

# STOP PRESS!

10 November 2009

The route for the Herbert's Hole Challenge has had to be altered this year.

We are unable to open gates and stiles across the fields one mile into the race, as we have done in previous years, because the fields now have many more horses in them. The stiles would cause severe congestion to the normal progress of the race with the number of runners expected, so the route will now go around the fields along country lanes instead.

To compensate for the extra distance near the start of the race, we have introduced a shortcut at the far end of the course. The changes will result in slightly more running on tarmac. The overall distance is now 10.25k (it was about 10.6k).

On the return leg of the race we will be crossing the fields with the horses, with three kissing-gates to negotiate. Runners should be well spread out by then and there shouldn't be too much congestion. The horses are polo ponies and should be treated with respect even though they are used to people.

We have made a few minor changes to the route in Lowndes Park at the start, to help thin out the field of runners before reaching the road. The new course is shown on the map and we still believe it is an enjoyable excursion through the Chiltern countryside, and hope you do too.

Tony Molesworth  
Race Director

**See New Course Map Below**

