

Hertfordshire Scouts Peak Assault

General Information for 2023

(Please copy this for each Team Member and Supporter)

1. Key Information

Closing date for entries - Saturday 16th September 2023.

Event dates – Friday 13th to Sunday 15th October 2023.

Notification of Team Number, Kit Check Time and Final Instructions to teams by 5th October 2023

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

It is the responsibility of each team member (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 particularly important that team members, parents and Leaders 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@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Changes for 2023

The competition will return to its previous format i.e. Saturday's and Sunday's scores/times both counting to the final result.

“Unsupported Teams” To enable more young people to take part, this year there *may* be the option for Units, who are unable to find sufficient adults to support their team(s), and therefore unable to compete to receive central support and catering. Please email hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk to enquire in the first instance.

2. Entry Conditions

Composition of Teams

Section	Age (At 13/10/2023)	Number in team	Special Requirements
Explorer	14 < 18	4 – 7	2 or more members of the team must be over 16.
Explorer Training	14 < 18 (2 may be over 13)	3 - 6 + Leader Walking	Leader Walking must be over 18 and be at the standard of a Summer Hill Walking Permit. Up to 2 members can be between 13 and 14.
Network	18 < 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 from Hertfordshire or elsewhere). Visitor teams are welcome in any of the above classes provided they fulfil the relevant criteria. All members of a Visitor 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 Team Members under 18 and Team Members in the Network competition must be members of the Scout Association or a visiting organisation. Team Members in the Senior Competition or Supporters over 18 do not need to be members of the Scout Association. However

those who are not Members of the Scout Association 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 4.3.1.2, 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 Member 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 Team Member 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, prior to completing the entry. If a Team Member or leader wishes to contact them please email the Registrar (mark.hubbard@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk) in the first instance.

3. Fees

All prices are per person, depend on organisation and location and include VAT where applicable.

TSA Explorer / Network Units	Price	Notes
Explorer / Network Team Members	£50.00	
Walking Leaders	£10.00	
Supporters	£20.00	
Travel by coach from Hertfordshire.	£45.00	For all competitors and supporters who live in Hertfordshire. See 4.1
Travel from Central Pickup	£35.00	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
No Transport	n/a	Only applicable to those groups or individuals where it is impractical to use either the coach from Hertfordshire or the Central Pickup. e.g. Team(s) / Individual(s) from Derbyshire or Devon. See 4.2.2

Non-Scouting Youth Organisation	Price	Notes
"Explorer" / "Network" Team Members	£78.00	
Walking Leaders	£12.00	

Supporters	£42.00	
Travel by coach from Hertfordshire	£66.00	For all competitors and supporters who live in Hertfordshire. See 4.1
Travel from Central Pickup	£40.00	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
No Transport	n/a	Only applicable to those groups or individuals where it is impractical to use either the coach from Hertfordshire or the Central Pickup. e.g. Team(s) / Individual(s) from Derbyshire or Devon. See 4.2.2

Senior Teams (Members of TSA)	Price	Notes
Senior Team Members	£70.00	
Supporters for Senior Teams	£25.00	
Travel by coach from Hertfordshire.	£45.00	For all competitors and supporters who live in Hertfordshire. See 4.1
Travel from Central Pickup	£35.00	For <u>individuals</u> who live outside Hertfordshire (i.e. those at University etc. See section 4.2.1)
No Transport	n/a	Only applicable to those groups or individuals where it is impractical to use either the coach from Hertfordshire or the Central Pickup. e.g. Team(s) / Individual(s) from Derbyshire or Devon. See 4.2.2

Note: These are the current transport costs and may be subject to change in the current financial climate. The organisers will do all they can to avoid any increase. If this regrettably has to happen Units/Teams will be informed.

Catering	Price	Notes
HPA Catering Option (See 6 below)	£30	For Network or Senior Team Members, Walking Leaders and Supporters from any team. Saturday breakfast and Saturday evening meal. Sunday breakfast (not Walking Leaders) and Sunday packed lunch.
Unsupported Teams Catering (see 8.2 below)	£9.60	For TSA Explorer Team Members who are being supported on the event. Breakfast on Saturday morning. Lunch on Sunday.

3.1 Payments

Booking and payment for the event will be via the County system (Cinolla). As soon as the Booking Portal is open this will be communicated.

3.2 Deposits

Deposits will be taken at the time of booking for the total amount of the entry fee for the team specified not including transport. E.G. Team of 6 Explorers, Deposit of 6 x £50 = £300. Bookings and deposits are subject to the standard Hertfordshire Scouts Terms and Conditions. Further details at: <https://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/terms-and-conditions>.

3.3 Final Payments

Final balance payments will be invoiced once the final team details have been confirmed to the registrar in early October.

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 times so they can make suitable arrangements (with work etc.) to be in Hertfordshire on Friday and at their departure point in enough time.

4.2 Travel Arrangements for Team Members/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 (rather than *home*) 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. They will be dropped back at the same location by 17:00 on Sunday. 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 (e.g. Team / Individual(s) come from Derbyshire or Devon), please contact the HPA Transport Manager (ian.grahame@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

5.1 From July to 16th September 2023

Visit the [HPA web page](#) and look for the Entry Information. Download the General Information (this document) and Kit List from the HPA website and distribute it to all their Team Members and supporters.

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 will be requested during the booking process.

5.2 By 1st October 2023

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.

Units do not need to complete a NAN for the event as this is managed by County, however it is expected that Leaders will inform their DC that they are taking part.

5.3 Changes to Teams

If team members have to be changed, please keep the Registrar informed.

5.4 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 Team Members there is the option of Saturday breakfast, afternoon tea and Evening meal, Sunday Breakfast and packed lunch prepared by the HPA Catering Team. This is particularly attractive to Network and Senior teams as it simplifies their catering arrangements.

Meals will be served, particularly breakfasts, to fit in with the competition times.

(Walking Leaders can opt for Saturday breakfast and Evening meal (but they must carry the ingredients for an evening meal (in case they have to camp out) and Sunday breakfast)).

7. Equipment

7.1 Competition Equipment for individuals and Teams

A kit list, with guidance notes, is available on the HPA web site. It is the responsibility of every 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: hpakit@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk. Visits to Units to discuss the Kit List and show examples of acceptable kit and answer any questions you may have on it can be arranged. Contact the email address above.

It is advised that Team Members 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.

7.2 Support Equipment

Only personal/team kit and food can be carried in the coach's hold. ALL other equipment i.e. support tents/shelters, gas etc **MUST** be delivered to the pick-up points detailed below (See 7.4). 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)) that can be carried by two Explorers. 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.

7.3 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.

7.4 Transport of Equipment and Bottled Gas

All equipment and bottled gas should be delivered to either Phasels Wood or Tolmers by Sunday 8th October 2023 (Between 07:00 and 17:00). Detailed instructions for this will be issued with your final documentation in September. Contact Ian Grahame if you have any queries (ian.grahame@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk).

7.5 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 **17:00** on Friday evening. (Please discuss planned arrival time with the Registrar in advance)
- Only mess tents / event shelters can be pitched. Team Members 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.

Please contact ian.grahame@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk if you have any queries.

8. Supporters

8.1 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 basecamp.

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

8.2 To enable more young people to take part, this year there *may* be the option for Units, who are unable to find sufficient adults to support their team(s), and therefore unable to compete to receive central support and catering. Please email hpa [@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:hpa@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk) to enquire in the first instance.

8.3 Arrangements are *usually* 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 16.00. But please note that this trip cannot be guaranteed in the event of circumstances beyond the organiser's control (e.g. Weather, delay to the competition). **Supporters should not rely on this trip to purchase essential provisions, food etc.**

9. The Event

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 Team Members 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>