

Chiltern Challenge

3rd March – 4th March 2018

Phasels Wood Scout Activity Centre, Kings Langley, Herts, WD4 9NA

Dear Leader,

What is Chiltern Challenge?

Chiltern Challenge is Hertfordshire Scouts very own Explorer Scout Competition. Chiltern Challenge runs over a weekend, where teams of five pit their wits against a series of challenges designed to show their skill, ingenuity and team working. Chiltern Challenge is split into two parts: the day challenges which are undertaken around Phasels Wood Scout Activity Centre; and the night challenges where teams navigate a course in the countryside around Hertfordshire.

Chiltern Challenge has been running since 1978, and the event has flourished. It is run by the Scout Network for the Explorer Scout section. Chiltern Challenge now attracts entries from around the UK.

Who can enter Chiltern Challenge and how many people are in a team?

Chiltern Challenge is open to any member of the Scout Association so long as they are invested member over the age of 12 and under the age of 18 (on 3rd March 2018)

There are two types of teams which can enter:

- Challenge Teams: Teams must be over the age of 14 and under the age of 18, consisting of 4 or 5 team members.
- Training Teams: Teams must be over the age of 12 and under the age of 18, consisting of 4 or 5 team members. Training teams have an Adult who walks with them.

How much does it cost?

Chiltern Challenge costs £115 per team to enter. This includes all the events, camp fees and Saturday evening and Sunday morning food. Where else could you find such a good value event?

What happens when the teams arrive Saturday morning?

When the teams arrive on Saturday morning usually between 09:00 and 10:00 they report as a team to the Reception area where they will be checked in and shown to the camping area. They will then need to pitch their tent in the allocated area before heading off for the opening ceremony and the start of the Day Challenges. During the day, teams undertake the navigation challenge, an assault course (mud will be provided!) and a series of team challenges around Phasels Wood Scout Activity Centre. Lunch is not provided so make sure they bring it with them. Start times for the Navigation and Assault course will be provided in their welcome pack.



Then on Saturday evening they head off into the surrounding countryside?

Not quite. After a hot meal which is provided, and before heading out, each team reports for a full kit check where every single item is scrutinised before the team sets off. Teams receive a final safety briefing, the competition maps and a list of Check Points to plot on their maps. As darkness falls, the teams leave and navigate around our 20 km course in the countryside of deepest darkest Hertfordshire. At each night base, teams will be able to gain points by tackling a team challenge. They have a set amount of time (usually 6 hours) to visit as many bases as possible, before returning to Phasels Wood.

So, after the start nobody sees them until they reach the finish?

No. During the night, teams will head to manned bases where they not only complete a challenge, but their arrival time, departure time and next location is recorded. This information is passed back to base camp where the current locations of all the teams are recorded on a map. Each team is asked to provide two mobile numbers, and if the team is not seen for a while they will be called to ensure everything is ok. The teams are also provided with a contact telephone number so that they can call us if they get really lost. Roving marshals walk the course to keep an eye on the teams as they navigate their way around.

What happens Sunday Morning?

On Sunday morning teams will be provided with breakfast before they strike camp and put on their uniform ready for the closing ceremony where the winners are announced. The competition usually finishes around 10:30 and parents / guardians are welcome to join us.

What do the leaders do during the weekend?

Each team brings an Adult along to help us run the competition. You will run the bases during the day and night guided by one of the Chiltern Challenge team. In return we will provide you with hot drinks throughout the weekend along with Saturday lunch, Saturday evening meal and Sunday breakfast.

Where can we find out more?

More information about the challenge and all the forms will be available at www.chilternchallenge.co.uk. If you have any further questions, you can contact us by emailing info@chilternchallenge.co.uk.

We know that everyone who completes the challenge has a great time, and hope you will encourage your Explorer Scout to take part.

See **you** there!

The **Chiltern Challenge** team



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www.chilternchallenge.co.uk