

Nav 2003 - Course Setter's Notes

Welcome to the Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Emergency Services Navigation Shield, 2003. This year's course covers a wide array of environments from open dry woodland to intricate rock pagoda formations. This means you will have open, fast, easy walking in some areas of the course, and scrubby, slow walking in others. To do well this year you will need to be able to navigate accurately finding small navigational features and plan an effective route.

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 40 to 49 are worth 40 points, numbers 50 to 59 are worth 50 points and so on.

Water: Flowing water can be found in Coco Creek, from about 500m downstream of radio checkpoint Charlie, and at the pressure reducing station at Baal Bone Gap. Airly Creek and the upper reaches of Coco Creek have some small pools of water. Otherwise the course is very dry. We have had no problems with the quality of 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 may be sourced directly from a clean local creek. 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. No campfire is to be left unattended.

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 ("DNF" –did not finish). If you are likely to be more than 1 hour late for your finish time, please proceed immediately to a radio checkpoint, or contact us.

Map Errors: The event map is copied directly from a standard 1:25000 topographic map. No corrections have been made, and a few minor mapping errors were found in course setting. As always there are a number of roads incorrectly marked, and unmarked cliff lines. The map has a 20 metre contour interval so it does not show detail well.

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. Make sure the team going for help records the team name and number of the team in difficulty, the nature of the incident and any injuries sustained, your current position and the time the incident occurred. Teams assisting other teams when requested can have points awarded in compensation for the time used assisting another team. You can also contact us on mobile phone number 0427 455 897. Note that mobile phone reception is only likely on the highest peaks of the course.

Route Intentions: At the start of the event, 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. You have permission to traverse any private property on the event map as long as it is not marked as "Out of Bounds" (OOB).

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.

Specific notes:

CP90: In this area, at the north end of the cliff peninsula there is a large isolated pagoda, separated by a small rock section from the main cliff peninsula. The isolated pagoda is not climbable. The checkpoint is on the north end of the main cliff peninsula, not the large isolated pagoda.