MDOC NSL3, Wythenshawe – PLEASE READ THIS!

The third NSL event of the season will be held around Wythenshawe town centre.

It's a new area for NSL, which offers plenty of route choice. The area is bounded to the north by the M60, to the west by the M56, to the south by the airport relief road, and to the east by Peel Park (sort of).

In recent years, much of the council housing here has been replaced by new developments. It's a surprisingly verdant area, with several parks and many roads having grass verges.

Event centre: The event will be based at the Silver Birch, a Holt's pub on Poundswick Lane, M22 9PQ on the NW edge of Wythenshawe Town Centre. It is barely 100m from Wythenshawe Interchange which offers bus and tram services, and any international competitors will find it particularly convenient as it's on the Metro line from the airport.

We have been given sole use of the pool room at the west side of the pub. Access is therefore via the SW entrance to the pub.

Pre-Start and Finish are located on the east side of the pub. The Start will be south of the Finish, at the pub boundary. Please, always access the Pre-Start / Finish and Start areas THROUGH the pub. Do not attempt to access them by walking outside across the front of the pub - risk of premature start beeps! Signage will be in place to guide you.

A 'Demo' course will be available to test your MapRun equipment. The 'Demo' course is 600m in length (it's just 'round the block') and has 3 controls. It has the same Pre-Start, Start and Finish as the main event.

Parking: the police have requested that we park in the Forum car park which is at ground level and free after 5pm. The pub is visible from the northern end of this car park, and is barely 100m away. Access to the Forum car park is from the south, off Simonsway.

https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/carpark/the_wythenshawe_forum/m22/manchester/?arriving=20220913 1800&leaving=202209132000

https://what3words.com/brains.exam.intent

The police have requested that we leave no valuables on show in our cars. This guidance would apply to any area and is not specific to Wythenshawe. The police offered no other safety guidance for the event.

BEWARE OF THE TRAM: While some sections of the tram route are segregated from cars and pedestrians, there is some street running. On Hollyhedge Road the tram runs in the centre of the road and on the map it is difficult to see the tram symbol under the road symbol. The planner has decided not to use the area north of this road, so you will not need to cross it. **Elsewhere you are advised to cross tram lines only at marked crossing points and to look both ways before crossing. TAKE CARE!**

Wythenshawe Town Centre (please see zoom view map): The northern section of the pedestrianised town centre is closed after 7pm by a ring of steel gates. So as not to disadvantage late starters, the relevant footpaths are marked Out of Bounds on the map by conventional purple crosses. **Please comply with this instruction, even if you're running before 7pm!**

Two footpaths run through buildings:

- East-West through the Forum Centre
- North-South through the shopping centre (with Asda on its east side)

Both "Forum" and "Asda" are marked on the competition map.

Both of these covered footpaths may be used during the event – access to them closes at 10pm. Please give way to other footpath users.

Continued...

Mapping Notes: The map is at a scale of 1:12,500 and uses the standard NSL mapping symbols. The map is quite detailed in some areas, so you might like to carry a compass with a magnifying glass!

There are 48 crossing points on the map, the majority of which apply to the tram line. *Please use a marked crossing to cross the tram line and look both ways!* The road crossing points are advisory only.

Several roads have grass verges and, as on some roads they are navigationally significant, the mapper has attempted to map all grass verges, except those alongside major roads (i.e. those mapped in brown).

There are 2 areas of open water in parkland: in Peel Park in the east of the map, and in Painswick Park in the SW. Paved footpaths provide safe routes past these hazards. There is also a pond in Park Wood which is to the north east of the town centre. Take care!

Woodland: There are several small woods in the area. They are shown in green but only the more distinct woodland paths and streams have been mapped. There are some other paths which are indistinct and hence unmapped. These wooded areas are dark. However, the great majority of urban paths (and those in parkland) are illuminated. Four of the wooded areas have mapped wet ditches, but there are additional unmapped ditches. To avoid falling into a ditch, please stick to the paths.

A few parks and open areas can be accessed along the length of an adjacent road, whereas others have only footpath entry via metal gates. Look carefully at the map: any gap between adjacent sections of open area implies a fence (not to be crossed) along the line of the gap, in which case find a gate!

Control Features (more of interest to those competitors opting for written answers over MapRun): The event uses the normal range of NSL control types. There is a higher proportion of Telegraph Poles than normal as several (but not all) of the Green Boxes have had their numbers painted over. In addition, there is one grey box, one street name and one phone number to be found.

Food: The deadline for food orders was Friday at 20:00, but we have asked the pub to provide 4 extra portions of beef stew and 4 extra portions of mild chicken curry. Both will be served with a chunk of 'Tiger' bread to soak up the juices and the cost is £4.

If you haven't yet ordered food and you'd like to, please email ian.gilliver@mdoc.org.uk to reserve a helping. First come, first served!

On the day collect a food ticket at Registration and when you're ready to eat present it at the bar with a payment of £4, cash preferred please.

If the choice of food on offer doesn't suit you, the Asda in the town centre is open until 22:00 and is only 6 minutes' walk from the pub and even less from parking.

But do please stay for a drink and a chat at the pub. It recently won a Special Recognition Award from Holt's brewery, and the landlady Trisha and her son Chris have been particularly helpful. Holt's draught bitter is only £3.25/pint.

Did I mention the tram? Please take care!

Wythenshawe Town Centre (Zoom view)

BEWARE OF THE TRAMS!

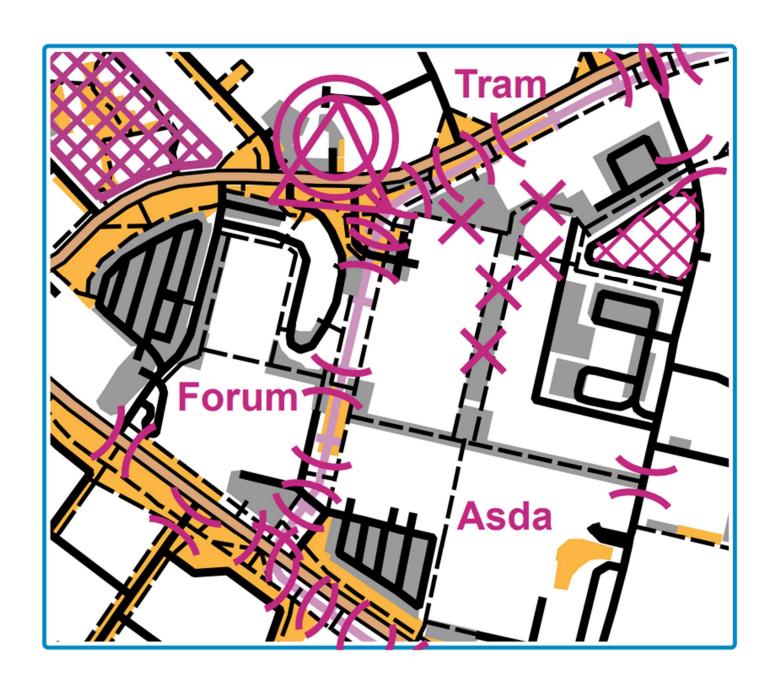
Use a crossing point to cross the tram line. Road crossing points are advisory.

Gates to the Northern part of the pedestrianised area are locked closed after 19:00, hence it is marked Out of Bounds. Competitors running before 19:00 must obey this Out of Bounds instruction.

There are two footpaths that run through buildings:

- East-west through the Forum (Leisure Centre, library etc)
- North-south to the west of Asda

These footpaths may be used (with care) during the event.



How to start and finish at Wythenshawe NSL3

NB the Demo course and main event courses have the same Start & Finish.

You can do the Demo course first (600m, 3 controls) or opt to go straight into the main event.

At home

- > Download and install MapRun6 on your phone or Download MapRunG to your watch
- > Download the (Demo file and) event file to your phone / watch

In the pub

- > Register, Pay, Get your personalised clue sheet, and dibber if hired
- > Go through the main bar of the pub, out of the back door (not the front door please) to the pre-start area, which is on the east side of the pub

In the pre-start area

- > Find your satellites
- > If you're doing the Demo course, collect the Demo map
- > Wait for a start time from the Start official (which will be recorded)
- > When it's your turn, press "Go to Start"
- > Walk towards the start which is at the junction of the pub grounds and the pavement

At the Start

You will get your MapRun beep

- > Dib the SI start box (this starts the timing of your run)
- > Collect your main event map and go

At the Finish, which is at the pre-start

You will get your MapRun beep

- > Dib the SI finish box (this stops the timing)
- > Check back in with the Finish official (for Safety reasons)
- > if you've done the Demo event and you're happy, you can move on to the main event
- > If you've finished the main event, go back to Registration / Download in the pub (you can go through the pub or round the front).

In the pub

- > Download your time at download
- > Hand in your clue sheet at download
- > Hand in your (hired) dibber at download
- > Upload you're your result from phone or watch to the MapRun server (don't leave the event until this is done!).

Thanks

