

Balls Bluff

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**November 19
Sunday**



This Sunday event requires pre-registration, opening Monday Nov. 13 at 6pm and closing Saturday Nov. 18 at noon. There will be no day-of registration.

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 (see this [locator map](#) [2]).

The event will be hosted and staffed by the cadets of the Loudoun County High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps who [finished second](#) [3] in the nation at the Navy National Orienteering Championship last March. QOC's Tom Strat is designing a full set of classic courses for the meet. As a reminder, the southern part of the area in which we will be orienteering at Ball's Bluff is actually private land adjacent to Ball's Bluff Regional Park, though the boundary is only sporadically marked on the ground. Because of the gracious permission of the landowner, we are able to use this section of his property for this event. White and Yellow orienteers will be using a trail segment at the very southern end of the map that runs not far from one of the houses on the property. **Please keep this in mind so we can continue to use this excellent terrain.**

Parking: Make sure to read these driving and parking directions carefully. Please do not park in the small 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 on this [overview map](#) [2]. 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 9:30am to 3:30pm.** A one-way trip takes about 5-10 minutes. 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 \[4\]](#), fought on October 21st, 1861.



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.



Come Join Us! A group of QOC orienteers & volunteers will meet after the event at the Vanish Farmwoods Brewery, located [here \[5\]](#), just 8.7 miles north of Balls Bluff off of Route 15. Vanish serves a great selection of pub grub - bar snacks, wood fired pizzas, BBQ, burgers, oysters plus more - and features both wine and 20+ beers brewed on site with local ingredients. See the [Vanish website \[6\]](#) for more information.

Keep in mind:

- All participants must pre-register; after registering, make sure your payment went through.
- No food items will be provided.



- Participants are responsible for meeting all their own hydration needs before, during and after their courses.
- As always, please be off the course no later than 3pm and remember to download at our e-punch station even if you did not finish.
- Beginner's instruction will be available.
- For those new to orienteering, make sure to check out our [Your First Event \[7\]](#) and [Orienteering Techniques For Beginners \[8\]](#) webpages, and if they don't answer any question you have, just use our [Contact Form \[9\]](#) and ask.
- Group Leaders (of larger groups): please contact the [Event Director \[10\]](#) so they are aware of your plans.
- Port-a-johns will be located next to the Edwards Landing Park pavilion.
- Dogs are allowed in the park but must be on the leash at all times.

Location

Balls Bluff Regional Park, Edwards Landing Pavilion
(School Parking), Leesburg, VA (Classic)

Registration