

# Season 4 Route 10 – Woodhouse Wastelands

This is it -the final frontier, the cherry on the cake - the last route to seal down the NTCLC Season 4 Grand Prix in the annals of running history - well maybe that's a tad of an overstretch but I'm sure you'll like this one last blast - Woodhouse Wastelands. The route brushes alongside both Season 4 Route 9 Orgreave NTWW and also Season 3's Shirebrook Shimmy.

Its a checkpoint-based route of around 11-12K. The observant will note some corners to be cut and a few choices of different terrains to cross - I have of course created a route for those who simply wish to know where to run.

The route is mainly FLAT with no great peaks and easy-to-follow paths so I'm sure there will be some competitive times for this - I'd say trail shoes are probably better as there's virtually no road unless you class the hardcore of the Chronoglide Skywalk segment as road. For all you Strava Junkies there are a plethora of segments to be taken. Do expect a fair amount of mud as the majority of the route is in a flood basin.

As per previous "Sid" routes expect it to be more industrial/urban than rural, although you may be pleasantly surprised at how naturalised some of the areas have become: (more info here <https://www.wildsheffield.com/reserves/woodhouse-washlands/>).

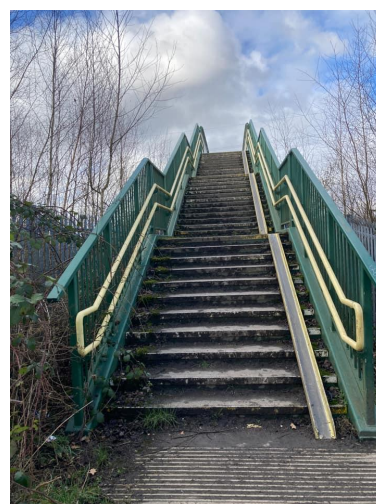
Like the Season 4 Route 9 Orgreave route you'll need some form of transport (legs are always an option for the diehard) to get to the starting point. I'd suggest parking up on Old Colliery Way, S20 1DJ. (Elmwood farm pub/ Greggs ) as parking near the Start / finish can get quiet busy

## START/ FINISH CP1 - Triangular island at entrance to Rother Valley Country Park.

Either head down the barbed wire path or Rother Valley Country park to

## CP2 - Railway footbridge

There is then a choice of either taking the pylonoiphilic path through the field or if you are averse to metal giants - take The Pylonphobic path - longer but maybe a better running surface than a field (for the adventurous there is a secret bridge shortcut via the useless gate - when you see it - you will understand to CP3 - clambering is involved).



## CP3 - Chronoglide Skywalk

## CP4 - Woodhouse Mill Regulator

You can't miss it really

[wikipedia: regulators on the Rother](#)

The very competitive runner could simply take Rotherham road up to the next CP. but you will miss the relentlessly long barbed wire fence, it's actually called Bamford walk, and its Strava segment -also cutting across the recreational ground on a weekend may mean having to go around any local football that may be taking place. It's a tough decision.



## CP5 - Orgreave Lane - railway bridge

Then along the main road to

## CP6 - Highfield Lane Bridge

CP5 and the disused railway bridge on the left hand side of CP6 appear to be the only two remaining pieces of infrastructure left from the Miners' Strike - it was across these bridges (and also onto the railway track) that the huge police presence pushed the Miners away from the Orgreave Coking Plant. All the infrastructure of its industrial past has been razed and the whole area rebranded as Waverley - For reference the largest of the lakes is where the Coking Plant was.

[Orgreave 30 Years on: An Uncontaminated Name? - Failed Architecture](#)

Make your way down to the lakes and towards Treeton, take the bridge over the River Rother keep right and there's a railway footbridge over to

## CP7 - The Bee Hive

Sat right on the junction this is a wonderfully quirky pop up cafe in someones back garden. Sells hot drinks and cakes - only open Sat and Sunday 10am-3pm Great for a post run cake (you've deserved it)

<https://www.facebook.com/TheBeeHive26>

Straight down the track as you reach Treeton Dyke there is a choice of routes through the forest of silver birch

## CP8 Retford Road

Follow the TPT sign to head back to the START / FINISH point

You do of course have the choice of continuing along the main road to get back to the start but....come on!

*Sid Fletcher*