

Forth Valley Orienteers
Wednesday Evening Event #6 – 22/05/24
Bantaskine Estate, Falkirk

PRE-EVENT INFORMATION

Location: The assembly, start and finish will be adjacent to the Seagull Trust boathouse on the Union Canal. Please park at Falkirk High railway station (two free car parks, one “pay” car park) and walk 300m along the canal bank to the assembly. There is very limited parking at the event start location, and space needs to be left for emergency vehicles (if required) so only bring your car up if you can't walk 300m.



Entries: Entries can be made prior to the event on the FVO race entry system - [Orienteeing Signup - Enter \(fvo.eu.pythonanywhere.com\)](https://www.fvo.eu.pythonanywhere.com). Guaranteed entries close at 0959 on 21st May, thereafter entry will be dependant on map availability.

Seniors (21+) - £7 per map

Juniors (U21) and full-time students - £5

Members of British Orienteering receive a £2 discount on entry, and members of Scottish Orienteering a £1 discount.

Terrain: North-facing mix of parkland and runnable forest. There are extensive quarryings and old mine works in the area. A stream transects the courses, and will be crossed by Short Green and Green competitors, and the Union Canal bounds the courses to the north.

Course Maps: Map scale is 1:5000 for all courses, with 5m contours, drawn in 2018 by Chris Smithard and updated in December 2021. The course maps will be printed on waterproof paper.

Timing: SI timing will be used and SIAC will be enabled for the controls. Competitors will require to punch the finish, which is not SIAC enabled.

Starts: From 17:30 at one minute intervals per course. Start times on the entry system are indicative only, and if may be possible to start “off-time” if there is a suitable gap on your course.

Control Descriptions: These will be printed on the course maps. Loose control descriptions will not be provided, but will be available to download from the FVO website.

Facilities: There will be no allocated toilets at the event. The nearest toilets are at Falkirk High railway station (300m away). Those who are coming by public transport are welcome to leave their bags near Registration/Download however please be aware that this facility will not be marshalled. Please do not leave any valuables or anything you can't risk losing.

Dress: Please check the weather forecast and dress appropriately for the predicted conditions. Shorts are allowed, bearing in mind that this is Scotland in May, so anything is possible, and there are brambles in the terrain.

General Safety: There are extensive disused quarryings and mine works in the area, but these are approached from below rather than above. One collapsed mine work exists in the middle of the map, but this is marked as out of bounds, and will be taped. Some of the slopes in the terrain, particularly those around the keeper's cottage are steeper on the ground than they appear on the map, and may be slippery in wet weather.

COVID: Please don't come to the event if you have Covid or symptoms of Covid.

Please read and respect the British Orienteering Participant Code of Conduct.

Other Medical Conditions: If you have a medical condition that may affect you while competing, you may choose to notify the organiser (in confidence) of this. Please put in a sealed envelope with your name on it. It will only be opened if required and will be destroyed unread if you don't collect before the end of the event.

First Aid: The Organiser will have a very basic first aid kit available at Registration . If you possibly can, we encourage you to bring your own first aid kit and administer as necessary. For further specific advice please call 111 or for a life threatening emergency dial 999. The Organiser will be happy to advise and support you as required, including use of a mobile phone if you do not have one with you.

The main hospital for A&E services in the Forth Valley is:

Forth Valley Royal Hospital
Stirling Road
Larbert
FK5 4WR
Telephone: 01324 566000

Location

Nearest town: Falkirk

Grid Ref: NS 882 790

•Postcode: FK1 5PT

•Latitude: 55.990881630975

•Longitude: -3.7937973876374

Directions

The event assembly will be on a small grassy area next to the Seagull Trust boathouse on the south bank of the Union Canal. Both start and finish will be in this area.

What3Words: [///skirting.owner.grass](https://www.what3words.com/skirting.owner.grass)

There are plenty of options for getting there. Please use public transport or share cars if at all possible.

By Bus: Number 6 bus from Falkirk town centre (signed Falkirk Wheel) will take you close to the start. Get off at the corner of Gartcows Road and Majors Loan and walk 300m up a sloping road under the Glasgow-Edinburgh railway.

By Train: Falkirk High railway station is 300m east of the event, with trains half-hourly from both Glasgow and Edinburgh.

By Bike: The Union Canal towpath is on Route 754 of the National Cycle Network. There are no facilities at the start for securing bicycles, but there will be someone around this area during the event.

By Car: From Edinburgh/East: Follow signs into Falkirk town centre. Leave A803 at Callendar Park and follow signs for Shieldhill/Slamannan. From Glasgow/West & North. A803 to Falkirk town centre. Follow signs for Falkirk Community Hospital.

About the area: Bantaskine Estate was the country seat of Sir John Wilson, one of the “big men” of Victorian Falkirk, who was MP for the area around the turn of the 20th century, and who made his money in the coal industry. Coal was mined from the area, and much of the sandstone for the major public buildings in town came from Bantaskine. His daughter, Mary Wade Wilson was a renowned artist specialising in landscape painting.

The 2nd Battle of Falkirk was fought in the area in 1746, and was the last success for Bonnie Prince Charlie. During the 2nd World War, a detachment of the Polish army was stationed at Bantaskine, and some of their trenches and emplacements are still visible.

Safety & Risk: 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.

Privacy: when entering our events your name may appear in the results section of this website or in newspaper reports.

Post-race food: A table has been booked at the Copper Top for 1930 for post-race dining and chewing of the fat (metaphorical, not literal). Please contact Heather (07803 000780, heatherfellbaum@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.

Queries: Any event queries can be directed to the organiser, (stevenscott1966@yahoo.co.uk) or by text to 07580 708368