

Hertfordshire Scouts Peak Assault General Information for 2019

(Please copy this for each competitor and supporter in the team)

1. Key Information

Closing date for entries - Saturday 21st September 2019.

Competition dates – Friday 18th to Sunday 20th October 2019.

Notification of Team Number, Kit Check Time and Final Instructions to teams by 6th October 2019

Hertfordshire Scouts Peak Assault (HPA) is a competition involving team work, skill in negotiating a safe way through rugged country by accurate map reading and endurance. Knowledge of safety in mountains is essential. There is no rock climbing or scrambling involved.

It is the responsibility of each competitor (and their parents/carers if under 18 years of age) and their Leaders to ensure they are fit, well and have adequate experience in hill walking and navigation. It is also incumbent on competitors, parents and Leaders to ensure that the Kit List is adhered to and that any equipment specified can be used appropriately.

If you have any queries regarding these instructions or other HPA matters, in the first instance please contact the Registrar: - Mark Hubbard hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Changes for 2019

This year we will be welcoming competing teams from Hampshire.

2. Entry Conditions

Competitions

There are two courses Mountain and Lowland. The Mountain course make full use of the event area. The Lowland is less physically demanding, on generally easier terrain with shallower gradients and covering less distance.

Composition of Teams

Mountain Competition	Age (at 18/10/2019)	Number in team	Special Requirements
Explorer	14 and under 18	4 – 7	2 or more members of team must be over 16.
Explorer Training	14 and under 18 (2 may be 13)	3 - 6 + Leader Walking	Leader Walking must be over 18 preferably with HPA experience. Up to 2 members can be between 13 and 14.
Network	18 and under 25	4 – 7	All members must be members of Scout Network
Senior	18 and over	4 – 7	This class is for teams who have members who are not eligible for the Network competition i.e. those with some or all members over 25.

Lowland Competition	Age (at 18/10/2019)	Number in team	Special Requirements
Explorer	14 and under 18	4 -7	No special requirements
Network	18 and under 25	4 -7	All members must be members of Scout Network
Senior	18 and over	4 -7	This class is for teams who have members who are not eligible for the Network competition i.e. those with some or all members over 25.

Visitor Teams

Visitor Teams are: a) teams from Scouting outside Hertfordshire or b) Other organisations (e.g. Girl Guiding, Cadets). Visitor teams are welcome in any of the above classes provided they fulfil the relevant criteria. All members of a Visitors' team must be members of the visiting organisation.

Visiting teams should satisfy their own organisations activity (c.f. Scout Association POR 9.1 Activity Rules etc.) and safeguarding requirements and prepare accordingly.

Other requirements:

Membership. All competitors under 18 and competitors in the Network competition must be members of the Scout Association or a visiting organisation. Competitors in the Senior Competition or Supporters over 18 do not need to be members of the Scout Association. However, they are not automatically covered under Scouting insurance and are advised to arrange such cover as they may require.

Explorers reaching the age of 18. Unit Leaders must make provision for any Explorers who will reach the age of 18 before the competition date to transfer, in line with POR rule 4.71, and compete in a Network team.

DBS. DBS is only required for certain adult roles – detailed in the table below. This MUST be current at the date of the event. It is the responsibility of each member to ensure that their membership and any DBS required are valid.

Role	Scouting DBS Required
Network / Senior Team Competitor or Supporter (with no other role in Scouting that already requires a DBS)	No
Network Team & Explorer Team combined supporter	Yes
Explorer Team Supporter	Yes
Explorer Training Team - Leader Walking	Yes
HPA Staff Member – Any Role	Yes

Medical Conditions. If any competitor or supporter suffers from any medical or physical condition that may limit their ability to participate in the Event, or may cause concern, then they should discuss this with the Peak Assault Medical Officer, Dr Kirsty Saunders, prior to completing the entry. If a competitor or leader wishes to contact Dr Saunders please email the Registrar (hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk) in the first instance.

3. Fees

(Please also refer to section 4. Travel)

The fees shown are per person and depend on organisation and location.

Hertfordshire Explorer / Network Units	Fee	Notes
Explorer / Network Competitors	£55	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire. See Section 4.1
Walking Leaders / Supporters	£42	
Explorer/Network Competitors - Central Pickup	£45	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
Walking Leaders / Supporters - Central Pickup	£32	

Members of other Youth Organisations or Units from outside Hertfordshire.	Fee	Notes
Explorer/Network Competitors	£70	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire. (Team based in Herts or adjacent Counties – see section 4.1)
Walking Leaders / Supporters	£57	
Explorer/Network Competitors - Central Pickup	£60	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
Walking Leaders / Supporters - Central Pickup	£47	
Explorer/Network Competitors - Group's Own Transport	£30	If it is impractical to use a Hertfordshire departure or Central Pickup. (See Section 4.2.2)
Walking Leaders / Supporters - Group's Own Transport	£17	

Senior Teams	Fee	Notes
Senior Competitors	£70	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire (See section 4.1)
Senior Competitors - Central Pickup	£60	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
Senior Competitors - Own Transport	£30	For individuals for whom it is impractical to use a Hertfordshire departure or Central Pickup (See Section 4.2.2)
Supporters for Senior Teams	£60	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire (See section 4.1)
Supporters for Senior Teams - Central Pickup	£50	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
Supporters for Senior Teams - Own Transport	£20	For individuals for whom it is impractical to use a Hertfordshire departure or Central Pickup (See Section 4.2.2)

Catering	Fee	Notes
HPA Catering Option (See section 6 below)	£16	For Network or Senior competitors, Walking Leaders and Supporters from any team. Saturday breakfast and evening meal. Sunday breakfast (not Walking Leaders).

Payments

Payment of all fees or notification of successful transfer must reach the Registrar by 21st September 2019.

Payments can be made either:

a) **by online banking** using the details below. Please include your Unit name or Surname in the reference field and email the Registrar when the transfer is complete. The details for transfer are: Hertfordshire Scouts - Activities. Sort Code: 20-20-37 Account Number: 10809233

Or

b) **with a single cheque**, preferably drawn against Unit or District Accounts bearing two signatures to *Hertfordshire Scouts Activities*.

Receipts. Receipts for any payments will be provided on request.

Refunds

If a Competitor or Supporter withdraws from the event then refunds will be processed after the event, subject to the following conditions:

Withdrawal:	Refund
Between 22 nd September and 7 th October 2019	50% of entry fee
After 7 th October 2019	No Refund

(Substitution of competitors is allowed, subject to the individual fulfilling the entry requirements and the Registrar being kept fully informed of the changes prior to the event)

4. Travel Arrangements

(Please also refer to section 3. Fees)

4.1 Teams based in Hertfordshire or adjacent counties

For teams and supporters based in Hertfordshire or adjacent counties, travel will be by coach direct to the base camp.

Departure from Hertfordshire will be at **18.30 hrs on Friday**. The departure point will be based on Unit's / Team's location. The departure points are:

- A) Phasels Wood Activity Centre (A41 Entrance)
- B) Hertford.
- C) Stevenage.

The coaches will commence loading at 18:00 and depart promptly at 18:30.

Please make all team members and supporters aware of the above departure points and time so they can make suitable arrangements to be in Hertfordshire on Friday and at their departure point in enough time.

4.2 Travel Arrangements for Competitors/Supporters outside Hertfordshire

Anyone wishing to travel from outside Hertfordshire must make this decision before the closing date and make this clear during the entry process. See 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 below. The Team List must be completed to show their current residence and the record flagged to indicate non-Herts travel.

4.2.1 Central Pickup

For individuals or teams who live outside Hertfordshire (e.g. those at University etc.), there will be the opportunity of transport from a hub with good travel connections.

- A) **North.** For events in North Wales, Lake District or Peak District the hub is likely to be Manchester Airport Coach Station.
- B) **South.** For events in South Wales or the South West then the hub is likely to be Bristol Parkway Station.

As soon as the exact location of the hub is decided this will be publicised on the HPA Website.

Individuals will be required to make their own arrangements to get to the pickup point by 21:00 on Friday 18th October. They will be dropped back at the same location by 17:00 on Sunday 20th October. Timings will be confirmed closer to the event.

4.2.2 Group's Own Transport Arrangements

For individuals or teams who live outside Hertfordshire and where using the Central Pickup is not a practical option please contact the HPA Registrar (hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk) to discuss arrangements.

4.3 It will not be possible to accommodate additional passengers on the coaches on the return journey to Hertfordshire. It is the responsibility of the individuals to inform both their team and the Home Contact for the event if they are unable to reach the pickup point in time. There is no guarantee that a later pickup will be possible – individuals need to factor this into their travel arrangements. To assist with planning, it would be useful to know how many people will be using this service.

4.4 Full details of the travel arrangements will be sent out with final instructions.

5. Entry Process

To enter a team (or teams) the following steps must be completed:

From March to 22nd September

- Leaders should register interest by clicking on this link: [HPA 2019 Registration](#)
The link can also be found on the HPA web page at www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/upcoming-events/peak-assault (look for the Entry Information).

- Leaders will then receive an Entry Form from HPA Registrar to complete electronically.

(Please note for Explorer teams: Someone holding a Terrain 2 Summer (T2) Hill Walking Permit **must** have assessed the team's competence, their equipment (and the team's ability to use it) and the suitability of any Leader Walking to compete in Peak Assault before the event. Details of the T2 Permit holder must be included on the Entry Form.)

- Leaders should download the General Information (this document) and Kit List from the HPA website and distribute it to their competitors and supporters.

From 1st August to 21st September

- Leaders should download Team List from the HPA website and complete it electronically in the Excel workbook and email to the Registrar.
- Leaders submit Entry Form and pay fees by the Closing Date (see 1. Key Information and 3. Fees and Payments)
- Leaders should direct all competitors and supporters to complete the HPA Health Form. The link can be found on the HPA web page at (look for the Health Form Link on the 2019 Entry Information page).

By 6th October

- Leaders will receive the Team Number(s), Kit Check Time(s), details of any missing information (e.g. Health Forms) and Final Instructions by email.

Changes to Teams

If team members have to be changed, please keep the Registrar informed and re-send Team List(s).

Communication

The HPA organisers want as many people as possible to take part in the event and will try to assist with facilitating this. The key to achieving this is communication. Please let the Registrar know of any issues that are affecting your entry. The main constraint is the coach transport. This has to be booked and departure points allocated very soon after the closing date. It may be possible to accommodate changes after the closing date and this is more likely the sooner they are known.

6. HPA Catering

For Supporters, Network and Senior Competitors there is the option of Saturday breakfast, afternoon tea and Evening meal and Sunday Breakfast cooked by the HPA Catering Team. This is particularly attractive to Network and Senior teams as it simplifies their catering arrangements. (Walking Leaders can opt for Saturday breakfast and Evening meal (but they must carry the ingredients for an evening meal on the hill)). Meals will be served, particularly breakfasts, to fit in with the competition times.

7. Equipment

Competition Equipment for individuals and Teams

A kit list, with guidance notes, is available on the HPA web site. It is up to each individual to ensure that their personal and team equipment complies with this list. **Failure to comply may result in individuals or teams being unable to take part in the competition.** Any queries relating to the kit

list should be addressed to:- Richard Hayward, email: hpakit@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk. Richard is prepared to visit Units to discuss the Kit List and show examples of acceptable kit and answer any questions you may have on it. Contact him directly to arrange this. (email address above)

It is advised that competitors should not carry more than 25% to 30% of their bodyweight. During Kit Check any teams that appear to have inappropriate distribution between members will be spoken to and kit redistributed.

Some items of Explorer Competition Equipment will be transported to the Over Night Site after it is checked at Kit Check. Details can be found in the Kit Lists. (e.g. Second Tent and Stove/Fuel)

Teams must sleep in their competition tents on both Friday and Saturday nights. The cost for Base Camp is dependent on the number of tents and the price for Peak Assault is based on teams using the same tents for both nights.

Training Teams: The Leader Walking must have their own tent and must not carry any Team Equipment.

General Equipment

It is not possible to transport large items such as patrol or frame tents, wooden boxes, tables or chairs etc. to the event. These items will not be allowed on the coaches. Kit should be packed into small boxes (up to "Cool Box" size (50 x 30x 40 cm)) or small crates (up to 50 x 30 x 30 cm)). If teams do not follow these instructions, Coach Marshals and drivers have authority to refuse loading of any offending items. All equipment should be clearly labelled with Unit/Group/Team number.

Units with 3 or more teams competing (or Units sharing base facilities with a combined entry of 3 or more teams) can bring a mess tent up to 15m². (See Heavy Equipment below)

Gas or other Fuel

Stoves using petrol, meths, solid fuel or gas canisters that do not have a threaded re-sealable connection **will not be allowed anywhere on the event.**

All stoves carried by teams must be gas stoves that use self-sealing, removable, threaded connection cylinders.

Support Teams at Base Camp can use the larger gas bottles (3-7kg Propane/Butane)

Any gas containers that are deemed to be leaking will be confiscated as soon as the discovery is made. Unless the issue can be immediately and safely resolved, the container will be disposed of. This applies to base camp and to teams on the hill.

Reminder: Butane type "briefcase stoves" will not be allowed anywhere on the event. These are the stoves where the canister lays horizontally next to the burner as part of the unit, and is secured using a lever and spring mechanism.

The only fuel that can be carried on coaches is self-sealing gas canisters of no more than 500gm.

Heavy Equipment and Bottled Gas

All 'Heavy Equipment' and bottled gas should be delivered to either Phasels Wood, Tolmers or the PMI warehouse, Potters Bar during the 3 weeks before the event (Between 07:00 and 17:00). Detailed instructions for this will be issued with your final documentation in September. Contact Peter Makewell if you have any queries (c/o hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk).

District Transport of Heavy Equipment

It is recognised that some Districts are coordinating their Units entries and this involves a significant number of teams with one support team, with the attendant equipment that this entails. To assist with this **each District, at its own cost, can take one Car or Van with a trailer to transport its own heavy equipment.** With the following provisos:

- Inform the Registrar that the District is transporting it's own equipment and the expected arrival time.
- The vehicle must have two people travelling to and from the event, preferably both able to drive the vehicle. The drivers must be identified as such on the Team List.
- Access to site is limited and kit may need to be unloaded from the vehicle and transported to camping location with the assistance of HPA staff (if available). Trailers will be towed to your camping location by Site Staff (if this is possible).
- Support teams may not be allowed on site before **20:00** on Friday evening. (Please discuss planned arrival time with the Registrar in advance)
- Only mess tents / event shelters can be pitched. Competitors must pitch their own tents on arrival.
- Vehicles must be removed from site prior to the coaches arriving.
- Vehicles will not be allowed to leave site until after the coaches have departed on Sunday.
- If the vehicle arrives late and coaches are being unloaded, you will need to wait.

8. Supporters

For Explorer Teams there must be a minimum of two supporters per Unit or Group but where a Unit is entering more than one team then the number of Supporters is limited to **one** per team. One of the supporters must be over 20 and preferably with experience of Peak Assault. Supporters will be camping at the base camp.

For the Network and Senior Competitions support is optional but recommended.

Arrangements are made for supporters to be taken by coach to a local town for the day on Saturday, leaving the base camp at approximately 10.30, returning at approximately 16.30.

9. The Competition

The competition rules will be sent to teams with final instructions.

The event will be based on an orienteering system to find the location of checkpoint clips, which will require precise map reading. Checkpoint positions will be given to each team, as they start, in the form of 8 (eight) figure grid references. There could be up to 27 checkpoints to plot so a key skill for competitors is rapid and accurate map marking. Knowledge of Naismith's Rule in route planning is also important. It is recommended that both these areas are practiced before the event.

For Day 1 the competition time will be eight hours from your start time. The Day 2 competition will last for four hours. On Day 2 there will be a 'latest start time' which will be notified to teams as they finish Day 1. Teams starting after this time will have this recorded as their start time unless the delay is at the direction of the organisers (e.g. weather conditions).

10. GDPR & Privacy

Peak Assault as an event organised by Hertfordshire Scouts abides by and operates the Hertfordshire Scouts Fair Processing Notice. This can be found at <https://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Hertfordshire-County-Scout-Council-Fair-Processing-Notice.pdf>