

Yellow (Short) Course

- The castle or Mansion house was built between 1827 and 1840 for CRM Talbot who was known as the 'wealthiest commoner'. When he died in 1890 his estate was valued at £6 million.
- The course starts near New pond which was dug, by hand, in 1926. A workforce was easily available from the large numbers of local people who were unemployed at the time due to the great depression.
- Go Ape, high forest adventure course, is in the woodland to the left. It was established in 2009, and provides fun for the more adventurous.
- The track encircles the 'Go Ape' woodland and eventually leads to a steep downward track from the 'hidden valley' so called as it can only be seen from above.
- The deep descent ends by a small stone building bringing you full circle to your start point.



Yellow (Long) Course

- The Castle or Mansion house is an impressive sight, it was built in 1827-1840 when the fashion for buildings was tudor-gothic. Much of the material used to build it came from the estate itself. Stone came from the Pyle Quarry, timber from the estate plantations and large quantities of bricks were produced from a kiln specially built on the estate.
- The lake is New Pond, which was man-made! It was dug out by hand in 1926. At the far end of the 'Go Ape' woodland is another lake on the right known as 'Furzemill'.
- The flat area below the mountain is known as '26 acres', many of the park deer can be seen grazing here. There are three different species on the park, fallow, red and the endangered Pere David Deer.
- The track passes several muddy circles where no vegetation grows. These were the target areas for a Victorian firing range. The high levels of lead left in the ground from the bullets have prevented any plants growing.
- Further along the tracks pass below the mountain and the five plantations 'or patches', these are plainly visible for many miles. Sir David Evans Bevan who owned the estate during the second world war was told to plant five acres of trees so the resulting plantations were formed. The ministry of Agriculture did not specify where or how the five areas of trees were to be planted so the result is plain to see.
- The trail runs through the Rhododendrons, joins the Cwm Phillip Valley track at the rear of the stone building where the course finishes.



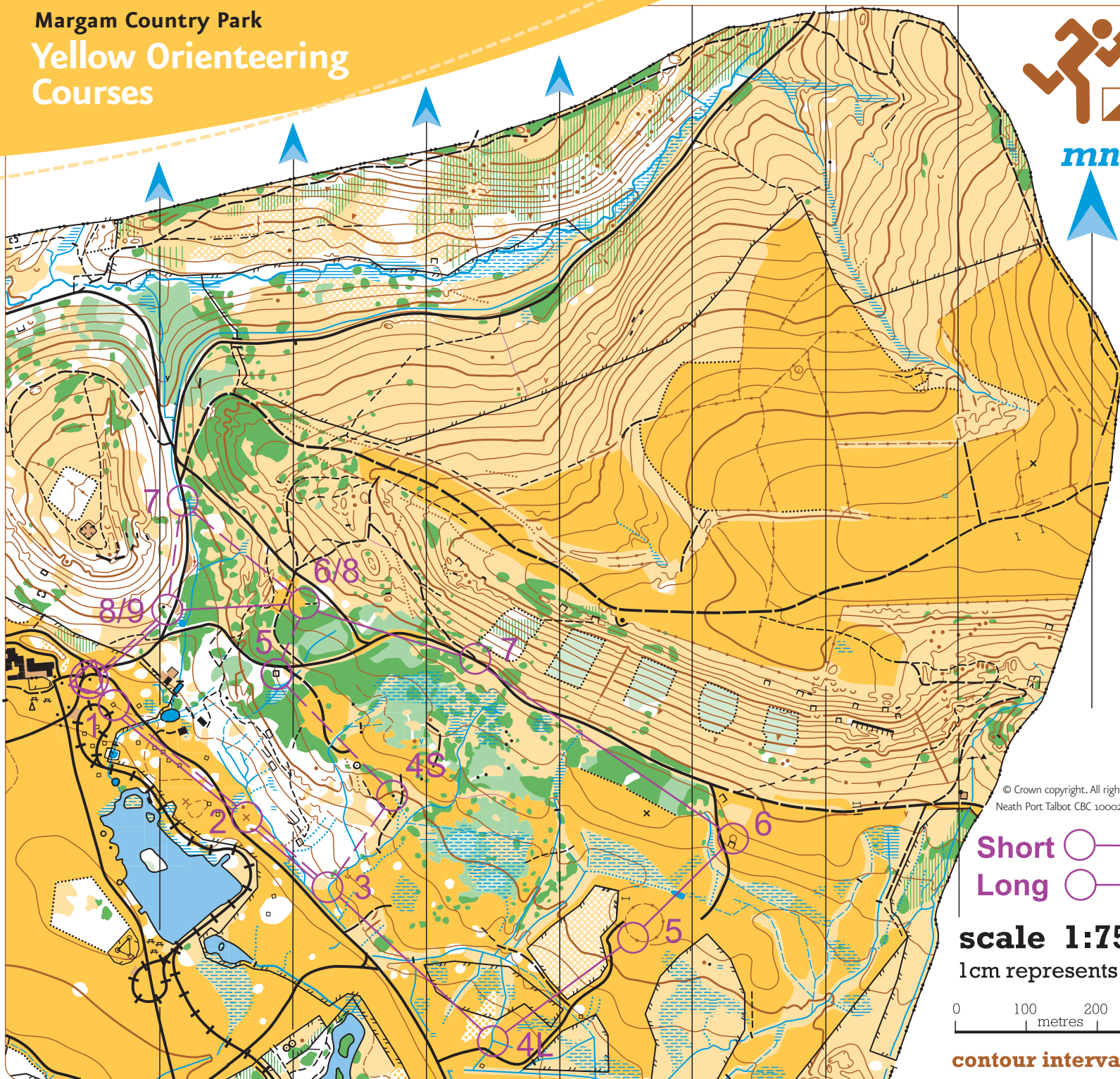
Orienteering - Basic Techniques - 1

- Keep the map in your hand. Continually **compare** map with ground, and ground with map, so that you know where you are on the map at all times.
- Keep the map **orientated** – north on map to north in nature - no matter which way you are going or facing:
 - either:** by using a compass: N lines on map point in same direction as compass needle;
 - or:** linear features on map are parallel to the same features on the ground;
 then, when you go forward, features to one side on the map will be on the same side on the ground.
- Keep your **thumb** on your last known position on the map.



Margam Country Park

Yellow Orienteering Courses

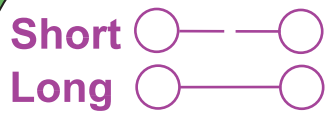


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legend

- Road
- Narrow or unsurfaced road
- Vehicle track
- Large footpath
- Small footpath
- Less distinct small footpath
- High fence
- Ruined fence
- Wall; crossing point
- High wall
- Earth wall
- Small earth wall
- Earth slope
- Contours with shallow gully
- Index contour with gully
- Form line with platform
- Pit (dry, wet, steep sided)
- Depression: small, large
- Large knolls; small knolls
- Crossable wide stream
- Pond; stream
- Footbridge; ditch; narrow marsh
- Marsh, seasonal marsh
- Fodder rack; horse jump
- Sculpture; object; seat
- Enclosed tree, large log
- Dangerous cliff
- Passable rock face
- Building, ruin
- Boulder (large, small, cluster)
- Stony ground, boulder field
- Distinct vegetation change
- Open land
- Open land with scattered trees
- Rough open land
- Rough open land with scattered trees
- Woodland: runnable
- slow run
- difficult to run
- Impassable vegetation
- Undergrowth: slow run
- difficult to run
- Out of bounds

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scale 1:7500
1cm represents 75m



contour interval 5m

NOTE: Runnability represents conditions in winter and spring. In summer and autumn dense bracken on the rough open areas makes off-path going very difficult.