

Scott route guide.

For 2011 we will once again be running what we refer to as a backwards Scott. The route out to Hurst & then back to the finish largely remains the same but the remaining route is run in reverse. Running the event in this direction makes one or two routing issues for the marking out team but it does keep the event fresh, the riders are kept on their toes & more importantly, following the flags.

The Scott course is approximately 85 miles long & yet at no point are the riders more than 12 miles from the start / finish field. Despite this, the spectators rarely get to see more than two or three sections. This guide is my opinion on how best to spend Scott day without spending most of it in a queue of traffic.

I assume that most people will go to the start field, so I'll start from there.

#### Route 1

Leave the start field by 9.15am & head to Underbanks, there's a designated parking field, the section isn't one of the toughest but the melee of multiple bikes in the section is worth the walk. Stay here until all the top riders go through & then move on. An alternative to Underbanks is Reels Head. Same car park just follow the course to what normally is a mark taking section.

Next stop is By Pass, this gives a leisurely hour from leaving Underbanks to get to a good viewing point. The longer walk to the two upper sections is well worthwhile. Stay at By Pass for 45 minutes.

Now walk back to the watersplash & continue to follow the beck downstream. It's a 10 minute walk from the watersplash to Roys Rocks, either follow the beck or walk on the road towards Surrender & then follow the track to the left just after climbing the hill. It's probably best staying at Roys Rocks for some time as it'll be very difficult to get back to the finish from here to see the front runners finish.

#### Route 2

Again start by attending Underbanks / Reels Head, after one hour move on to Whaw Bridge, staying here for another hour & then travel over to Surrender. For those wanting to see the first rider back on the finish field only stay at Surrender for 45 minutes.

#### Route 3

Watch most of the runners start & then head off to Shaw Gutter, a good alternative route to get here is to go onto the A66 via Ravensworth & then turn off at Scargill. Drive over the Stang & park up at Bridge End, follow the course down to the sections. From here I'd say a short time could be spent in the CB prior to going to either Rawcroft or to Sleeper Stones.

#### Route 4

Start by going to either Shaw Gutter or the earlier section at Goats Splash, remember if going to Goats leave the start field before the riders do or you may miss some of them.

Next go to the Black Hills, Tank Trap & Grand Canyon area. The more adventurous walkers will be rewarded with the hike to Black Hills but the other sections will provide just as much entertainment.

From here go to Reels Head, parking as per Underbanks & then the sections are back along Fremington Edge. Usually two tough sections here, they get progressively more difficult.

I think I've managed to mention all the approved viewing points with the exception of Clapgate, it's a good alternative to standing on the start / finish field towards the end of the day. Preferred parking is at the start & then follow the route back to the sections.

Wherever you go to enjoy your day please park with sense, stay off the moors with your vehicle & take your litter home.

I'd just like to finish by thanking AGBikes for the very generous loan of a Sherco to enable me to carry out my Scott week duties.

James Percival  
Deputy Clerk of the Course