

## CHRISTMAS, ADVENT & WASSAIL CAROL-O CHALLENGE

### CHRISTMAS EVENT GREENWICH PARK

Please email any questions to [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com)

#### Summary

This is a virtual orienteering event based on a minimum of the first two words from any regularly performed English, French or Latin language Christmas, Advent & Wassail carols (**Carol**) (note title doesn't count). 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 start & finish will be at the top of Meridian Walk next to the north gate of the observatory in the centre of Greenwich Park next to the Royal Observatory ([What3Words//tunes.faster.faces?](https://www.what3words.com/tunes.faster.faces?)).

The event 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/tips-on-using-maprun>.

**The defined start date is 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and end time/date is 4pm on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**Note: You must start at the start and go to the finish to record your run but be careful not to run close to the finish until you are ready to do finish.**

The map of Greenwich Park, the information sheet (rules) and score sheet are available for download on the DFOK website (<https://www.dfok.co.uk/anytime/christmas-challenge-2023>). Each competitor has one hour to complete the course they have chosen (runs over one hour are permitted but are subject to a penalty). The challenge can be done more than once.

The score sheet (which can be downloaded from <https://www.dfok.co.uk/anytime/christmas-challenge-2023>) will “almost automatically” calculate your score provided the Control Numbers are entered in order (some other data is required too). **The score sheet for your best run must be submitted to [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com) on or before 4<sup>th</sup> January.**

#### Rules

1. Minimum of first two words of any **Carol** regardless of word length (ie “O Come” scores the same as “Silent Night”).
2. A **Carol** can only be used one once.
3. Words are created by joining the letters together in the correct order (which means visiting the corresponding control sites in that order).
4. If the last letter of a word is the same as the next letter of the following word, or two letters are the same (ie “all) you must visit another control; it doesn't matter which one – ie you can go for the closest one or use this to get an additional letter to count towards the number of letter bonus points (see point scoring).
5. 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. and there are two blanks (#27 & #28). Words must be in order (ie Night Silent doesn't score).
6. Each blank can be used to replace one letter per Carol but you can not use the same blank twice in the same **Carol**. There are two blanks (No 27 & 28). eg O,27,28, M, E is acceptable, but O, 27, 27, M, E is not.
7. No punctuation, apostrophes etc are required.

8. When a competitor accidentally runs past a control and “it scores”, declare this on the score sheet (in the box provided) so that it can be excluded. Under no circumstances will this control be allowed to count toward the “letter bonus”.
9. The course must be completed within 1 hour. There will be a 5 point penalty per minute or part thereof over 60 minutes.
10. The event can be run as often as you like.
11. The Challenge starts on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and closes at 4pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
12. Christmas songs are not acceptable e.g.: “I’m dreaming of a White Christmas”, “I saw Mummy kissing Santa Claus” or “Merry Christmas ev’ryone”.
13. The judge of what constitutes a **Carol** will be David Lefevre. His decision is final.
14. In the event there is a dispute – the planners’ decision is final.

### **Point Scoring**

1. 20 points for first two words of each **Carol**, 12 points for each subsequent word (ie 4 words scores 44 points).
2. Penalty 5 points per minute or part thereof over 60 minutes.
3. Handicap system: All women will have a + 5% handicap and each age category 50 and over will get a +5% handicap. (Ie M70 will get +25% and W70 +30%). (Ie W70 scores 100 points, official score will be 130).
4. Bonus Points:
  - 30 points if all the vowels used (not including blanks)
  - 30 points if 10 different consonants used (not including blanks)

### **Prize Giving**

If there is enough interest, there will be a Prize Giving at a pub (probably Richard 1<sup>st</sup> <https://www.richardthefirst.co.uk/>) in Greenwich on 7<sup>th</sup> January when from 4pm. If you would like to attend the Prize Giving, please could you let [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com) know to assess interest by 31<sup>st</sup> December.

If there is a Prize Giving: please send the **Carol** words, score (including the scoring spreadsheet – available on website) by email to [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com) before 4pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January. For those intending to come to the pub and would like one last try, the sheet can be completed at the pub on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

If there is no Prize Giving: the **Carol** words, please send the scoring sheet for the “best run” by email to [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com) no later than midnight on 7<sup>th</sup> January.

If there is enough demand, an unaudited provisional leader board will be published on or about 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1<sup>st</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> January. For those interested in this, email your best score (but not score sheet) by midnight of the previous day to [jbraesmith63@gmail.com](mailto:jbraesmith63@gmail.com).

Thank you