report to Download, even if they do not complete their course.</li> <li>• First Aid will be available from Enquiries/Download. The nearest A&amp;E is at Northallerton, Friarage Hospital DL1 1JG (~8 miles from Thirsk). Details of this and alternative A&amp;E locations will be available from Enquiries/Download.</li> </ul> |
| Safety                        |   |
| Competitors on Junior Courses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 3 Marshalled road crossings. The first two are timed out, though competitors must stop if directed to do so by the marshal. The final road crossing is near to the Finish and competitors must only cross that road at the marked crossing point on the map, following any instructions from the Marshal.</li> <li>• The courses do not require any other major or busy road to be crossed.</li> <li>• The courses do cross minor roads, mainly in residential areas. Although these have very low traffic volumes and good visibility, competitors must take great care when crossing them.</li> <li>• Competitors should note the safety information (above) relating to Cod Beck and the general condition of non-metalled paths and tracks. In addition, they should walk, rather than attempt to run, across the Cod Beck pedestrian footbridge</li> </ul>  |
| Results                       | <p>These will be available on live displays and published on the HALO website.<br/>Route Gadget will be available for this event.</p>   |
| Cancellation                  | <p>If it is necessary to cancel the event, a notice will be placed on the HALO website. The Organiser may be contacted if required.<br/>Competitors entered through Fabian4 will be notified by E-mail.</p>   |
| Acknowledgements              | <p>HALO is grateful to:<br/>Mr. John Bell for allowing us to use the grounds of Thirsk Hall for this event and for the advice and support he and his family have provided.<br/>Bill Griffiths for providing an updated map of the area.</p>   |
| Officials                     | <p>Controller: Rob Bailey (CLOK)<br/>Planner: Neil Harvatt<br/>Organiser: Ken Hutson; <a href="mailto:ken.hutson@gmail.com">ken.hutson@gmail.com</a>; 01482 632529; 07748 763368</p>  |

For course information, see below

Courses at the time of publishing Final Details – subject to final Controlling

| <b>Course</b> | <b>Approx length (km)<br/>(Straight Line)</b> | <b>Controls</b> | <b>Age Class</b>  |
|---------------|---|-----------------|---|
| A             | 8.0   | 27              | M Open (18 -35)   |
| B             | 6.6   | 23              | W Open (18-35) ; M Vet (40+)                              |
| C             | 5.5   | 21              | W Vet (40+) ; M Super Vet (55+)                           |
| D             | 4.3   | 19              | W Super Vet (55+) ; M Ultra Vet (65+)                     |
| E             | 3.6   | 18              | W Ultra Vet (65+) ; W Hyper Vet (75+) ; M Hyper Vet (75+) |
| F             | 3.8   | 21              | W Junior (16-) ; M Junior (16-)                           |
| G             | 2.7   | 17              | W Young Junior (12-) ; M Young Junior (12-)               |

Note: there is no appreciable height climb on any course.

***Thank you for supporting this event. HALO hopes you have an enjoyable run and wishes you a safe journey to and from the event.***