

PEAK ASSAULT

General Information for 2017

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

1. Key Information

Registration Opens – 4th March 2017

Closing date for deposits – Friday 1st September 2017.

Closing date for entries/payment of balance – Saturday 16th September 2017.

Notification of Team Number, Kit Check Time and Final Instructions to teams by 30th September 2017

Competition Dates – Friday 13th to Sunday 15th October 2017

This is a competition in map reading, endurance, and skill in negotiating a safe way through rugged country. Knowledge of safety in mountains is also essential. There is no rock climbing involved.

It is the responsibility of each competitor (and their parents or guardian if under 18 years of age) and their Leaders to ensure they are fit and well and have adequate experience in walking and navigation, particularly in poor visibility.

If you have any queries regarding these instructions or other HPA matters, in the first instance please contact: - Mark Hubbard ☞: hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk or Gyles Wren ☞: gyles.wren@sky.com

2. Entry Conditions

Composition of Teams

Competition	Age (at 13/10/2017)	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	3 - 6 plus Leader Walking	Leader Walking must be over 18 preferably with HPA experience.
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.
Low Level Scout	12 and under 14	3 - 6 plus Leader Walking	Leader Walking must be over 18.
Low Level Explorer	14 and under 18	4 - 7	No special requirements
Low Level Network	18 and under 25	3 - 7	All members must be members of Scout Network
Low Level Senior	18 and over	3 - 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. Guiding, Cadets). Visitor teams can be entered 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 requirements (c.f. Scout Association POR 9.1 Activity Rules etc.) and prepare accordingly.

All competitors under 18 must be members of the Scout Association or Visiting Organisation. Competitors in the Senior Competitions 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 require.

Unit Leaders should make provision for any Explorers who will reach the age of 18 before the competition date to transfer, in line with POR rule 4.7I, and compete in a Network team.

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

If you consider that you suffer from any medical or physical condition that may limit your ability to participate in the Event, or may cause you concern, then you should discuss this with the Peak Assault Medical Officer, Dr Kirsty Saunders, prior to completing your entry. If you wish to contact Dr Saunders please email the Registrar (hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk) in the first instance. If any individual is informed by the Medical Officer that they should not to continue in the competition then they must comply with this instruction. If they choose to continue then the team they are with will be disqualified from the competition.

Teams must report at the Start with a minimum of 4 competitors. If any team has to retire one or more members for any reason and this results in there being fewer than 4 members then the whole team has to retire for that part of the competition.

3. Fees and Payments

Category	Fee	Notes
Competitors/Walking Leaders	£50	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire
Scout Competitors/Leaders	£50	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire
Supporters	£45	Travel by coach from Hertfordshire
Competitors – Central Pickup	£40	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc.)
Supporters – Central Pickup	£35	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc.)
Competitors – Self Travel	£30	For <u>whole teams</u> based outside Hertfordshire <u>where it is agreed in advance</u> with the Registrar that they make their own travel arrangements.
Supporters – Self Travel	£25	For <u>whole teams</u> based outside Hertfordshire <u>where it is agreed in advance</u> with the Registrar that they make their own travel arrangements.
Peak Assault Buff	£8	See website: http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/activities/events/peak-assault/peak-assault-buff/

Payments

A deposit of £100 per team should be paid by 1st September 2017 to secure entry. This is being requested for the 50th event as there are costs associated that must be committed in advance of the September Closing Date. Interest in the 50th event is expected to be high so payment of a deposit is recommended.

Balance of fees must reach the Registrar by 16th September 2017. Entries made after 1st September should be for the total amount.

Payments can be made either: a) with a single cheque, preferably drawn against Unit or District Accounts bearing two signatures to *Hertfordshire Scouts Activities*. Or b) by online banking using the details below. Please include your HPA Reference (see 4) in the reference field and email the Registrar when the transfer is complete.

The details for transfer are:
Hertfordshire Scouts - Activities
Sort: 20-20-37
A/C: 10809233

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 by:	Refund
Team before 16 th September 2017	50% of deposit
Individual between 16 th September and 2 nd October 2017	50% of entry fee
Individual after 2 nd October 2017	No Refund

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

Central Pickup (Hub)

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. e.g. If the event was in the Lake District or Yorkshire Dales then the hub could be in Greater Manchester or Leeds, if it was South Wales or Dartmoor then Bristol. As soon as the location of the hub is decided this will be publicised. Individuals will be required to make their own arrangements to get to the pickup point by 21:00 on Friday 13th October. They will be dropped back at the same location by 17:00 on Sunday 15th October. It will not be possible to accommodate additional passengers on the coaches on the return journey to Hertfordshire. It is also 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.

Please inform the Registrar when applying of any of your team that will want to travel via the hub: Where they will be travelling from, their contact email, and if they have the capacity to use their own transport to transport others.

4. Entry Process

To enter a team in HPA:

- Register interest by emailing hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk giving a contact name and email address, Unit name and approximate number of teams you expect to enter.
- Receive Registration Form and HPA Reference from HPA Registrar
- Pay deposit of £100 per team (see Fees).

- Download Team List, Health Form, Kit List from the HPA website.
- Submit Entry Form and pay balance of fees by Closing Date
Entry Forms for Scout and Explorer Teams must be counter-signed by someone holding a current Terrain 2 Mountain Adventurous Activities Permit. The T2 permit holder must have assessed the team(s) competence, their equipment and the suitability of any Leader Walking to compete in Peak Assault.
- Complete Team List electronically in Excel workbook and email to the Registrar.
- Send completed Health Form to Registrar. These should be hard copy as they need to be signed and scanned documents are often difficult to read.
- Receive Team Number, Kit Check Time and final instructions.

Changes to Teams

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

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 by mid-September. It may be possible to accommodate changes and this is more likely the sooner they are known.

5. Travel

Travel will be by coach direct to the base camp.

Departure from Hertfordshire will be at **18.30 hrs on Friday**. This will be from Phasels Wood Activity Centre (A41 Entrance) and, depending on the geographical spread of the teams, Hertford/Ware and Stevenage.

Departure from the Hub will be communicated later but is likely to be between 21:00 and 23:00.

Full details of the travel arrangements will be sent out in late September.

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

6. Equipment

Competition Equipment

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 and Low Level 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 12'x12'. (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. There have been several near misses reported recently.

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 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).

7. 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.

Scout Teams must follow the Explorer requirements; however, it is suggested that where possible, they should link with a Unit from their District and share support.

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.

8. The Competition

The competition rules will be sent to teams in late September.

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).

The event will be based on an orienteering system to find the location of the checkpoint clips, which will require very accurate map reading. Checkpoint positions will be given to each team as they start in the form of an 8 (eight) figure grid reference.