Name............ ............................ Entry No..........

**Malvern Midsummer Marathon 14 mile**

**Route Description 2019**

**Maps: OS Explorer 190 or Landranger 149 & 150**

**AH=ahead; BR/BL=bear right/left; FR/FL=fork right/left; L=left; R=right; TR/TL=turn right/left; [010]=magnetic compass bearing; BW=bridleway; FB=footbridge; KG=kissing gate; TK=track; WM=waymark; m=metres; RoW=right of way**

**PLEASE OBSERVE MARSHALS’ DIRECTIONS WHEN PARKING, PARK AS REQUESTED, ENSURE RESIDENTS’ DRIVES ARE NOT BLOCKED, PASSING SPACES NEEDED ON TIGHT ROADS. AT BUSY TIMES SUPPORTERS MUST NOT ENTER THE SCHOOL OR CP2 AT LEDBURY**

**ROUTE DESCRIPTION IS FOR THE DAY OF THE EVENT ONLY AS SPECIAL PERMISSION HAS BEEN OBTAINED TO USE SOME FOOTPATHS**

**CATTLE MAY BE ON MALVERN HILLS IN TEMPORARY ENCLOSURES; CLOSE GATES; CROSS MAIN ROADS WITH CARE; BRING A PEN AND A MUG; NO DOGS**

**START: Wyche C of E Primary School SO 772 441 WR14 4ET**

**1a**. From the school TL, go up steps to reach road TL uphill to reach main road. Cross busy road with care. AH up tarmac path between houses to reach road TR. Follow road. In 30m at a circular stone WM on R, BR on a ridge path to reach the first summit, Summer Hill. AH downhill to tarmac and up any path to the top, Worcestershire Beacon. **What is the number on the base of the trig point? Box 1 on tally. SO 769 452**

**1b.** Descend to North over open heathland by main path (*alongside Shire Ditch)* and after 450m reach junction of paths at col by large circular stone WM. **SO 768 457**

**1c.** From WM BL uphill on [312] to reach summit of Sugarloaf. AH to descend ridge and after passing second bench reach broad col with multiple paths. BR for 35m to metal post then BL to follow path uphill [340] to summit of Table Hill.

**Marshalled Clip Point A: TABLE HILL SO 767 464 2.4 miles**

**1d.** AH on faint path, initially [035] to descend steeply to wide track. Cross wide track and continue descending, path levels then up to End Hill. Continue descending ridge, over hillocks, and down to track **SO 766** **471** and TL. Follow track to reach offset T junction and turn sharp R with houses now on L. Follow path to reach metal gate, descend concrete path, through gate and then tarmac path to road. **SO 765 471.**

**1e.** Cross road with care, down steps. TL on Old Hollow for 100m, cross road and follow tarmac driveway to Boundless Elements. Stay with main driveway to reach climbing pinnacles on L and pass through 3 wheel open gate. Immediately turn R to stile, over and descend to R of large oak tree to descend to plank and stile on R, not L, TR on bridleway to reach gate, through and head across field to far L corner. TL through gate and uphill, hedge on R, through gap, continue with trees on L, through gate and continue diagonally uphill to reach path on ridge. TR and in 50m FL on bridleway. Descend bridleway*, take care, barbed wire close,* to reach open area and track ahead**. SO 751 476.**

**1f.** BL down track to reach tarmac road, follow road down. After ½ mile road bends R, TL down side road to reach T junction, TL and in 20m leave road at stile ‘in gate’. AH on path across meadow to KG and cross FB to small metal gate. AH on enclosed path to reach path junction. TR past house/building site. AH on track to pass church on R. At war memorial FL, then TL and in 5m leave road L to Scout Hut, Cradley (Checkpoint 1) **SO 735 471.**

**Checkpoint 1: CRADLEY OPEN 9:15 TO 10:45 5.6 MILES**

**\*\*\* Entrants arriving after 10:45 will be switched to the 14 mile route \*\*\***

**2a.** Continue on lane from CP and in 80m BL on TK to pass white cottages on your R and after a further 50m TR through metal gate. TL and follow field boundary, hedge on L, to reach corner of field. Cross tarmac TK and maintain line [180] across field to gate next to tree and electricity pole in opposite hedge. Through and AH to tarmac TK in bottom corner, cross TK onto path through gate, over FB and on to gate and road. **Take care blind exit onto road.** TR to Mathon Church. **SO 736 458**

**2b**. At Church TL into church car park and take enclosed TK on L through wooden gate. AH to follow enclosed TK to its end at a weed-covered gate and go through gap to L. TL with hedge on L, and after 250m FL down to, and over, stile in fence. AH [155] across field to FB, over and cross field to gate, through and AH up steps to gate in fence, through and AH [145] across field then follow LH hedge to far LH corner of field. Take WM stile in corner and over FB. Path passes property , *care: barbed wire,* then over stile to reach road. BR and follow it to junction in 550m. **SO 742 446.** BR and in 45m TR over stile. Cross field [180] towards cottage just beyond stile.

**2c**. Over stile, *care*, and TL (*NB.26 mile route goes R*) and in 60m on R go over stile next to double gate.

Follow field edge on L to stile in corner, over and TR with hedge on R follow round to reach FB on R. Cross, keep hedge on L and reach stile in corner, over. Continue with hedge on L to reach and cross FB on L.

Keep hedge on L then cross open field in same direction to reach and cross stile.

AH to keep hedge on L and follow field round to reach FB.

Over and continue across field [148] to corner of woodland.

Cross plank, AH with woodland on R, reach and cross stile.

AH to another plank and stile and continue on enclosed path (playground on R) to reach open area. Cross concrete platform. Keep L to go along enclosed path. Reach TK and TR to reach road, TR and then TL at Hopyard Cottage.

**2d.** AH on TK, through KG, 25m to next KG, through then AH into field, BL to hedge and follow past corner to reach a KG on L, go through and AH to reach road junction. Cross road and follow road opposite passing British Legion on R to reach T junction and TR to crossroads. Cross to Station drive and AH to station where cross line over bridge AH to go through KG. BL up field to KG, through and up steps to right. At top TR on track through woodland. Follow path as it curves round to reach KG, through and AH to open field and gate, through, and AH to another metal gate. AH on vehicle track to reach road. TL for 150m and TR at Upper Ho, millstone on L. AH on drive to stile, over and to enclosed path and reach stile into field. Follow WM across field to corner, AH with fence on L to corner. AH to reach boards and bridge to stile, over and cross field to go over stile. AH up field, over stile, up slippery path through trees, over stile to flat grassy area and toilet block on L. AH to road TL for 50m, cross and take lower of 3 paths, parallel to road to reach car park. **S0 766 406**

**Checkpoint 4 (note- 14 mile route does not go to checkpoints 2 and 3): BLACK HILL CAR PARK OPEN 11:20 TO 18:3O 11.2 miles**

**3a.** BL on TK behind ticket machine and follow it to climb up to the Malvern Ridge. In a little over 3km the route goes **OVER** the summits of Black Hill, Pinnacle Hill, Jubilee Hill and Perseverance Hill before descending to the Wyche Cutting at B4218. **SO 769 437**

**3b.** TR through cutting and TR into Old Wyche Road to go steeply down for 480m then TR down steps to reach school: **SO 772 441**

**Finish at: WYCHE CE Primary School 14 miles**

**You have completed 14 miles. Congratulations!**