

Metropolitan League 2025 Season

Fixture	Race 4
Date	10/01/2026
Venue	Stanborough Park, Welwyn Garden City

Venue


Course Location	Start	North Side of Stanborough Park, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6DF What3Words: bunk.bared.fantastic – <i>will get you to the North car park</i>
Race HQ	Address	Race HQ and Registration will be adjacent to the Start/Finish at the south end of the North Side of the park.
Changing Facilities	Changing Showers Toilets	There are no dedicated changing rooms, so please arrive ready to run. None Toilets are available in the amenity block by the Splashlands playground. Extra portable toilets will be provided at the end of the car park, close to the amenity block. There are also toilets located at the Sailing Centre on the south side of the park.
Refreshments		Refreshments will be available from the kiosk in the amenity block on the north side of the park or from the café by the Sailing Centre on the south side of the park.
Additional Notes		A Club/Team Assembly Area has been identified in the field adjacent to Splashlands. If you choose to set up adjacent to the course/exit road, rather than using this field, please ensure that you keep well clear of the course.

Travel

Where possible, please use public transport, walk or cycle. If travelling by car, please car share to reduce the impact and check for restrictions that may be in effect in the area (Ultra Low Emission Zone for example). Please also park with consideration of others, especially if using on-street parking.

The league and/or host club(s) do not warrant the accuracy of the information provided so take no responsibility for any fines or charges that may be levied.

Public Transport	Details	Welwyn Garden City Station (Main Line) 1¼ mile from the Park
	Direction	Walking – exit from the Station through the front entrance of the Howard Centre. Walk directly ahead along Howardsgate towards the fountain. Turn left into Parkway at the end of Howardsgate. Walk along Parkway for approximately ½ mile to the end (roundabout at Gosling Sports Park). Turn right and walk along Stanborough Green for approximately ½ mile until you reach the Park (on your right).

Cycle storage	Details	There are some cycle racks at the north end of the North car park adjacent to the amenity area.
Driving	Directions	<p>Leave the A1(M) at Junction 4, (after the Hatfield Tunnel). At the roundabout take the second exit to A414/A6129. At the next roundabout take the first exit A6129. At the bottom of the dual carriageway take the second exit out of the roundabout. The entrance to the car park on the north side is on your left after around 100m. The entrance to the car park on the south side is more or less opposite but you cannot gain access from the left side of the carriageway.</p> <p>As early arrivers will undoubtedly fill the car park on the north side, you may be advised to go straight to the one on the south side.</p>
Parking	Details	<p>There is a fairly large car park on the north side of the Park, adjacent to the course.</p> <p>There is a very large car park on the south side of the Park, 5 minutes walk to the course.</p> <p>These car parks are camera operated and you must pay or you may incur a fine. You can pay at a meter by card. However, payment does not have to be immediate – see attached photo of sign “Ways to Pay for Parking”.</p> <p>We have not been able to negotiate a reduced rate.</p>
		
	Direction	There is a footpath under the road bridge, providing traffic-free access between the South Side and the North Side of the Park.
Additional Notes		<p>Access to both of these car parks is only permitted from the adjacent side of the carriageway. If you cannot find a space on the north side, to get to the south side you must drive to the roundabout at the top of the hill and return on the other side of the carriageway.</p> <p>YOU MUST OBEY THE TRAFFIC SIGNS</p>

Course details

Description	<p>The start and finish are in grassed parkland. The remainder is an undulating parkland course with two short woodland sections on each longer loop and a short steep climb and then descent on each of the shorter loops, all being suitable for spikes.</p> <p>The Senior course has a narrow section about 800m from the start, which will probably slow runners on the opening lap of the Men’s race.</p>
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U11 course	The U11 course is the same as last year. It is one lap of approximately 1,400m.
U13 course	The U13 course is the same as last year. There are two laps, the total distance being 3,200m.
U15/U17 course	The U15/U17 course is the same as last year. There are two laps, each including an inner loop. The total distance is approximately 4,200m. Please study the course map as the start of this race is different from the others.
Senior (Trial) course	The Senior (Trial) course is the same as the U15/U17 course described above. Please study the course map as the start of this race is different from the others.
Senior course	The Senior course is the same as last year. There are three and a half laps, three including an inner loop. The half lap is run first. The total distance is approximately 8,100m.

Additional Notes As last year, the Finish is adjacent to the boundary with the school, and is outside the larger loop of the course.
All of the courses are the same as used last year.
The course maps are included with this notice. They will also be posted on notice boards on the day.
The course is likely to be very slippery, so you are strongly advised to wear suitable footwear.
The course has an inner loop with runners passing in both directions in places. This may therefore be congested and we ask all spectators to keep clear of these points.
Competitors and parents of competitors are reminded not to encroach on the course and to be mindful of runners on the course.

Timetable

The timetable is approximate and subject to change without notice where necessary. Please plan to arrive early and listen for any announcements.

Please note For the 2025/6 season, the timings have changed

Start Time	Race	Distance (approximate)
12:00	Under 11 Boys	1,400m
12:02	Under 11 Girls	1,400m
12:10	Under 13 Boys	3,200m
12:12	Under 13 Girls	3,200m
12:30	Under 17 Men/Under 15 Boys	4,200m
12:35	Under 17 Women/Under 15 Girls	4,200m
12:40	Senior (Trial) Race	4,200m
13:20	Senior Women/Veteran Women	8,100m
14:20	Senior Men/Veteran Men	8,100m

Additional Notes All clubs should arrive before the start of the meeting (12:00) in order for numbers to be distributed to each club.
To be eligible to score, competitors must compete in the correct race for their age group.
Competitors in the Under 13 race must be 11 or over on the day of competition.
Safety: Runners are not allowed to wear iPods/Walkman or similar when competing.

COVID Guidelines

Although official restrictions have been lifted, there are still some people still suffering from the virus.

Please DO NOT TRAVEL to this event if you are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 as defined by the NHS or if you have had a positive test.

COMPETITORS try to remain social distanced at all times whilst at the event, in particular when in the toilets or when queuing at the kiosk or café. Also try to keep your distance, as far as possible, at the start and finish.

SPECTATORS are encouraged to keep their distance from the competitors, especially when calling out encouragement.

All try to AVOID PHYSICAL CONTACT with runners, race officials, volunteers and spectators including high fives and hugs etc.

When using the toilets remember to WASH YOUR HANDS thoroughly.

You are also reminded to catch COUGHS AND SNEEZES and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands.

It is not practical to provide sanitising stations around the park, so DO NOT UNECESSARILY TOUCH OUTDOOR SURFACES, and perhaps bring some sanitiser to use after touching anything.

If you experience COVID-19 symptoms soon after the race, then please follow NHS guidance regarding testing and self-isolation, also please inform the Race Organiser.

UKA Anti-Doping Rules

All entrants shall be deemed to have made him/herself familiar with, and agreed to be bound by, the UKA Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules.

The UKA Anti-Doping Rules apply to entrants participating in the sport of Athletics, for 12 months from the date of entry into the Metropolitan Cross Country League 2024/25, whether or not the entrant is a citizen of, or resident in, the UK.

Contact Details

Host club

Herts Phoenix Athletic Club

Contact Name

Richard Bloom

Contact details

Mobile: 07941 927709

Email: rj.bloom@btinternet.com

Welfare Officer

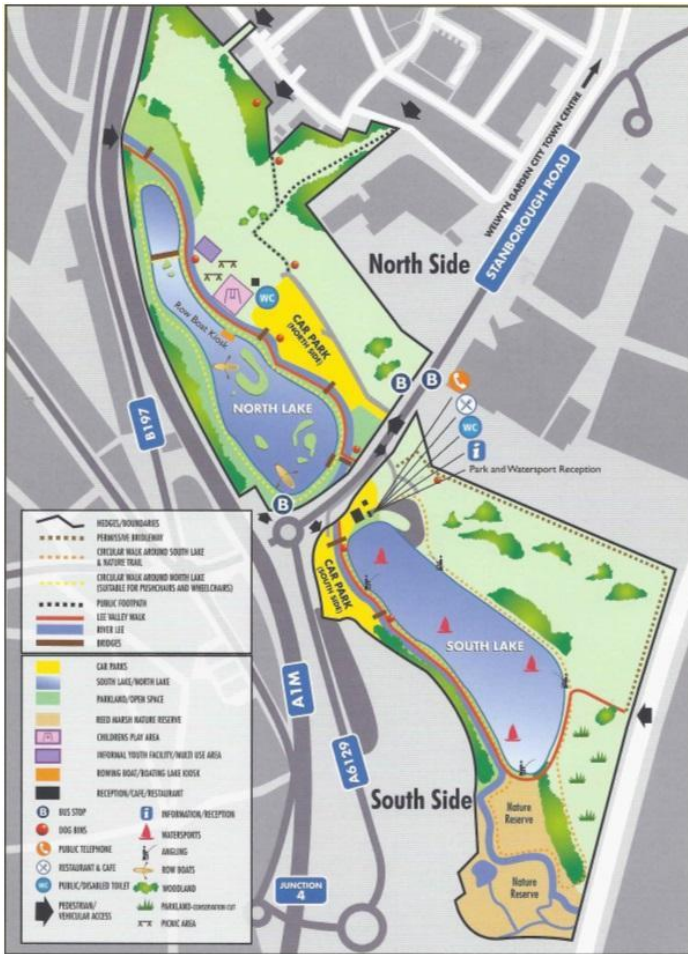
Stuart Meakins

Contact details

Mobile: 07818 010468

Maps

Map showing Location and Parking



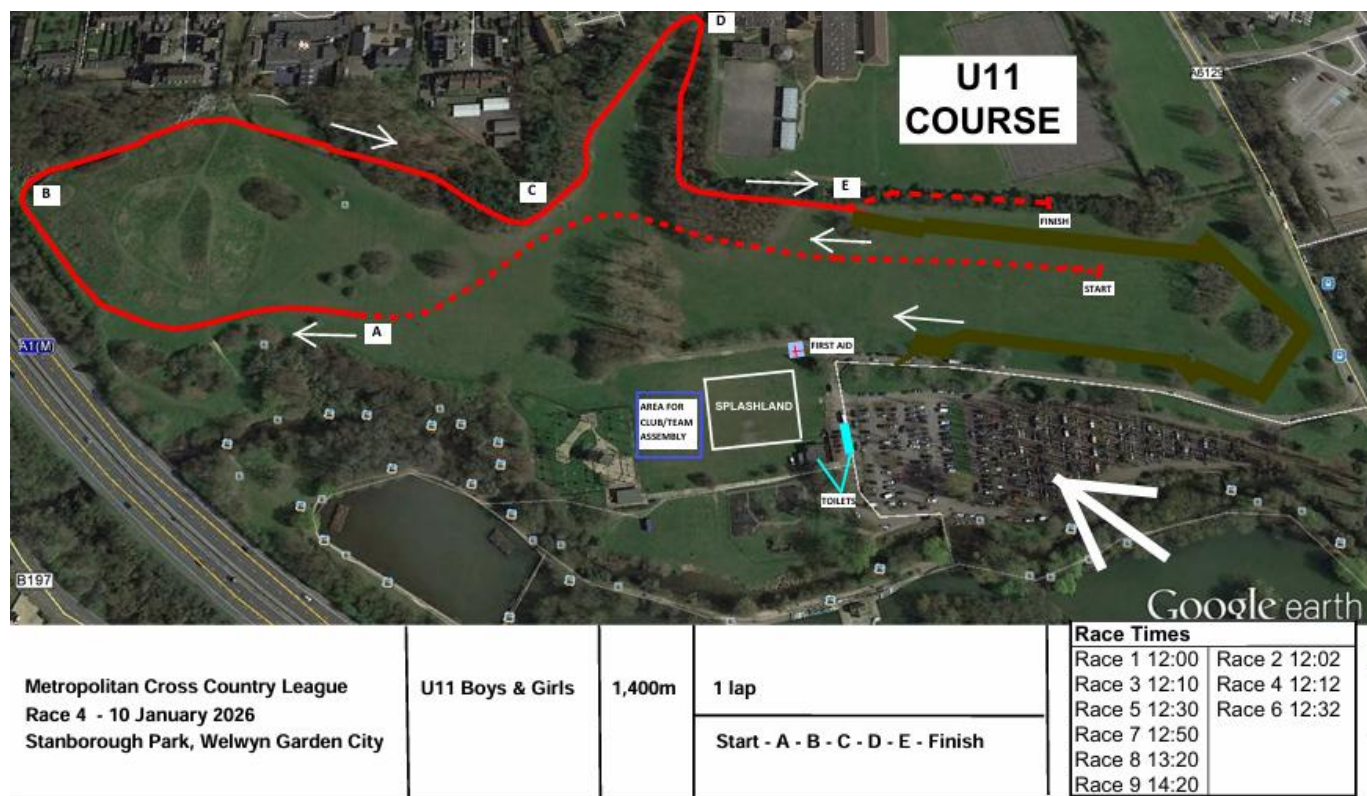
Note

This is a public park.

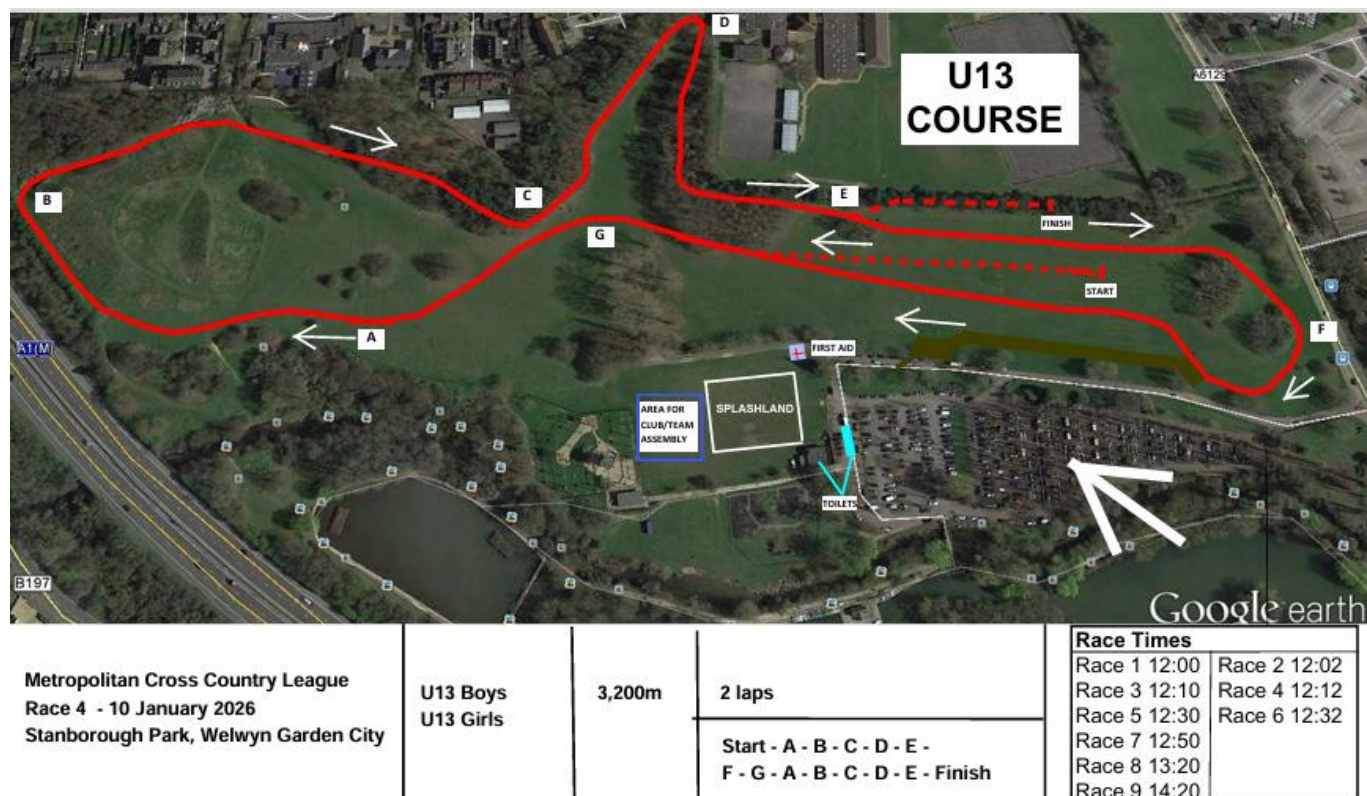
Be mindful of your surroundings and impact on other park users and the public in general.

Please dispose of any rubbish responsibly.

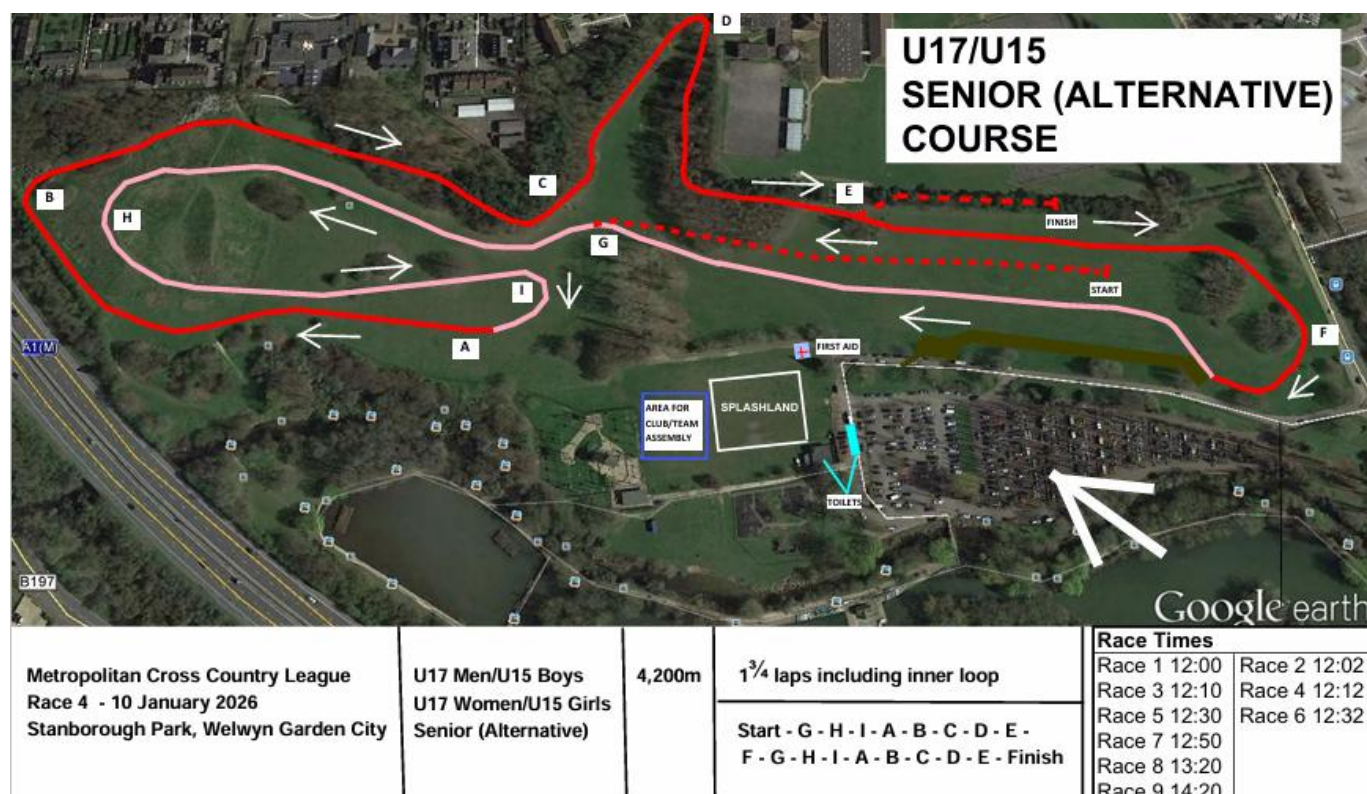
Course Map – U11 Boys & Girls



Course Map – U13 Boys & Girls



Course Map – U15 Boys/U17 Men & U15 Girls/U17 Women and Senior (Trial) Race



Course Map – Senior Women & Senior Men

