

SCRABBLE-O NOVELTY CHRISTMAS EVENT

Basics:

This is a virtual orienteering event based on the word game “scrabble”. Each control represents one letter of the alphabet (as shown on the orienteering map provided). Words are formed by visiting controls in the correct sequence to spell the word. The words do not have to be interlocked on a board like in the game of Scrabble.

This will use the MapRun mobile phone application to record control visits and to time the run. Competitors unfamiliar with MapRun should refer to <https://www.dfok.co.uk/info/virtual-orienteering-courses> and also the link from this page to our Tips for Using MapRun.

The map of Beacon Wood is available for download so participants will be able to see the map with control points in advance and they may prepare their own course prior to arrival at the site.

Each competitor has nominally one hour to complete the course they have chosen (runs over one hour are acceptable but are subject to a penalty). The defined start and end dates are December 20th to January 8th during which the course may be run as many times as you choose.

Words formed must be submitted to the organisers by email, Colin and Rosie Merry colinandrosie@havenwood.plus.com no later than midnight on January 8th.

Rules

All words formed must be valid and must appear in the Official Scrabble Word List. There are various sites online listing eligible words including <https://scrabblewordfinder.org/solver>

Number of letters in a word: Minimum 3, maximum 7

Words must be carefully chosen so that:

They don't contain double letters, i.e. “runner”

They don't end on the same letter as the next word starts with, i.e. “pit” then “trip”.

Words are created by joining the letters together in the correct order (which means visiting the corresponding control sites in that order).

Each letter has an associated *Scrabble* value. A table showing the letter values is on the map.

Letters may be re-used as required without limit.

No duplicate words allowed.

Words are scored by summing the values of each letter contained.

There is also a control with no corresponding letter. This is the “*blank*”. This control is a wildcard and can be used as ANY letter. It may only be visited ONCE in a run. It is numbered 27 on the map.

All the letters A to Z appear on the map as the corresponding number on the map on the MapRun App e.g. A shows as 1, L as 12 etc. Some dots on MapRun look to be some way from the control

point but they should bleep accurately when you get to the place on the map and if for any reason it doesn't bleep, just continue your run as you can claim credits for missed controls afterwards.

Runs exceeding 60 minutes shall be penalised by points being deducted from the final score. The penalty is 5 points per minute or part minute over the hour.

There will be a small seasonal prize for the best word/phrase as judged by the organiser.

Merry Christmas from the Merrys