

Nav 2001 - Course Setter's Notes

Welcome to The Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Emergency Services Navigation Shield, 2001. This year's course is very different to any previous Navsheild, with open and fast walking over almost the entire course, and very little route-finding required. The challenge this year is to find the small navigational features where the checkpoints are set, and to minimise the amount of hills to be climbed.

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 a checkpoint is the first digit of the checkpoint number, that is: numbers 30 to 39 are worth 30 points, numbers 40 to 49 are worth 40 points and so on.

Water: Flowing water can be found in the Abercrombie River, Retreat River and many smaller creeks. We have had no problems with water on the course, however we recommend treating water before drinking as the quality cannot always be guaranteed.

Water will be supplied at radio checkpoints. This water will be sourced from the Retreat River. If you do not want to drink untreated water please make your own arrangements.

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 event map is copied directly from a standard 1:25000 topographic map. No corrections have been made, however fortunately the map for this year's event is reasonably accurate. As always there are a number of roads incorrectly marked, and unmarked cliff lines.

Safety: If your team suffers an injury during the event, please inform the nearest radio checkpoint or bushranger as soon as possible. If you come across a team with an injury or otherwise in difficulty, please assist them if they request. Teams assisting other teams when requested can have a points compensation for the time used.

Huts: There are four main huts in the course area. The marked hut at 457292 and an unmarked hut at 454224 are public huts, and may be used. Both huts are quite run down. National Parks have asked us to not use the unmarked hut at 456231 as its ownership is in dispute.

The marked hut at 451244 is private and the small fenced area immediately around it is out of bounds. Also, be warned: there are some emus near this hut that have become aggressive when approached. We recommend you stay well clear of this hut.

Route Intentions: We would like you to inform us of your team's intentions for your first 3 checkpoints, and the radio checkpoint you intend to use for Saturday. Please write this 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 or approach private houses or huts.

Out of Bounds: Out of bounds areas have been marked in red on your maps. Any team entering these regions will be disqualified. Any area off the map is also out of bounds.

Participation Prize: There is a participation prize open to individuals from BWR and bushwalking club teams. The prize will be awarded by correctly guessing where on the course a photograph was taken, and you can enter as you complete the event on Saturday evening (one day teams) or Sunday afternoon (two day teams). Note that you enter this competition as an individual, not as a team.

Notes on individual checkpoints:

70: Please do not enter private lands marked on your map to the N and W of this checkpoint. A rough road exists following the fence at 416246 to 416238 which may be used, so there is no advantage in cutting through the out-of-bounds areas. Also the area around CP70 is very steep and will be slippery if wet.