

Nav 2000 - Course Setter's Notes

Welcome to The Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Emergency Services Navigation Shield, 2000. The course this year is the most challenging navigation we have set yet - some checkpoints require precise navigation or you will miss them completely. The scrub this year is light in most areas of the course, but be warned - there are still some scrubby areas.

These notes form part of the event rules. Any competitor found in breach of the rules may be penalised or disqualified from the event.

Checkpoint Scores: The points value of checkpoints is incorporated in the checkpoint number, i.e.: numbers 20-29 = 20 points, 30-39 = 30, 100 = 100 points and so on.

Water: Flowing water can be found in the Cudgegong River, Never Never Creek, Sugarloaf Creek, and Ganguddy Creek. These watercourses flow from farmland so we recommend treating the water before drinking. The water from Hopping Harrys Hollow and the many smaller tributaries on the course with water are a safer source of water. Drinking water will be supplied at radio checkpoints.

Camping: No camping or fires in any private property, except at base. Please be very careful with any fire and make sure it is fully extinguished and rock circles dispersed after use.

Late Penalty: The finish time for the one-day event is 19:30, Saturday; and the two-day event is 14:00, Sunday. Any team returning to base after these times will be penalised at 30 points per 5 minutes late, or part thereof. Any team more than 1 hour late will be retired from the event.

Map Errors: The map used for this event has many errors; too numerous to detail all those of which we are aware. However, there are creeks marked incorrectly crossing spurs near checkpoints 30 and 70. There is a large saddle at 62 which is not marked, and there is a large knoll not marked at 58. As marked on the event map, the road from Nullo Mountain at GR 395700 is incorrectly marked. As normal there are also a number of minor fire trails on the course which are not marked.

Crossing Points: There are two major crossing points on the Cudgegong River – at checkpoint 24 on some logs, and at GR 400628 at a river gauging station. The Cudgegong River is deep and lined with blackberries for much of the remainder. Hopping Harrys Hollow and Never Never Creek form a wide swamp from checkpoint 47 to Kandos Weir. The only crossing of the swamp is at GR 389644 at an unmarked road. At this crossing a route has been marked directly across the bog with yellow tape. This route follows an old vehicle crossing which has been hardened with stones. It is about 1 metre deep. It is not possible to cross this swamp and keep your feet dry. Please do not try to cross the bog off the marked route as it will damage the vegetation, and it is no drier anyway! Do not attempt to cross this swamp at other locations as it is a fragile environment and is very boggy.

Sensitive Areas: There is a sphagnum moss bog in the watercourse at GR 377646. Please avoid this area as it is very fragile. There are a number of aboriginal sites throughout this course. If you find any, please treat them with respect.

Route Intentions: We would like you to give us your intentions for your first 3 checkpoints, and the radio checkpoint you intend to use for Saturday. Please fill this in on the enclosed intentions form. You will receive 10 points if you do this before leaving base on Saturday morning.

Private Property: This course only exists due to the generosity of a number of private property holders. Please respect their privacy. Do not damage fences, disrupt crops or stock, approach houses or huts.

Out of Bounds: The following areas are out of bounds, any team entering these regions will be disqualified. 1) Nullo Mountain Road, 2) Narango Road W of base, 3) Private property areas as marked on the event map, 4) Any area off the map, 5) Sensitive swamp and sphagnum environments mentioned above.

Notes on individual checkpoints:

24: The checkpoint has been hung on a log crossing of the Cudgegong River.

65: The safest way to this checkpoint is on the ledge on the S side of the knoll.