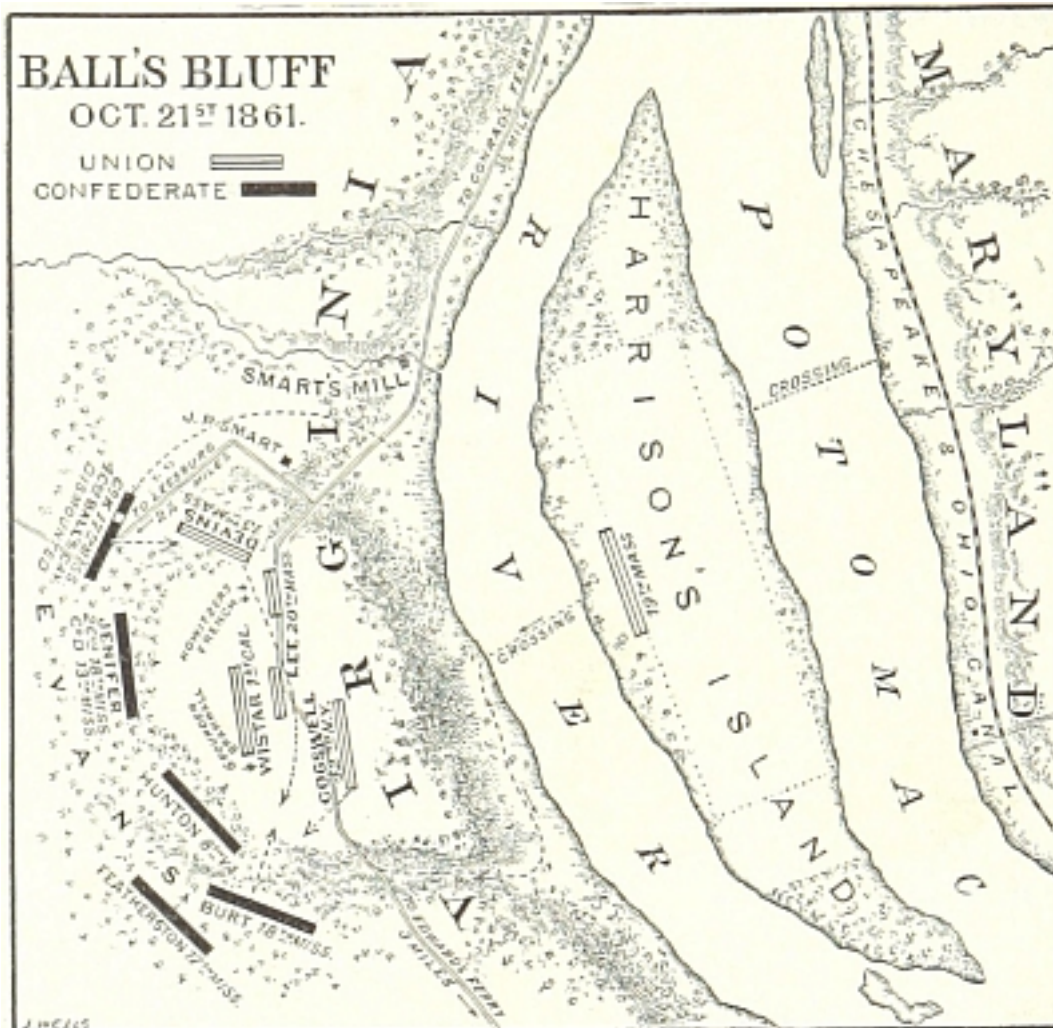


Balls Bluff

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**November 10
Sunday**



Welcome back to Ball's Bluff Regional Park for a prime mid-autumn orienteering event along the high bluffs overlooking the Potomac River near Leesburg, Virginia. This year, registration, start and finish will all return to the pavilion at Edwards Landing, a small municipal park that sits adjacent to Ball's Bluff Regional Park near its southern end.

Once again, QOC is happy to have this event hosted by the cadets of the Loudoun County Public Schools Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) who will be stepping up to fill the volunteer positions for the event. QOC's Patrick Farley is designing a full set of classic courses for the meet, and full course details and course setter comments are now posted below.

Parking: Make sure to read these driving and parking directions carefully. Please do not park in the minuscule Edwards Landing Park parking lot unless you are a meet volunteer, nor on Powhatan Court, the narrow cul-de-sac immediately outside of Edwards Landing Park.

We prefer that you park at Ball's Bluff Elementary School as indicated [here](#) [2] on this overview map. (The registration site at Edwards Landing is in the lower right corner of the graphic.) Buses and cars can drop participants at the mouth of Powhatan Court before proceeding on to the Elementary School if



desired. **A shuttle bus will run between the elementary school parking lot and Edwards Landing from 10:30am to 3:30pm.**

Public parking along the wide through-streets running near the park (Hunton Place, Graywood Way, and Wood Edge Drive) is also permitted as long as driveways are not blocked or the local residents otherwise inconvenienced.

For those who are interested, here is an overview of the [Battle of Ball's Bluff](#) [3], fought on October 21st, 1861.

The park and battlefield have undergone restoration over the last several years to more accurately reflect its 1861 condition, and attendees will have the opportunity of touring the battlefield area and the associated National Cemetery above the Potomac River. Free Battlefield tours are conducted by expert volunteer tour guides from the group, Friends of Ball's Bluff, every Saturday and Sunday at 11AM and 1PM from early April through the end of November, so orienteers can take part in a guided tour out of the park main parking lot (not Edwards Landing) either before or after they run their courses. Tours include about one mile of walking on woodland trails and last from one to two hours. Those wishing to take tours on their own may pick up a brochure at the visitor's kiosk in the main parking lot.

Be advised that **there may only be one port-a-john at Edwards Landing** because of park restrictions.

Any youth or large groups attending, please contact the [Event Director](#) [4] so that we can coordinate pre-registration for your group; the group registration and waiver [form](#) [5] is part of the information on our [Group Leaders](#) [6] page.

Location	Balls Bluff Regional Park, Edwards Landing Pavilion, Leesburg, VA (Classic)
Registration	No advance registration required. Just show up and have fun!
Start Times	Start any time between the specified times (usually 11am - 1:30pm).
Schedule	Sunday, November 10 11:00 Classic: am - 3:00 pm
Volunteers	Event Bill Johns [7] Director: Course Patrick Farley [8] Designer:
Location Details	Classic Take the Dulles Toll Road or Rt. 7 to the Rt. 15 by-pass in Leesburg. Turn right for about a mile to Battlefield Parkway and then turn right. Balls Bluff Elementary School will be on the right after 0.7 miles. (Some Marylanders may want to use White's Ferry). Google Map [9] Directions to Edwards Landing from the school: From Battlefield Parkway southbound, turn left near the south end of the school to go east on Hunton Place for 0.3 miles, then turn right at



the intersection with Graywood Way/Woods Edge Drive and go 0.1 miles before turning left on Powhatan Ct. The entrance to the small Edwards Landing parking area is on the right side of the turnaround circle. Note to those walking: it's just 0.6 miles, but please be especially careful crossing Battlefield Parkway. Click [here](#) [10] for an overview map.

Course Details

Classic Course Name	Length (km)	Climb (m)	No. Controls
White	1.7	55	5
Yellow	2.4	145	9
Orange	4	205	14
Brown	3.7	190	13
Green	4.9	305	12
Red	5.7	325	13
Blue	7.6	390	15

Course Notes

Classic

Balls Bluff features ridge and valley terrain, which can be quite steep in places. The woods are mostly very runnable, although vegetation tends to be thicker in the northern sections. All private property (mapped as olive green color) is out of bounds. Some mapped rootstocks have decayed considerably. Many new rootstocks have appeared, and only some of them have been added to the map. The body of water on the west side of the map, just to the south of the main park entrance road, is much smaller than shown. It has shrunk to a 5m puddle.

The map contour interval is 3 meters.

If your route takes you atop the bluff, appreciate the great view of the river and the fall colors, but don't get too close to the edge. The bluffs are very steep. **Use caution!**

If you find yourself on the river near the battlefield, imagine yourself as a Union soldier attempting to cross over the Potomac to Harrison Island and safety, all the while being shot at by Confederate troops above you on the bluff.

Map Scales: White/Yellow 1:5000, Orange/Brown 1:7500, Green/Red/Blue 1:10000

Entry Fees