



North Downs 50 Ultra Challenge

Saturday 27th July 2024

Event Guide

PLEASE READ

The North Downs 50 route is back again after its success in 2023 with a new 25K 1st Half route! There are looped routes for 50k, 25k and 10k distances around the beautiful Surrey Hills, through the North Downs countryside before finishing back at our event village. Join hundreds of other adventurers on our mid-point season challenge!

Please note: this Event Guide may be subject to changes & revisions.

Contents

CHALLENGE APP	3
KEY PRE-EVENT INFO.....	3
Start times.....	3
E-Tickets & Bib Number	4
OPTIONAL EXTRAS.....	4
Baggage Services.....	5
Merchandise	5
THE ROUTE	6
Google Map	6
GPX file	6
Hazards on Route	6
Timing & Tracking	6
What's App & What 3 Words.....	7
Food & Drink at the Challenge Rest Stops	7
Medical Facilities	7
FINISH LINE & DEPARTING.....	7
Full 50km, 25km Half, 25km Loop & 10km Loop finish line.....	7
DROP OUT PROCEDURES, CUT OFFS, RULES	8
Cut off times.....	8
Event Rules	8
The Ultra Code	9
SUPPORTERS AT REST STOPS	9

CHALLENGE APP

The new '**Event App**' is now available, and gives you access to all the key info & updates. Firstly - if you have not yet downloaded it - go to the **Apple / Google Store**, search for '**Action Challenge**' and download that base App. Follow the instructions, then, on the front screen (OR go to '**Load New**' in the burger menu if you already have the base App installed) - enter **Reference Code ND5024** - which downloads the North Downs 50 Ultra Challenge info.

This App gets updates before the Challenge - so make sure you have it on your phone!

In the APP you will find:

- Copy of this Event Guide
- Video Briefing
- Start Time list (*available 4 weeks prior to the event!*)
- How to 'manage your place' (*cancellations/deferrals/changes*)
- Optional Extra booking (*accommodation/parking/transfers*)
- Route Maps
- Link to the event timing & tracking system
- Start / finish & Rest Stop venues info + supporter access.
- Travel advice
- Kit Lists + Much More....



You can also view the App on a Computer (*desktop / laptop*):

Go to: www.web.vamoos.com/login

Enter User ID as: **ACT**

Enter **ND5024**

Passcode (*same as mobile App above*)

Information can also be found on the Participant Area of the Website

KEY PRE-EVENT INFO....

Start times

For anyone registered **before 24th June 2024**, you will be able to view your Start Times via the Event app or on the website in the Participant Area on the website from 25th June. Simply search **your name** and it should come up. Start times will also be confirmed on your **E-Ticket** so there is no reason to contact us unless you have not received this **AND** registered by the **24th June**.

If you signed-up as a Team - members will be allocated the same start as the Team Captain. If your name is **not** on the Start Time List - **OR** in legitimate **exceptional circumstances**, you'd like to request a '**Start Time Amendment**', **OR** there seems to be a problem with some of your Team's start times - then please complete the **online form** (available on the app & the Participant Area from 25th June) by **8pm Monday 15th July** at the **latest**.

Anyone that registers on **24th June or after**, your start time will be confirmed on your event **'E-Ticket'** (which will be sent to **ALL** participants on **17th July 2024**).

The **'Start Windows'** for the Challenge options are below, with half hour allocated slots within these windows. **NO** requests can be made for a start time outside of the appropriate 'window'.

Saturday 27th July (Surrey Sports Park)

- **Full 50km Challenge** **7.00 - 9.00am**
- **25km 'Loop' Challenge** **8.30 - 9.30am**
- NEW** ● **25km/ 1st Half Challenge** **8.00 - 9.00am**
- **10km 'Loop' Challenge** **10.00am**

E-Tickets & Bib Number

Your E-Ticket will be **EMAILED** on **Wed 17th July 2024** - and you must bring it for registration on to the event. Ideally store it on a mobile device to save paper!

If you've **NOT** received an E-Ticket by **Monday 22nd July** (check junk mail first) - there will be a 'Starting List' published within the Challenge App & Participant Area of the Ultra Challenge website - where you can check your bib number, start time, and request an E-Ticket re-send. Please **do not** email or phone to request an E-Ticket.

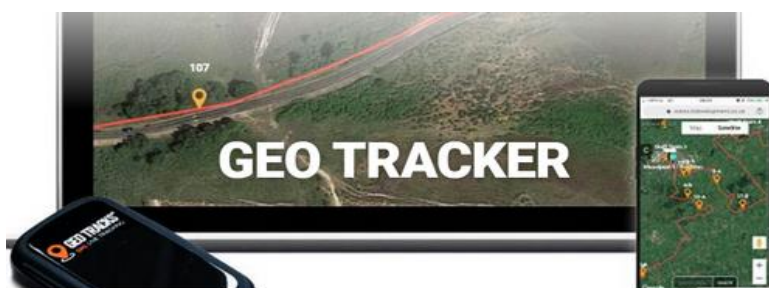
OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Must be booked in advance - bookings will **close on Tuesday 16th July** - book now, as some services have a maximum capacity!

Please note: optional extra may be subject to change.

Our Optional Extras include:

- **Accommodation** (at Surrey Sports Park basecamp only at Surrey University 'halls of residence')
 - (Friday **or** Saturday): university accommodation: single with ensuite
 - (Friday & Saturday): university accommodation: single with ensuite
- **Additional Meals**
 - Friday Night Dinner
 - Saturday Morning Breakfast (included for Friday Night sleepers)
- **Parking** - Surrey Sports Park(*basecamp*)/Surrey University Car Park
- **Guildford Station Transfer** - pre & post challenge from/to Surrey Sports Park basecamp
- **Geo Tracker Hire** so family & friends can track your progress in real time!



Optional Extras are detailed in full on our website or in the Event specific App - with online booking:

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR OPTIONAL EXTRAS >>](#)

Please Note - Tickets for **accommodation & parking** will be e-mailed the week prior to the event.

Baggage Services (no need to book online)

This is an optional service - paid by **card / cash on-the-day** (at the baggage drop tent).

- Store a bag at the 'basecamp' start.
- **For all official Runners** (i.e. Confirmed as a Runner on entry & dressed as such on the day) - our kit drop service will store a small (10kg max) bag for you to keep safe during your challenge: If you have a 'heavy' bag (or a 2nd bag) - this must be booked in and paid for via the other baggage service options.

Merchandise

Don't forget to purchase your 2024 North Downs 50 Ultra Challenge tech T-shirt and check out our full range of Ultra Challenge merchandise including fleeces, leggings, hoodies and hats! We can't guarantee sizes and availability on the day at the start - so order yours soon to avoid disappointment!

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR ONLINE SHOP >>](#)

REGISTRATION & THE START

Note - Please see the App for full details of venue locations & maps, and **parking** at all the start venues must be **booked in advance** (i.e., weekend, single day, supporters). [SURREY SPORTS PARK BASECAMP \(main start/finish & accommodation\)](#) Surrey Sports Park, Guildford, GU2 7AD. Look for our direction signs.

Early Registration at Surrey Sports Centre basecamp - Friday 26th July

Surrey Sports Park, Guildford, GU2 7AD

For all starters ONLY if it's convenient - open between 4.00 - 8.00pm

Registration & The Start at Surrey Sports Camp basecamp - Saturday 27th July

Surrey Sports Park, Guildford, GU2 7AD

Full 50k Challenge, 25km Loop, & 10km Loop, opens 6.00 - 9.30am

At Registration

- Try and arrive 1 hour prior to your start time.
- You **MUST** present your **E-TICKET**
- Collect your **EVENT PACK** (Event & timing pass, lanyard, bib, route card)
- You'll also get a souvenir **North Downs 50 neck buff**.
- Detail critical **medical details** on the reverse of bib (i.e., serious conditions / allergies)
- E-Tickets are **NOT** transferable - we may ask for proof of ID.
- **PHOTO ID MUST BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE ON A MULTI-DEAL**
- You must come with **1 litre of water** (bottles / camel back) & **2 litres** if on 50km.

You'll be called to the '**Start Pen**' 15 mins **before** your official start time for a safety briefing & warm up - and then you'll then set off a 'wave' of about 200 or so challengers.

Note - If you registered on the Friday, you can arrive 30 minutes before your start time if that suits you better.

If you've booked ACCOMODATION at Surrey Sports Park Basecamp

Accommodation is open for access from 4pm - 10pm on Friday. The accommodation is located close to the main start marquee area. Accommodation is available at Surrey University 'halls of residence' on Friday &/or Saturday night - with single room options only. You must bring your own sleeping bag & towel. Accommodation, parking & breakfast the following morning is included in your package - if you want the 'optional dinner' on Friday evening, served between 6-9pm, you **must** book this as a separate item (see optional extras).

THE ROUTE

Will be marked with pink arrows, ribbons, flags & signs. Equally important - you'll have access to a **Google route map via the Challenge APP** (and a QR code on the Route Card). A mobile phone is therefore **essential** - ideally with a back-up battery pack - which are readily available these days!). With the right phone settings, your 'blue dot' location shows up relative to the route - so you'll always be able to figure where you are!

Google Map

This will be finalised & enhanced with useful information prior to the Challenge.

GPX file

You will be able to download the final GPX file of the route to upload into GPS type devices (Garmin's etc). This will be available the week of the challenge via the website & the app.

[**CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR 'ROUTE MAP' OPTIONS >>**](#)

NOTE: The Route is **subject to change** in the lead up to the event - and potentially close to the start date - so please always follow **the signage on the day**. We've plotted the route on various devices to get the 'best' plot, and please be aware that some GPS devices overstate distance on relatively slow, long, walking / hiking type activities - and it's best to turn off the device when you are stationary for prolonged periods (i.e. - at rest stops)

Hazards on Route

Hazards exist in many guises - on footpaths, pavements, and on roads! Look out for: Traffic (crossroads in the correct places); slippery surfaces on footpaths (it may be wet); styles (can be tricky); steep slopes; other pedestrians / dogs.

Timing & Tracking

You'll be issued with a timing pass & lanyard to be worn around your neck. This will be scanned at the start / finish & at rest stops. You must go through all check points for your tracking profile to be updated. Friends & family will be able to view your progress through rest stops, and this link will be available via the **App** and the website on the Thursday before the challenge.

What's App & What 3 Words

The route is relatively remote in places & post codes often 'don't work' that well - so having access to (and knowing how to use) - **'WhatsApp'** location functionality and **'What 3 Words'** (which is a well-known location type app) are both very useful in case you need to give your specific location to a supporter (i.e. to meet or pick you up) - or to our **Control Room**. Please check these out if you are not familiar with them - and download these clever apps on to your phone!

Food & Drink at the Challenge Rest Stops

All dietary requirements are catered for (ask if it's not apparent!) - and if you want more food at the main rest stops - PLEASE ASK FOR IT - as our catering team is there to help!

- **Start** (*Surrey Sports Park*): Hot drinks, biscuits, fruit (*breakfast available - booking required*)
- **10km Finishers** discounted hot meal (*booking required - see optional extras*)
- **24km** (*Milton Court - 50km Challengers ONLY*), Picnic lunch
- **25km & 50km Finishers:** Hot meal at Surrey Sports Park basecamp & drinks
- **Rest stops:** (Newlands Corner (10km) Tillingbourne Junior School (39km)): Good mix of snacks (Inc. bakery / fruit / chocolate / sweets / savoury) & hot drinks /water/ squash

If you have a favourite snack which 'hits the spot', perhaps keeps you going when you might not feel like eating other food - then it's not a bad idea to bring some of it with you! Please clear & dispose of all **your rubbish** in the sacks / bins provided at all the venues.

Medical Facilities

Our team of medics will be at all the Rest Stops - with mobile resources deployed for any serious incidents. You should bring your own small first aid kit and always deal with blisters as soon as you feel a 'hot spot' (don't wait till you get to a rest stop!). There's a massage service at the Surrey Sports Park basecamp for 50 km finishers (10 min slots - booked on arrival)

FINISH LINE & DEPARTING

All finishers will get a well-earned medal, glass of fizz and a hot meal (discounted BBQ for 10k finishers).

Full 50km, 25km Half, 25km Loop & 10km Loop finish line at Surrey Sports Park Basecamp

There are bookable shuttles (book in advance via our Bookable Extras page) to take finishers to Guildford train station. Supporters collecting you can purchase a parking pass in advance. Supporters will not be allowed in the main marquee area (there will be a separate seating area).

[GOOGLE MAP LOCATION FOR SURREY SPORTS PARK BASECAMP >>](#)

DROP OUT PROCEDURES, CUT OFFS, RULES

During the event there will be a **Control Room** in operation. Please ensure that you save the important phone numbers prior to the Challenge.

Emergency Number (if you are injured but non-life threatening): **0203 915 6682**

Control Room No (For non-emergencies i.e., you are lost): **0207 609 6695**

Drop out SMS / WhatsApp (To say you're retiring etc): **07931 466 138**

Life Threatening Incidents - CALL 999 first, **then** the emergency no. above

Exiting / Retiring from the Challenge

If you need to exit / retire from the Challenge, please inform Event Staff or by Text SMS to the number provided on the Route Card - procedure details below. The ideal place to retire is at any Rest Stop - so unless it is an absolute emergency, please do your best to carry on to one of these stops.

There will be shuttle buses picking up those who have retired from the event from the 25km Milton Court rest stop onwards.

If dropping out at a Rest Stop / Mid-Point

Go to the **'Information Point'** and hand in your Event Pass. Staff will provide details of shuttle services or other ways to exit. The shuttle service is only available from the 25km point onwards - before that point, retirees will need to make their own travel arrangements, unless in an emergency when we will have vehicles and medics available.

If exiting the event on the course

If you need to exit / retire from the challenge, please inform event staff OR text the 'Drop Out' number provided on the Event Pass with your **NAME, BIB NO. APPROX KM** and **TIME**, along with the words **'DROPPING OUT'**. Please include details for team mates also exiting the event if applicable.

Other pick-up points

If you are physically unable to make it to the next rest stop - we will have a number of strategically designated 'pick up points' (that our vehicles can access) - which will be detailed on the Google route map (and detailed on the route card, and the Control Room can direct you). Pick-ups from these points will just move you to the next rest stop - and at that point **your challenge will finish** (they cannot be used to 'get a lift').

Cut off times

The Event has an 'overall' cut off time of midnight Saturday evening for 50 km Challengers (at Surrey Sports Park basecamp). **Note** for 50km Challengers you must leave your 25 km halfway picnic lunch stop by 4.00pm at the latest - to begin your 2nd half.

If anyone fails to meet these cut off times, the Organiser reserves the right to withdraw participants. We will, however, do everything we can to ensure that anyone who wants to continue can do so as we are fully aware of what 'finishing' means to many.

Event Rules

There aren't too many rules - but the ones we have are important. Please make sure you familiarise yourself with these rules and our Ultra Code before the Challenge:

- Do not attend the event if you feel ill – or have an infectious disease.
- Your Bib & Event Pass must be worn at all times.
- You must have a mobile phone with you & the app installed (+ WhatsApp / 3 Words)
- You must carry a back-up power pack for your phone.
- Participants must ensure they are hydrated, fed & rested before commencing any stage of the event and report any concerns to an Event Medic or Event Staff
- If, in the opinion of an Event Medic, a participant is considered unfit to complete the next stage, or further stages, that participant will be excluded as necessary.
- All Challengers **MUST** wear a head torch during the hours of darkness.
- **NO DOGS** (or pets of any kind) anywhere on the Challenge or route – we do not have permissions from landowners, venues and/or farmers to have any kind of animal on the route so pets of any kind are not allowed.
- The Event Organiser reserves the right to operate the cut off time – with Rest Stop’s closing times in accordance with this time frame.
- No individual should leave a rest stop alone during the hours of darkness – you must be with a TREK MASTER- guided group or be part of a team.
- The Organiser reserves the right to officially remove a participant from the Challenge if, in their reasonable opinion, the participant’s actions or behaviour is likely to impact the wellbeing of other participants, staff, suppliers, or members of the public – or will bring the reputation of the event and / or the event organiser into disrepute.
- If any participants are encouraging, or hosting ‘non-registered challengers’ to take part in the challenge alongside them in some way, and are seen to be passing food /drink to them – all involved will be disqualified, all our services will be immediately withdrawn, offenders will be removed from our venues, and no refunds will be made.
- Ultra-Challenge Participants who have entered the challenge on a **MULTI DEAL MUST PROVIDE PHOTO ID** at registration or risk losing their place on the challenge.

The Ultra Code

It is important to remember that the route goes through public footpaths and can run close to private property. In respect of this, please be sure to always follow the Ultra Code:

- No littering at all – bring a bag to use for your litter – and dispose of at rest stops.
- Always shut gates behind you – be aware of cattle / sheep
- Be considerate of local residents, making sure to keep noise levels down.
- Use the toilets provided (and use them properly!) – and not on the route!
- Respect private property (keep out)
- Beware of roads – and always cross in the correct places.
- Be considerate of other walkers on the route who may not be taking part.

SUPPORTERS AT REST STOPS

There will be supporter zones at: Surrey Sports Park – Surrey Sports Park basecamp (main start / finish) *(at other Rest Stops there’s **no supporter access** (unless for a retiree pick up).*

What can you expect next from us...

1. **Pre-Event Video Briefing!** Our Pre-Event Briefing (available between 6 weeks before the event) will give you a quick rundown on what you can expect on the day, the route, hints & tips for training and more!
2. **E-Tickets** These will be sent to you on the 17th July – keep an eye out for them.
3. **The Live Event Website** On the 25th July the North Downs 50 Challenge timing & tracking website will go live, social media feed & much more so don't forget to check it out!
4. **Official Results & Certificates Released** Your final times will be released via the timing website on the 29th July – you'll also be able to download your certificate!

We wish you the best of luck for your challenge if you have any questions, please visit our online Help Centre on our website:

[CLICK HERE for the Help Centre >>](#)

Kind Regards,

The Ultra Challenge Team,
Action Challenge,
London

