



# Morven Cowboy Relay

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## November 3 Sunday

Welcome all orienteering Cowboys & Cowgirls! This webpage explains what the Cowboy Relay is all about; for information on the regular/classic orienteering courses also taking place here, please see [this event webpage](#) [2] instead.

So what is this? Basically, this set of courses is technically known as a motala. Named after the city of Motala, Sweden, a motala consists of several short orienteering course loops all starting and finishing at one point. Think of it as a one-person relay, where each relay leg is actually one (short - like, 1 km) orienteering course and you run 4 or 5 legs. We're calling this a Cowboy Relay for two reasons: Morven Park is well known as an equestrian center (and you just might wind up leaping off some horse jumps), and, it's a tip of the Stetson to orienteer Mikell Platt, who uses the term annually for one of his fine [Laramie Daze](#) [3] events.

This event offers two three main distance options., and a third option if enough people beg for it. The three distances are:

- The Cowpoke Relay (by popular demand!): 4 loops totaling 4.3km
- The Shawnee Trail Relay: 5 loops totaling 6.5km, with 115m of climb and 20 controls
- The Chisholm Trail Relay: 5 loops totaling 8.8km, with 155m of climb and 28 controls

Both have in common their first 4 loops (loops 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'), but the last loop for the Chisholm relay is 2.3km longer than the last loop for the Shawnee. Orienteers will have a random ordering of their first four loops; so for example, one runner may be assigned the order C-A-D-B while another will be assigned D-B-C-A, but then both will finish with their 5th and final loop. Since it's a mass start (at High Noon), this also means that as you start your final loop you'll see where your competitors on the same relay course are relative to you. **Update:** All Relay maps will be printed at 1:10,000 scale, with 5m contour intervals.

Update 1Nov: This course has now been added - see the Cowpoke, above. Want to beg for a shorter relay? If we get enough folks requesting in advance (i.e. before Friday) a shorter relay, we'll let them run just the 4 loops (totaling 4.3km), but we'll need to know this in advance so we can set up the epunch software correctly. Remember, this is pretty flat terrain, and you're encouraged to run either the Shawnee or Chisholm (or a regular/classic course, white through green), so 4.3km might be just too darn short to be worth your while, no?

**Pre-Register Now!** To minimize confusion as the High Noon mass start time approaches, we are only guaranteeing map packets (i.e. the stack of 5 maps, one per loop) to those who pre-register. No payment is required. All you need to do is to email [Valerie Meyer](#) [4] no later than Saturday at 10pm, saying which Cowboy Relay (Cowpoke, Shawnee or Chisholm) you want to do and your name, plus (1) if you are a current QOC member, and (2) if you will need to borrow an epunch or a compass. That's it! For additional information about Morven Park, please see the event page describing the classic-courses event. And don't forget: set your clocks back one hour late Saturday night.

Questions? Just use our [Contact Form](#) [5]!



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## Location

Morven Park, Equestrian Parking Area, Leesburg, VA (Motala)

## Registration

Email [Valerie Meyer](#) [4] telling her your name, which relay you will run (Shawnee or Chisholm), if you are a current QOC member, and if you'll need to borrow an epunch or compass. That will guarantee you a map packet, and you can pay at the event. If you have not emailed Valerie by Saturday 10pm, we can not guarantee you a map packet, but we will try to accommodate all walk-ups at the event.

## Start Times

All relays start at exactly High Noon. **Reminder** - Set your clocks back one hour late Saturday night, or your High Noon won't match ours!

## Schedule

**Sunday, November 3** 12:00 Motala:  
pm -  
3:00  
pm

## Volunteers

Event [Jeremy Gillespie](#) [6]  
Director:  
Course \_ [5]  
Designer:

## Location Details