

The JK is British Orienteering's biggest Festival of Orienteering. It takes place each year over Easter weekend and attracts around 4000 orienteers from both the UK and abroad. The event consists of a Sprint (Friday), Middle or Long (Saturday), Long (Sunday) and Relays (Monday). The event also includes two TrailO competitions.

Jan Kjellström (1940-1967) was an orienteer from Sweden who played an important part in the development of orienteering in Great Britain. He was killed in a road accident, and the first JK festival of orienteering was held in 1967 in his memory. It has continued annually, moved to Easter weekend in 1969, and continues annually to today.

This year it is to be held in The Midlands,

29th March Friday:- Sprint, Loughborough University

30th March Saturday:- Middle, Beaudesert

31st March Sunday:- Long, Beaudesert

1st April Monday:- Relay, Stanton Moor, Matlock

The relay event on Easter Monday is a club event, and entry will be paid for by the club.

Each team comprises 3 runners, generally with a shorter middle leg. Competitors may “run up” in a higher category, and the “age” of the team is the sum of the ages of all three team members.

The courses available are:

- Course A: JK trophy
- Course B: Women's trophy
- Course C: Men's short
- Course D: Women's short
- Course E: Senior Men (M120+)
- Course F: Senior Women (W120+)
- Course G: Veteran Men (M165+)
- Course H: Veteran Women (165+)
- Course J: Ultra-veteran (M/W 210+)
- Course K: Intermediate Men (M48-)
- Course L: Intermediate Women (W48-)
- Course M: Junior Relay (M/W40-)
- Course N: Mini Relay (M/W12-)
- Course P: Mixed Ad Hoc

A request for entries will be circulated soon, and will ask for course preference, and if you would be prepared to run in a higher course to complete a team. Requests can also be made for the shorter, or the longer legs, though, for both, it may not always be possible to accommodate. There will be a small risk that we do not have numbers to complete full teams, but I will endeavour to give all who request a run, a run.

This year, for juniors, it has been made possible to form an “alliance” with a neighbouring clubs, to encourage junior participation. I have not had any requests, but I would be happy to approach a neighbouring club if it would increase our junior representation.

I hope to see many of you along at this event,

Liz Hamer-Davies

Club Captain