



Dark Moors Race Instructions

Welcome to our first race of 2023, Dark Moors!
We're delighted to be returning to Moors Valley to complete the Dark Dash Series and start this new year of running.

We are thankful to the many partners who have collaborated to make this event possible and given permission for us to run. With special thanks to the Moors Valley staff and the Forestry Commission personnel who have helped us secure permission for these fantastic events.

Moors Valley Country Park is 1000 acres of parkland and forest for us to explore and run around. Moors Valley Country Park boasts two huge play parks, a dedicated play trail with various nature-themed play areas, miles of beautiful walking and cycling tracks, a narrow gauge railway and plenty more... so why not make your Moors Valley visit one to remember:
[Things to do \(moors-valley.co.uk\)](https://www.moors-valley.co.uk).

If you're local or visiting for the day, Boston Tea Party in Ringwood is offering runners a great deal before the event or on Sunday morning.

20% off in the café and it's just 10 minutes away from Moors Valley, with 2 hours' free parking in the Furlong. Just show your race confirmation email upon ordering.

[Ringwood \(bostonteatparty.co.uk\)](https://www.bostonteatparty.co.uk)

Timetable of events

- 3.30pm – Admin and White Star Clothing Shop opens
- 4.30pm – Seasons Takeaway kiosk opens
- 4.45pm – 5 Mile Race Briefing
- 5pm – 5 Mile Race Start
- 6.15pm – 10 Mile Race Briefing
- 6.30pm – 10 Mile Race Start
- 9pm – WSC Shop closes



Dark Moors 5 Mile & 10 Mile Races
Saturday 28th January 2023

Run the trails at Moors Valley Country Park after dark!
Fun and inclusive running event by White Star Running
Choose from 5 miles or 10 miles with generous cut-off times
Bespoke medal and bonus goodies for taking part
Parking included

[whitestarrunning.co.uk](https://www.whitestarrunning.co.uk)

Special offer for race entrants at Boston Tea Party Ringwood!
Get 20% off (when you spend over £10) in the cafe on 28th & 29th January!
Fuel up before your evening run, or recover with a hearty breakfast the next day, just 10 minutes from Moors Valley. Show your race confirmation email to claim this offer.

Getting there and event advice

Moors Valley is situated 10 miles north of Bournemouth. It's signposted from the Ashely Heath roundabout at the junction of the A31 and A338, between Ringwood and St Leonards.
Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Ringwood, BH24 2ET

Please note: Be aware that due to the rural nature of our location, some satellite navigation systems and route planners may not be accurate when using the postcode.

Please cross reference with this map and follow the brown signs, and then the White Star Running signage: [How to find us \(moors-valley.co.uk\)](http://moors-valley.co.uk)

Please car share for the event; 95% of runners are from the BH/DT postcodes and live within a small radius.

Please do not park on the local roads surrounding Moors Valley; the park has a good relations with local residents and we would like to respect this request.

Free parking is included in your race entry, so you can arrive on site any time to take advantage of this offer. When you leave the country park you will not need to put your number plate into the pay machines; **the barriers will automatically open upon your exit.**

Local accommodation suggestions can be found here: [Accommodation in Hampshire | Places to Stay - Visit Hampshire \(visit-hampshire.co.uk\)](http://visit-hampshire.co.uk)

Refreshments are being provided by the on-site caterers Seasons, in the restaurant until 4.30pm and then from the takeaway kiosk. They will be serving hot drinks, sausage rolls, veggie or meat pasties, pre-packed sandwiches and pasta pots.

You must have a working head or chest torch to take part; we reserve the right to disqualify you if you do not have a working head or chest torch.

You can also wear other lights to make yourselves glow in the dark. Please **no flashing lights** and when you get to the aid stations and the finish line, please switch off your head torch to help marshals see you.

Please dress up in your most fabulous bright colours; we love seeing your colourful outfits for these night races. There will be a face painter from Savvy Sunflower (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083135326777>) on site during registration with glow-in-the-dark and UV face paints, if you want to have anything painted on as part of your fancy dress outfit.

Race instructions

Race numbers can be collected from Admin in the lower car park from 3.30pm.

You will need to provide your own safety pins or [event clips](#) to fasten your numbers on and complete the information on the back of your number.

Results: Will be published on the Timing Monkey website – [Results – Timing Monkey](#)

A timing chip is built into the number; put it on and go. Once you've completed the race, don't go near the finish line again or you will get a false reading. Please make sure you wear your race number correctly so it can be picked up. If the weather is inclement and your number is under coats, please undo the jacket/coat so the chip can be read by the mats.

How to correctly wear your race number

All runners must wear their race number on the front of their race shirt for the duration of the whole run, held on safely by safety pins or bib clips.

Wear your number and be seen. We need to make sure everyone running is part of our organised run, looked after at all times and covered by our insurance.

Please do not wear your number folded up, on shorts, on your back or sides and do not place pins through the chip. If you are wearing a jacket or jumper on over the top of your run number please remove before crossing the finish line to ensure the timing mats record your result.

If not worn correctly then your result from the timing chip may not be recorded. This is your responsibility.

For your safety please ensure that the back of your race number is filled in with all correct information. Help us to help you. We have had to use this in the past and to ensure you get the help required as quickly as possible please always fill it in.

The do not list...

- Do not wear folded up...
- ...on your back or bag
- ...on shorts or side
- ...place pins through chip
- ...cover your bib

Safety

On the back of your number write an ICE number and any medical details. This will help us and you. We recommend that you carry a fully charged mobile phone for emergency use with race HQ emergency number stored. This number is **07930335746**. Marshals will be positioned on the course to provide help if required, along with some roaming bike marshals.

If you need to drop out of the race at any time we will try and get you as quickly as possible. The good thing is that the race is very centralised and we will have 4X4 vehicles on standby to come and get you if need be. We would also recommend you download a free app called **what3words** which can help pinpoint your exact location.

Baggage

Please leave your belongings in your car. If you wish to leave your keys with us, attach a tag to your keys with your race number on and leave them on the key stand in the finish area.

Toilets

There are toilet blocks around the rear of the café at Moors Valley Country Park.

Routes

The routes are available on the webpage: [White Star Running : Dark Moors - Route Maps \(clubtrac.co.uk\)](http://clubtrac.co.uk)

You will be running mainly on gravel and sandy tracks within the forest, which are well maintained and take in some great woodland trails. There will be tree stumps, roots, ditches and puddles on some of the tracks, so please watch your footing. The course will be well marked with signs and arrows and glow in the dark elements; some will have flashing lights on them and marshals will be at key points to direct you.

The race brief and start of the races will take place in the lower car park, where the race starts and finishes. There are good stretches of wide paths and some gradual hills, with one muddy hill climb on the loop. It could be muddy in places, so trail shoes are recommended – something with some grip to get you round.

Cut-offs

The cut-off is 1.5 hours for the 5-mile race. The 10-mile race has a cut off of 2.5 hours, and all races will have sweepers in them to look after the back of the pack and make sure you all finish safely.

Waterstations/Aid stations

These will be evenly placed along the routes and have plenty of water. Our races are **CUPLESS** and we encourage you to carry your own cup or water supply and then you will be able to fill them up at aid stations.

Lovestation™ will have all the usual goodies for you (more on this in the FAQ section at the bottom) and is at 3 miles for the 5-mile and first loop of the 10-mile, and then again at 8 miles. There will also be a water station at the start of the second lap for the 10-mile runners.

Litter: We do not tolerate littering. Please, please don't throw your litter on the ground. If you have something, pop it in a pocket or hang on to it and deposit at an aid station. Anyone caught littering will be disqualified.

Weather: The race is in a forest at the end of January, so please take into consideration the previous day's weather when considering what to wear – wear appropriate clothing for the conditions.

Photos: Night races are difficult to photograph as most come out blurred, so we don't have our photographers at these events. However, we love seeing your pictures of the event in our Facebook Group, so make sure you post yours for others to see: [White Star Running Group | Facebook](#)

Medals & Goodies

All runners who finish will receive a quality uniquely minted glow-in-the-dark race medal. For those of you who have opted to donate your goodies to the [Wild Woodbury project](#), thank you! We're pleased to offer this option for those looking to gift the goodies portion of your entry fee to this local environmental project. You will see a sticker on your race number so the finish-line team know you have kindly gifted your goodies.

If you haven't done so yet, you can still donate your goodies, or answer the goodies question on your entry to ensure you have what you need (dietary requirements) by editing your entry [information here](#) (as long as you have [set-up an account](#) and [imported your booking to your account](#)).

For those claiming their goodies, this year you will receive:

5 Mile: Dark Moors Mug and Moores Biscuits

10 Mile: Dark Moors Mug, Purveyors Muff and Moores Biscuits

White Star Clothing shop: Will be onsite selling our own branded t-shirts, hoodies and lots of other goodies, including some great winter items. You can also click and collect any items from our online shop, with orders being taken up until **Thursday 26th January** for us to pack and bring with us for you. Please use the code 'darkmoors' at checkout so we know you want to collect at the event. www.whitestarclothing.co.uk

FAQs

Based on feedback from our other races

Q. What's a Lovestation™?

A. At our races we realise that sometimes you need a bit of boost just when you're starting flag, to push you on to the finish line. When you rock up to the Lovestation™ you can have a sit down and glass of something nice, like flat cola or a cider, and chew on a cake or sweet, and just get your s*** together before venturing on to finish the race. There may be a hug or two. The serious side is we can also have a look at you and assess whether you are in a fit state to carry on. We realise that most of our races are not easy and present some challenges – heat, cold, falling over, hills, exhaustion, etc, can all take a toll – and we're keen not to have any casualties. We take safety seriously and would only pull you out of the race if we felt you looked like death and for you to continue would put you at risk.

Q. White Star Races have a reputation for being the wrong distance...

A. It's a trail race, not the Olympics. We dare you – yes, dare you – to create an off-road race and get the distance spot on. Consider it 'bonus miles'. These races are pretty close to distance.

Q. Do I have to dress up?

A. No. **Fancy dress is very welcome** and fully encouraged – any excuse to have fun and dress up – but you don't have to.

Q. Do I have to enjoy myself?

A. Yes, it's the law.

Q. What other races do you organise?

A. See our current calendar of events on our [homepage](#) and our provisional dates for 2023 [here](#).