Amberaid/Petit Raid Route Notes (from Ashover Village Hall)

The start will be a lap around the sports field behind Ashover village hall.

From village hall car park turn right and follow Milken Lane around the corner and up the hill. After 500metres, take the second left and follow the lane up the hill. After houses on right, turn right onto footpath and climb up towards Ashover Rock. Descend down the path to the lane. Cross road with care. Descend down Brownhills Lane for 500m then turn left. After 100m, turn left at phone box, then turn right onto track. **Caution here! Road is narrow** and restricted by buildings yet cars still drive fast! Continue on track and bear left at footpath junction. Track becomes a footpath; continue on here over pastures to the road. (2026 go through field gate past fp sign)

Through stone squeeze and cross road and straight up the drive through Northedge farm (we have permission to do this). Along the track after the farm buildings and then straight on to grassy trod, to the mangled metal gate, then straight on for 100m (passing fishing pond on left) to cross a stile. Head NE across field footpath then hug field boundary on left. Cross stile and head NE to field corner.

Over stile, turn left onto lane and continue straight up. Cross stile by metal gate and follow the grassy lane up to the lane junction. Turn left onto farm lane and follow to metal gate at end of lane. Turn left up the main road and cross road at marshal point. This is a fast, often busy road with a blind summit. Heed marshal's instructions to aid you across the road safely. After the farm, turn right and go through the pedestrian gate. Follow footpath west across fields. When path splits, take right footpath.

Continue through fields, over stile and straight through the farm. After farm buildings go through metal gate into field and head straight over field to squeeze in stone wall and at next field (likely hosting cattle) head northerly direction before dropping down to pedestrian gate in hedge at bottom of the hill.

Through kissing gate; and follow footpath as it cuts across a house garden in front of greenhouse. After house turn left taking track down past large poultry farm and continue along track to road corner. Left on road through a ford and 50m after meeting another road take footpath steps over stone wall. Follow path across field, over boardwalk / footbridge where the path turns right through the nature reserve. Climb east up to wood and continue heading east when footpaths diverge. Keep to high path and head straight into the field and on to the stile. Head down the road keeping right.

Turn R along the dam road. Turn left at the end of the dam and soon after, left into the field. Follow the stone flags to bridge. Cross bridge and go through kissing gate and head up over the steep hillock. Squeeze through wall and descend steps to road. Exercise extra care on this road as you are on a summit. Cross straight over and continue up steep road opposite, with a farm on your left.

At the top, the road starts to descend and, as it turns sharply to the right, go straight ahead through the stone squeeze and enter Bolehill Wood. Continue straight and after 700m, leave the wood and continue straight on high ground. At Britton Wood, descend left towards gate across field on footpath to road. Cross fast road with extra care and continue straight up farm drive. **CP1 water station** is on left of drive. Continue through farm and into field closing gate behind you (cattle farm).

Follow footpath through field to stile. Turn L along road, passing Park Homes estate, opposite pub turn R up house drive and over metal stile. Through 3 fields and when at road (Holmgate Road), turn right and follow for 1km. Turn right onto Deerleap Lane for 200m before taking fp on grassy

track on left. Cross 3 fields, and then head to the left of the house boundary. Continue straight along boundary wall and the follow FP through 5 more fields. Through hedge and turn left down Woodhead Lane for 50m. At junction, cross road with care (Handley village) and continue straight on single track road for 500m. Cross next road with care and on reaching next road junction, go straight over to a footpath crossing fields and on to Crow Lane minor road.

Follow road for over 1km past a cluster of houses, turn left passing dam/waterworks and on into wooded drive. At gate, turn left up lane, cross bridge and continue up Ogston Lane to white gate at top. Turn R and follow main road for 70m and then staying on pavement follow the road through Higham. After 400m turn right down minor road descent - Caution, this road is dark, narrow and pinches in at the top….exercise caution.

After 200m metres, take FP on right and follow path along field boundary. Through gate in corner of field, continue on path, climb over stile and continue straight down towards field corner and the River Amber. Over the river and then under railway bridge. Over metal stile and turn right to run parallel to railway line for 100m. At end of field, turn left.

Climb up hill, passing dilapidated old shelter. Climb over stile, head through trees and turn right to follow minor road into bends. Turn left onto foot path and follow for 4 fields. At footpath junction, turn left and follow diagonally to far corner. Turn R along road for 10m, cross road and follow lane through houses to right side of green.

At Wessington village green, CP2 (13miles) awaits with refreshments. Please check in with marshals here.

Petit Raid runners jump to CP4.

Turn right up hill from CP. immediately cross busy main road when safe to do so via pedestrian island and continue up hill before turning left along Slack Lane (primary school on left). Follow lane for 800m to FP on L. Cross stile into field and diagonally down to corner through hedge and down R to wood. Over footbridge and into wood.

After 30m turn on R FP and emerge out of wood on RH field boundary. Cross lane and keep on to wooden gate R. Through and follow this hedge line for next 4 fields In final field head diagonally to top LH field corner and over stile into narrow woodland. Follow path up to Wheatcroft hamlet and straight on road to FP sign. Road is narrow with blind bend ahead so cross with care to climb steps straight ahead.

Follow drive ahead to pass houses and onto grass in front of final house. KG down on L into pasture and climb following the trod in a southerly direction. After 400m metres reach field corner by gate and pass through heading 180° up slope and to new stone stile in wall at the road.

Over road continue bearing 180° over hill and stone walls and down to small farm. Onto farm drive and L to road. R at road and straight on track at LH road bend heading up track to Cliff farm. Keep straight on past farm and house, through gate and up tree sheltered path eventually climbing to meet path junction at Crich quarry.

Turn R and follow path around quarry fence down past tram lines (beware of vintage trams!) and straight on down path into woodland. **This whole section from the quarry to the far end of the canal is popular with walkers / bikers so exercise caution / respect.** Keep on main path down hill to reach small caravan site then L on tarmac drive to reach road.

Cross road with care, turn R for 10m and then L onto FP. Follow FP across fields and into wood and then the stony track down through wood for 1km to reach pedestrian gate just before road crossing. Cross road continuing down track to Cromford canal. Cross bridge over canal and turn L to follow canal for the next 3km to its terminus.

At end of canal follow path left uphill, through gate and up (follow power lines) through clearing before veering right onto track. Follow this for 450m reaching a sloping meadow and metal gate leading NE on another grassy track to another gate and eventually stone track sheltered by trees.

At main road, cross with care (busy and limited visibility); listen to marshal's instructions. **CP3** (20miles). Carry straight on down into Fritchley, through the village and eventually dropping into a steep downhill R/L s-bend. 80m past bend and take FP into field on R.

When it splits, take L FP and when this splits in small woodland take path straight through hedge and then L up LH field boundary to cross minor road. Straight on up track, through KG and on to FP junction. Do not cross stile, instead take footpath heading R towards old windmill ruin.

Follow path over fields to farm track, L on track and follow as it curves into small farm (Bass pub sign on building gable). Look for barn on your LH side – KG is to the R of this barn. Into field down in front of house down to hidden squeeze in stone wall trees enclosure R 8m and another hidden squeeze out of trees into field.

Down field, cross road with care and on to FP ahead. Follow FP as it turns L after 100m metres and then the obvious diagonal across field to stile and another field / stile before running parallel (below) railway line). Emerge at road turn L up road for 400m before turning R on bridleway along drive and just before house gate there is a FP crossing over stream on L. Follow this as it veers around eventually passing through trees and below the ruins of Wingfield Manor. Keep on most obvious track down and at junction with track / stream, turn L. Follow this around to pass well kept houses, up steep tarmac slope and reach main road.

Turn R following road through South Wingfield for 1km until junction for High Road heading to Wessington. Keep heading down for 20m and then cross main road with care to ascend pedestrian route (by toilets) up onto High Road. Follow this for 400m to Wessington Lane, turn L and after 180m on bend take FP L into field.

Head diagonally across field down to corner, quick R and L into next field and then due North to KG. At KG it's 320° down into woods and over stream before climbing up field. Follow path 350° across fields to reach a stile and a farm track. After 50m at track junction turn L and follow track to road. Turn R at road to reach the busy main road. Cross only when safe to do so, it is particularly busy at weekends. At Wessington village green, head up to **CP4 and check in with marshals**. (26 miles).

Petit Raid runners continue from here.

Turn right on pavement along main road, cross road junction with care, pass pub and at next road junction, turn right down Brackenfield Lane. Continue downhill, keep heading straight at minor junctions.

Bear left at the green towards road junction. Cross with care and head on lane through houses. Follow this lane, climb over stile into fields. Follow path through fields. At footpath junction, turn left and head towards road. Take care here. At road, turn left onto road then take right footpath over fields and a steep climb up into the wood and around fallen tree through to another field. Keep to

RH field boundary to stone stile L of farm drive. Along drive to road turn L uphill to the top then right onto rough track and then right along next road.

Pass Highoredish view point car park – continue down road for 350m then take footpath on right, cross field and through metal gate. Follow path downhill through trees/bracken.

Turn left on to farm drive head to small metal pedestrian gate into a paddock (ensure this is closed behind you - livestock), straight over paddock over stone stile turn left after 10m, through stone wall and turn right. Near bottom of field, go through squeeze in stone wall on right and take FP as it bears left through field to another stone wall squeeze. Footpath becomes a track (likely to be muddy) and heads up to road. **Fast road. Exercise caution and listen to marshal's instructions.**

Cross road and turn left up Butterlry Lane and be prepared to tuck in. After 200m turn right into drive (Christmas trees sign) and go through closed gate (close gate behind you). Go through the yard with its myriad artifacts and follow the footpath through to woodland. Caution on this section, some tree roots are raised and potentially slippery.

Keep following path along the top of the cliffs / woodland and eventually reach stone wall squeeze and old lane – turn R downhill through old quarry site and continue straight on downhill to enter more woodland

At end of woods, continue to FP junction and go straight on track. At next track junction, go straight onto FP. Cross pasture and down worn stone steps. Go through pedestrian gate and descend to cross River Amber. Continue along bridleway up to road. The Old Poets Corner pub is on left. Cross road with care and continue uphill through Ashover village, passing church on the left. Continue to follow the main road as it bends round to right until you reach the Parish Hall on the right where the finish line and refreshments await.

Well done!