



# Thamesmead Urban

**UK Urban League 26.10.24- Bulletin 1**

Last updated: 01/09/24



## Welcome to Thamesmead

Welcome to DFOK's first ever urban event! We previously hosted the SE Sprint Championships in 2021 at Chatham Dockyards, however, this is our first full urban and we are delighted to announce that is included in the UK and Southern England Urban Orienteering League for 2024!



## About Thamesmead

Thamesmead, once named "Town of the future" is perhaps surprisingly a historical place, despite only being built in the 1960s. The land it was built on, once belonged to the Royal Arsenal, who made ammunition for the British Forces until the end of WW2. Thamesmead was built to help relieve the housing crisis after the war. Its brutalist architecture, marked by its raw concrete structures and repetitive geometric patterns, was intended to represent a new, modern era. However, for our event this style makes perfect urban orienteering terrain, with many route choices and intricate passageways!

## Getting to Thamesmead

We are encouraging all competitors to make use of the excellent public transport network. The event centre is less than 10 minutes from Abbey Wood station which has direct links into Central London on the Elizabeth Line, South Eastern Trains and Thameslink. There will be limited, on-street parking close by to the event centre.

For competitors coming from further afield, the closest airport is London City Airport, but London Heathrow is direct on the Elizabeth Line. There are unlimited accommodation options in the capital!



## Event Centre

We are very excited to announce that The Nest (*W3W: bank.nods.ages*) will be used as our assembly centre for this event. It is an open room with a 180-degree view across the lake and in the distance, you will see the competition area! There are toilets, including accessible toilets, space to store baggage, and also a small kitchen, so refreshments will be available after the event. It is in **Cygnets Square, SE2 9UH**.

## Event Area

Thamesmead offers very technical urban orienteering, with plenty of route choice. The Longer choices will also get the chance to run along the River Thames, with views across to Barking Riverside and London City Airport in the distance. As it is a former factory site for the Royal Arsenal, there are many cannons around the town. How many can you spot on your course?

There is no strict embargo on the event area. If you enter the competition area prior to the event, you will still be competitive. However, to ensure the fairness of the competition, please do not do any form of orienteering within the competition area until the event. You may view the competition area through the following link [here](#).

## Courses

In order to be competitive for league and ranking points, you must run the course that is designated to your age class. Under 16s on the day must only run course 6 or 7. **Please note** that due to the minimal traffic, we have been able to make **all courses** fully urban (Approx 95% concrete). All distances are **optimum** and subject to final planning and controlling. They will be confirmed in the final details.

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Classes</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>MO</b> (Men's open)	<b>9.7km</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>WO</b> (Women's open), <b>MV</b> (M40+)	<b>8.7km</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>WV</b> (W40+), <b>MSV</b> (M55+)	<b>7.2km</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>MUV</b> (M65+), <b>WSV</b> (W55+)	<b>5km</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>MHV</b> (M75+), <b>WUV</b> (W65+), <b>WHV</b> (W75+)	<b>3.7km</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>MJ</b> (M16-), <b>WJ</b> (W16-)	<b>4.5km</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>MYJ</b> (M12-), <b>WYJ</b> (W12-)	<b>2km</b>
<b>Accessible*</b>	<b>Open to all classes</b>	<b>1.8km</b>

### \*An Inclusive event

Orienteering is a sport for everyone to enjoy, and so we have decided to put on an accessible course. It is 1.8km (subject to final planning) and will be fully wheelchair and pushchair accessible, taking around 30 minutes to complete). Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the accessible course.

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the Peabody Trust for allowing land access and use of the Nest for the event centre.