New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering and Rogaine Championships

16th – 19th July 2026

Ōtautahi Christchurch

Bulletin 2

V1.1

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Change Log

Changes made to v1.1 (indicated by coloured text):

- Additional information about media coverage at the Sprint event,
- MapSport no longer in attendance,
- Link added for Rogaine event Ozone results page,
- Jury names added,
- Sprint Senior Boys course distances and control numbers updated,
- Classes clarified for Rogaine event.

Welcome & Acknowledgements

Welcome to the New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering & Rogaine Championships (NZSSOC & NZSSRC) 2026.

Peninsula and Plains Orienteering Club (PAPO) is looking forward to welcoming all year 7-13 students from across New Zealand to Ōtautahi Christchurch for four days of high-quality navigation sport. The competition will take place from Thursday 16th to Sunday 19th July 2026. This event is sanctioned by School Sport New Zealand and supported by Orienteering New Zealand (ONZ).

Keep up-to-date on the event at the event website: www.nzssochamps.nz.

Many thanks to the following landowners, for access to their land, and for their cooperation and support in the running of these events. We are indebted to landowners for access to these fantastic areas and are grateful for their support and help.

Relay & Long

Waimakariri District Council

Sprint

Lincoln University

Tūhaitara Trust

Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust

Rogaine

Christchurch City Council

Mt Vernon Trust

Mt Vernon Park
PORT HILLS PARK TRUST
mtvernonpark.org.nz

General Event Information

Event contacts

The overall event organisers are Katie Symons and Steve O'Neill from PAPO. They can be contacted at paposchools@gmail.com or 02108533476 (Katie) and 021996695 (Steve).

Event Overview

Date	Event	Location	Registration opens	Starts from	Course closure
Thursday 18th July	Relay	Pines Beach/Kairaki (near Kaiapoi)	11am	1pm (mass starts)	4pm
Friday 17th July	Long	Waikuku Beach (near Pegasus)	9.30am	10am	2.30pm
Saturday 18th July	Sprint	Lincoln University Campus	9.30am	10am	1pm
Sunday 19th July	Rogaine	Victoria Park, Port Hills	8am	9.30am (mass start)	1pm

Event Locations

Start lists

Start lists for all events will be available on the event website: www.nzssochamps.nz.

Submission of Relay and Rogaine team composition

Relay and Rogaine team compositions are to be submitted via online Google forms.

Click here for the Relay team entry form.

Final Relay team entry forms must be submitted **by 11.59pm on Monday 13th July.**

Click here for the Rogaine team entry form.

Final Rogaine team entry forms must be submitted **by 11.59pm on Monday 13th July.**

Team changes after these times will only be accepted at the discretion of the organisers for example, in case of injury or illness.

Individual competitors entered in these events that are not placed in school team will be placed in composite teams of the same class and gender where possible. If competitors want to form their own composite team, rather than rely on the organisers to place competitors in a team, please use the Google form to submit the composite team entry. Students can 'run up' in a higher grade to form composite teams.

Public Races

There will be public races available after the Long and Sprint Championship races on Friday and Saturday, and a public 2hr Rogaine on Sunday.

- Please pre-enter for these events via enterO here: https://entero.co.nz/evento.php?eventName=nzssp-2026
- Entries close 11.59pm on Mon 13th July. Entry on the day will be permitted at the Rogaine only, but entries in advance are strongly encouraged to guarantee a map.

Courses available are:

Long	Sprint	Rogaine
Medium Red Short Red Orange Yellow White	Long (difficult) Medium (moderate) Short (easy/moderate)	2hr (teams of 1, 2 or 3, or family groups)

- The Long and Sprint events will start approximately 45min after the last NZSSOC competitor begins.
- The Rogaine public event will have a mass start at 10am, 30min after NZSSRC begins (and finish 30min before NZSSRC finishes).

Event cancellation, withdrawals, refunds & changes

In the unlikely event that the Championships are cancelled due to extreme weather or other factors outside of our control, entry fees will be refunded at 90% (with the balance withheld to cover non-recoverable costs). Should any of the events need to be cancelled, this information will be posted on the NZSSOChamps website and PAPO website (www.papo.org.nz) and facebook page (www.facebook.com/papocanterbury). An email will also be sent to the email address provided with each entry as soon as practicable after the decision is taken.

For competitors who are unable to attend due to injury or illness, the following refunds apply:

- 75% refund of fees paid if we are notified before 11.59pm on Friday 3rd July,
- For cancellations on or after Saturday 4th July, we are unable to offer refunds.
- We are also not able to offer refunds for "no shows".

Refunds for entries paid via credit card will be paid back to the credit card used for the payment after the event.

To request a change to an entry, such as grade or SI number, fill out the NZSS 2026 change form prior to Friday 3rd July. Only changes that are absolutely necessary will be made after that date: please email paposchools@gmail.com as soon as possible, or go to Registration on the day of the event

Notes for Team Managers

Thank you to all the team managers and everybody else involved in the organisation of the competitors for your efforts, commitment and support.

As a team manager, you are responsible for the well-being of all competitors under your care. It is the responsibility of the team manager to make sure all competitors are aware of the information on the event website and this bulletin. It gives information on how to get to each event, important information about starting and finishing procedures: together with the start lists. You should use this information to work out where and when competitors need to be. The team manager is responsible for transporting their team to and from each event.

Each competitor should be at the competition venue at least 45 minutes before their start time. As team manager, please direct parents to the NZSSOChamps website for the most up-to-date information. Last minute changes will be uploaded to the website and announced via the PAPO Facebook page and website.

We strongly suggest that the team manager has a downloaded version of this Bulletin and the Start Lists on a device which can be kept charged for long periods of time and/or has a printed version, so all information is readily available.

Media and Orienteering New Zealand Sponsor Awards

Media

During NZSSOC & NZSSRC photos and moving images will be taken. PAPO and Orienteering New Zealand adhere to the School Sport Charter on the broadcast and sponsorship of secondary school sport. As part of this charter, schools have the choice to have their competitors opt-out of being photographed or filmed. Schools wishing to do this should contact Katherine Babington (at katherine.bab@icloud.com) directly - ideally with a photograph of any competitors who are opting out.

These media, taken or recorded by or on behalf of Orienteering New Zealand, may be used in promotional, social and advertising material of Orienteering New Zealand or Orienteering New Zealand partners and sponsors, for their reasonable use as they see fit.

Whakaata Māori are the major broadcaster of the NZSS Orienteering Sprint event and would love to pick up any relevant stories either for their social media or News. If you know of any Kura/ Rangatahi or teachers who you think they may be interested in and would be happy to do an interview please reach out to kaherine.bab@icloud.com. Some patai that may prompt some stories are:

- Do you know of any fluent Te Reo speaking students/ teachers?
- Is your school a full immersion kura?
- Do you know of any Māori legacy (i.e. family) stories?
- Do you know of any standout Māori athletes/leaders?

Please note this doesn't need to be specific to this event either, Whakaata Māori would love any stories relating to Orienteering and rangatahi at any point in the year.

Orienteering New Zealand Sponsor Awards

At the Sprint event prizegiving there will also be some sponsor awards presented. These are:

Caltex Good Sport Award

- This is to be awarded to a competitor, coach or manager for making a positive impact on those around them.
- The prize will be a Caltex bag full of goodies for the trip home.

Bayleys Altogether Better Award

- This is to be awarded to a team/school who are altogether better – who have shown amazing teamwork and have overcome adversity.
- The prize will be $200 worth of fuel vouchers to go towards costs of attending the event, or to help cover costs to and from trainings etc.

Nateva Leadership Award

- This is to be awarded to a competitor who lifts others up, leads by example and shows resilience.
- The prize will be a 1L insulated water bottle.

Watch ONZ social media (www.facebook.com/OrienteeringNZ) for information on how to submit a nomination. Nominations close 11am Sunday 12th July.

General Competition information

Fair play

All competitors and supporters shall behave with fairness and honesty. Attempts to gain any information related to the courses, beyond that provided by the organiser, is prohibited before and during the competition. A competitor who breaks any rule, or benefits from the breaking of any rule, may be disqualified.

Rules

The three days of orienteering competition will be run in accordance with the Competition Rules for New Zealand Foot Orienteering Events (www.orienteering.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/ONZ-Rules-May-2024.pdf) and the Special Rules for New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships (updated April 2026, www.orienteering.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/NZSS-Special-Rules-27-03-2026.pdf). Please direct any queries regarding rules during these three events to the respective Event Controller.

The Rogaine competition will be run in accordance with the New Zealand Rules of Rogaining (www.orienteering.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/NZRulesOfRogaining_November2016.pdf) with the exception of Rule 2. A summary of key rules is also noted in the Rogaine-specific competition information which follows later in the Bulletin.

Out-of-Bounds areas

An 'Out-of-Bounds' area is any area where a competitor is not allowed to be. 'Out-of-bounds' areas are described in the specific information relating to each day. Generally, any area away from the Parking, Event Centre, Start, or the routes between these, will be out-of-bounds unless you are on your course.

This out-of-bounds restriction not only applies to competitors, but also to team managers, parents and other supporters.

GPS equipment

Competitors shall not use or carry telecommunication equipment between entering the prestart area and reaching the finish of a race, unless the equipment has been approved by the Controller prior to the event. GPS-enabled devices (watches etc.) may be carried provided that they have no map display and are not used for navigation purposes.

Compasses and Whistles

It is strongly recommended that all competitors carry a whistle when competing in the Relay and Long orienteering events. For the Rogaine, a whistle is compulsory for each team, along with other items on the compulsory gear list for that event (see Rogaine event information section of this bulletin).

It is expected that competitors will bring their own compass and whistle.

Maps

Competition maps are digitally printed on waterproof synthetic paper (Teslin). The maps are produced using the current International Specification for Orienteering Maps (ISOM and ISSprOM).

The previous version of the maps being used are available on the NZSSOChamps website.

Control descriptions

For all classes, descriptions will be printed on the front of the map and be available loose at the start (Sprint and Long). For those on red difficulty courses, only IOF symbol descriptions will be used. For those on orange difficulty courses, descriptions on the map will be textual (English), while both IOF symbol and textual descriptions will be available at the start. For classes on yellow and white courses, only English textual descriptions will be provided.

Loose control descriptions will be available for the Long and Sprint events. Competitors should provide their own control-description holders or other means of carrying them if desired. Tape, scissors etc. will not be provided at the start.

For the Relay and Rogaine the control descriptions will be on the maps only – loose copies will not be provided.

Map legends

Legends are not printed on the map. You can download a legend and description of orienteering mapping symbols here: www.orienteering.org.nz/coaching-resources.

Controls

Each control is equipped with:

- One electronic punching station (SI unit). Some control sites with high traffic (e.g. last control before the Finish, the Finish itself) may have two SI units to accommodate the higher amount of traffic and to avoid injuries;
- One backup pin punching device, only to be used if SI unit fails;
- A white / orange control flag.

The control code is located on top of the SI unit, or on the tag on the side – a two- or three-digit number. There are many controls in the competition terrain, so it is important to check the control code when you punch, to make sure you have the right control.

Punching an extra, wrong control by mistake has no consequences for the competitor, provided all the required controls are punched in the correct order.

Electronic timing using SportIdent

During NZSSOC & NZSSRC, the SportIdent (SI) electronic timing system will be used, where the orienteer carries an SI Card (sometimes also known as 'dibber') on their finger to record visits to controls. Each visited station at each control writes the time of the visit to the card. The control times are read out after the finish line to determine total race time, split times, and whether all controls were visited in the correct order. Do not forget to punch the Finish control.

Each SI/SIAC card has a number that is related specifically to a competitor. They must not be loaned to anyone else during the event.

Air will be activated on all controls at all events except the Rogaine. Those competitors with a SportIdent Air Card (SIAC) may use contactless punching (see below) at the relay, long and sprint events. The finish will be activated for Air at the relay, long and sprint events.

Electronic punching

Please read the following instructions carefully:

- SI cards must be cleared and checked before each race at the stations located in front of the start area – this is the responsibility of each competitor. Use the 'clear' box first, to remove data from your chip, and then punch the 'check' box.
- At each control, insert your SI-card into the control unit until the unit beeps and flashes or if using a SIAC card pass the card over the top of the control and ensure it beeps
- If an SI unit does not function (there is no beep and no flash or your SIAC card does not respond) then use the pin punch attached to the control stand and punch on your map in one of the spaces provided. If you have pin punched any controls on your map you must hand the map in at the Download before leaving the Finish area and explain what you have done.
- A competitor with a control punch missing or unidentifiable will not receive a result, unless it can be established that the punch missing or unidentifiable is not the competitor's fault. If a competitor punches too fast and fails to receive the feedback signals (beep and/or light flash), the card will not contain the punch record and the competitor will not receive an overall time, even though the control unit may have recorded the competitor's card number as an error punch.
  Note: SIAC does not record a punch in the control unit.

- Those with SI Air+ contactless SI Cards (or SIAC cards) need to ensure that the card has been written to (SI Card beeps and flashes). Otherwise, insert your SI Card into the control
- Unless you have an SI Air+ card, you must insert your regular SI card into each control.
- If you have hired an SI card for your races, please return it to Registration after your download on your final event. Lost or broken cards will incur a charge of $150 to cover the cost of a replacement.

Start Procedure

The start procedure will be the same for the Sprint and the Long event. Each competitor is responsible for following the marked route to the start area. The competition area is out-of-bounds until your allocated start time. The pre-start area has SI clear and check units in it. In the Start area, competitors will pass through consecutive starting pens and remain one minute in each one. Report to the start when the pre-start clock shows your start time: this clock is set four minutes before race time.

- -4 minutes: Competitor call-up. Name, SI card number, and starting time are checked. Competitors without an SI card will not be allowed to start.
- -3 minutes: Each competitor inserts their SI into a Check box and will be told any additional safety information.
- -2 minutes: Loose control description sheets are available for competitors to pick up (optional). Control descriptions are also printed on the map.
- -1 minute: The competitor stands beside the map issue box labelled with their correct course and class. At -30 seconds they will be asked to pick up their map and invited to check they have the correct map but should not look at the course. The competitor is responsible for taking the correct map. The start-countdown will be indicated by a series of 5 beeps at -4 to 0 seconds and on the last beep the competitor's race time begins.

As these events are timed start events, there is no start punch. After leaving the Start area, competitors will follow the compulsory marked route to the start triangle which is indicated by a flag only (without an SI punching unit) in the terrain and represented by a triangle on the competition map.

All competitors must pass within 2m of the start triangle.

Late Starters

Competitors who arrive at the start late must report to the late start lane where an official will accompany her/him. The competitor will start the race when told to do so (ONZ Rule 22.9). The results of competitors who start late due to their own fault will be based on their original start time, without time compensation. Competitors who are late for their start time through

no fault of their own will be timed from their new start time, determined by the event controller (ONZ Rule 22.8).

Any competitor who is late, whether through their own fault or otherwise, should not debate this with the start officials. Instead, if the competitor believes the organiser is responsible, he/she should make a complaint after finishing the race at the enquiries desk before leaving the finish area.

Finish Procedure

At the finish line, register your finish at a finish control by punching your SI card or passing your SIAC card over the control (Air will be activated).

Your elapsed race time only stops when you register at a finish control. Competitors must register at a finish control even if they do not complete their course.

The download will be close to the finish, where you will then receive your time split printout. After the download at your last event, you should return any hired SI Cards. Runners are free to go after the download.

Maps may be collected after each event (to prevent sharing with competitors who have not yet run) and will be available for pick up by school team managers after the last Start.

Competitors who do not download will be considered as missing, resulting in a search for this competitor. If you decide not to finish your race, please come back to the finish area, punch the Finish Control and download, so we know you are back safe and sound.

Course Closure

The course closure for each event is noted in that day's event information. Please make sure you have returned to the Event Centre by course closure time at the latest, even if you have not completed the course. In addition there is a maximum time allowed on course of 2½hr for the Long and 1hr for the Sprint events.

Results

Provisional live results will be displayed on the results display at the Event Centre.

Race commentary will provide news and results which may include feed from radio controls, and as such will report on unofficial times.

Official results will be posted on Winsplits at the end of each day of competition and will be posted on the event and PAPO websites as soon as possible (http://obasen.orientering.se/winsplits/online/en/default.asp?start=true).

Results will also be available on the O-Zone portal (orienteering events here: https://o-zone.nz/event/nzssoc-2026-1137, rogaine event here: https://o-zone.nz/event/nzss-rogaine-

champs-2026-1152). Look out for the o-zone poster at Event Centres and scan the QR code to find results.

LiveLox will be setup for the Orienteering events. Scores and route analysis for the Rogaine will be available at www.rogaine-results.com.

Results queries

If there is anything a competitor wishes to clarify about the download, or if a control failed to beep and flash, was missing, or any other problem occurred on the course, please proceed to the download station and ask to speak with the problems official. Officials there, in consultation with the Controller, will assist to resolve the issue as soon as is practical. There is no enquiry fee. Complaints and protests will be handled in accordance with the ONZ rules.

Before a protest is made, you are entitled to complain to the Controller about an infringement of the rules or organiser's directions. A complaint is made in writing on a form available from Registration, and handed to the Controller as soon as possible, but within 60 minutes of the affected competitor finishing. A complaint is adjudicated by the controller. The Controller's decision on a complaint shall be advised to the complainant, and displayed on the results board as soon as possible, within no more than 60 minutes of the complaint having been received. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision, a protest may be made against the controller's decision. The ONZ Technical Committee have appointed a jury panel of ONZ A-grade controllers as shown below, in accordance with ONZ Rule 29.4. If a protest is received, the convenor for that event will select a jury of three from the panel. If one of the panel members is unavailable on the day or declares a conflict of interest, a replacement will be appointed from suitably experienced orienteer present at the event.

Jury role	Name	Club
Convenor – Relay	Martin Crosby	Auckland
Convenor – Long	Geoff Morrison	Hawke's Bay
Convenor - Sprint	Michael Croxford	Nelson
Panel member	John Robinson	Counties Manukau
	Llew McGirvern	Counties Manukau

Health and Safety

We all have a shared responsibility for everyone's personal safety

Expectations

It is each competitor's responsibility to read this bulletin and all notices concerning hazards, risks, and recommendations to stay safe. Competitors should use common sense at all times, to ensure their own safety as well as those of others. Check for specific hazards for each race: this information is available on the special event website, this bulletin, and on the

Hazards Board at each Event Centre. Comprehensive Health and Safety plans are kept at Registration in the respective Event Centres and are available for download from the event website. HARM forms will be available on the NZSSOChamps website.

Participation is at your own risk. It is the competitor and team manager's responsibility to ensure that a competitor is entered in a grade appropriate for their level of orienteering skill and experience. This particularly applies to the Long Championship courses: the senior boys and girls Championship courses are red level (difficult) orienteering.

Whistles

It is strongly recommended you carry a whistle for the Relay and Long orienteering events. A whistle is compulsory for each team in the Rogaine. Use your whistle if you, or someone else, needs urgent help because of an injury or distress.

- The recognised distress signal is a series of six short, sharp blasts on your whistle.
- Pause and listen for reply, repeat to allow people coming to your rescue to locate you.
- Only use your whistle in an emergency.

Keeping yourself safe

In addition, all competitors and supporters are expected to obey the following sensible guidelines to keep themselves and others safe.

Personal safety:

- Obey all instructions and warnings, including from marshals on course.
- Keep clear of out-of-bounds, unauthorised areas.
- Be careful around parked cars, especially when others are arriving / leaving the area.
- Wear clothing suitable for the weather conditions on competition day.
- Have a spare set of suitable warm, dry clothing available to change into after your race.
- Be suitably hydrated. Please bring your own drinking water to the Event Centres.
- Wear a watch and return to the Event Centre by course closure time, or if you have been on the course longer than the advertised maximum time allowed for the event– whichever comes first.
- To avoid initiating unnecessary searches after the event, all competitors MUST return to the finish, punch the finish control and download, even if they did not complete their course.
- Report any damage e.g. to cars, fences, walls, gates etc. to the Event Officials or Controller as soon as possible.
- Open fires or smoking is prohibited in all competition areas.

Personal Health:

- Be fit and well enough to compete.
- Carry personal medication at all times if required for a specific condition.

- Notify Registration of any potentially serious health problems by notifying event staff at Registration before your first start. Registration will notify the First Aid Team and/or the Event Controller.

Everybody's Safety:

- Competitors are expected to offer assistance while competing to anyone who is injured, has blown their whistle, or who requires physical assistance. Please help out as needed and make event officials aware of the circumstances. The Event Controller will organise an appropriate solution, both for the person in distress and the competitor who interrupted their race to help out a fellow orienteer.

Evacuation

Please use common sense and take action if you smell smoke, experience an earthquake or if there is storm damage occurring.

Action to be taken by event organisers in the event of an emergency:

- Five long blasts from an air horn or car horn, which will be repeated at intervals. Given the scale of the event areas these blasts may not be audible to all competitors.

Actions to be taken by competitors in the event of an emergency:

- If you hear these blasts, abandon your course and evacuate from the event;
- Help any other competitors to evacuate;
- If it is safe, evacuate to the Event Centre, inform organisers, and download your SportIdent (so we know you are accounted for);
- If you evacuate to somewhere else, contact one of the overall event coordinators – Katie Symons 02108533476 or Steve O'Neill 021996695 if possible
- Call 111 if there is a fire or you require emergency assistance.

First Aid and Medical Facilities

First aid will be available at the Event Centre during all events. However, we ask that you bring your own first aid kit and tend to minor injuries such as cuts and grazes yourself.

In a medical emergency call 111 for an ambulance.

The nearest medical professionals are available as the following facilities:

- 24 Hour Surgery, 401 Madras St, 03 3657777, www.pegasus.health.nz/24-hour-surgery
- Riccarton Clinic, 4 Yaldhurst Rd, 03 3433661, https://www.riccartonclinic.co.nz/
- Christchurch Hospital Emergency Department, 2 Riccarton Ave, 03 3640640, www.healthnz.govt.nz/hospitals-services/hospitals/canterbury/christchurch-hospital

On-the-Day Information – all days

Event Centres

Each day will have an Event Centre which will incorporate Registration, Toilets, First Aid, Refreshments and the Finish.

Schools are encouraged to bring their own tents for shelter for all events. Note that tents at the Sprint event must not be secured by pegs in the ground, please use an alternative anchoring mechanism.

At Registration, there will be a copy of the most recent Start lists for the event. Lost property can be handed in to Registration at the Event Centre. If you have lost something, you are welcome to see if it has turned up there at any time.

Catering

Ash's coffee cart and local favourite food truck 'The Chippy' will be present at each event. EFTPOS will be available.

In addition, PAPO juniors will be running a bake sale to fundraise for their travel costs to events: please bring cash.

Retail Outlets

Trailblaze will be present at all events to support all your orienteering needs, so please drop in to say hello. They have a range of products including VJ shoes, gaiters, compasses, eyewear and energy products. Visa, Mastercard and Paywave options available.
www.trailblazenz.com

Cell phone coverage

There is good mobile phone coverage at all the events.

Water

There will be water available at the Event Centre for competitors after their race at all events, and water on course for the Long and Rogaine events. Everyone should bring their own water for other times.

Bibs

Every competitor will be issued with a numbered bib which must be worn on their front for the Sprint and the Long events. These bibs will have the competitor's number, name, school, class entered, start times and SportIdent numbers printed on them.

There will be different bibs issues for the Relay event. Safety pins will be provided with bibs.

Registration packs

Registration packs for schools will be available at the Registration desk at the Event Centre each day.

The registration packs will be issued to team managers (or substitute). Competitors should not come to collect their registration pack unless they are the only competitor from their school. The pack will include hired SportIdent cards and the bibs for each competitor. The pack will not include a printed copy of this Bulletin or Start Lists.

Prizegivings

There will be a prizegiving after each event to acknowledge the top 3 competitors in the Championship grades and Standard grades. Competitors who do not meet SSNZ eligibility rules and finish in the top 3 for their course will be invited to stand on the podium. Championship grades place getters will receive medals (in the orienteering events only). Championship grade place getters in the Rogaine, Standard grade placegetters and ineligible competitors who come in the top 3 for their course will receive certificates. Prizegivings will occur as soon as possible when the placings are confirmed.

The prizegiving for the NZSSOC Overall Schools Competitions will be held directly after the Sprint event prizegiving, the last day of NZSSOC. (NZSSRC is a separate event).

All schools returning trophies from NZSSOC 2025 are asked to drop these off at Registration on Thursday before the start of the Relay.

There will be some small spot prize draws as part of the prizegivings. Our thanks to Trailblaze SportIdent and Oland for spot prize donations.

NZSS Orienteering Relay Championships

Date: Thursday 16th July 2026
Map: Pines Beach/Kairaki
Planner: Michael Smithson
Controller: Bruce Steven
Coordinator: Marcus Diprose
Map Scale: 1:7500 and 1:5000
Contour interval: 2.5 metres

Directions: From Christchurch, follow SH1 north and exit at the SH71/Lineside Rd/Smith St exit. Turn right at the traffic lights and proceed east towards Kaiapoi along Smith St. At the Williams St Roundabout proceed straight through the roundabout onto Beach Rd and continue to Pines Beach. At the roundabout turn left (north). It is 4.5km from the motorway exit to the car parking.

It is 22km from the airport to the event (allow 30mins). There is a Woolworths supermarket on Smith St just after you exit the motorway if you need any pre-event food etc.

There are additional public toilets at the corner of Dunns and Kay Av (to the north) as well as at the event centre.

Parking: Parking is on the streets surrounding the green spaces north of the roundabout (Dunns Ave, Chichester St etc). There is no parking on Reid Memorial Ave. Follow the marked route along the edge of the road 300m to the Event Centre and be alert to other road users/vehicles. Schools may drive a vehicle to the Event Centre to drop off tents etc but there is no car parking at the Event Centre.

Event Centre: Pines Beach Car Park (-43.2881, 172.7179, Google Maps link).

There will be members of the public around the Event Centre, please be courteous to them and other park users.

The spectator arena will be set up to accommodate school tents and areas to spread tarpaulins. Do not cross into any out-of-bounds areas.

Terrain & mapping notes: The terrain is in mature pine forest with undulating sand dune contour detail. Visibility is generally good but also varies, where in places tree branches and undergrowth will make it a bit harder to see a decent distance into the forest. In the most part these areas are not so green that it warrants mapping as green. This is only relevant to orange courses. A network of tracks is present on half the map (where white and yellow courses will run) and are noticeably absent in the other half. Strong attack points and catching features are present for all courses.

Specific mapping notes:

The Pegasus Bay cycle trail passes through the western part of the map and is used extensively by recreational cyclists and walkers. This track is 2-3m wide and has a metalled surface. If you end up on the trail as part of your course please watch out for cyclists who may be travelling at speed.

The white and yellow courses have a road crossing. Event marshals will be stationed at this crossing and they may briefly stop competitors from crossing as vehicles go past. There is no untimed leg for this crossing point.

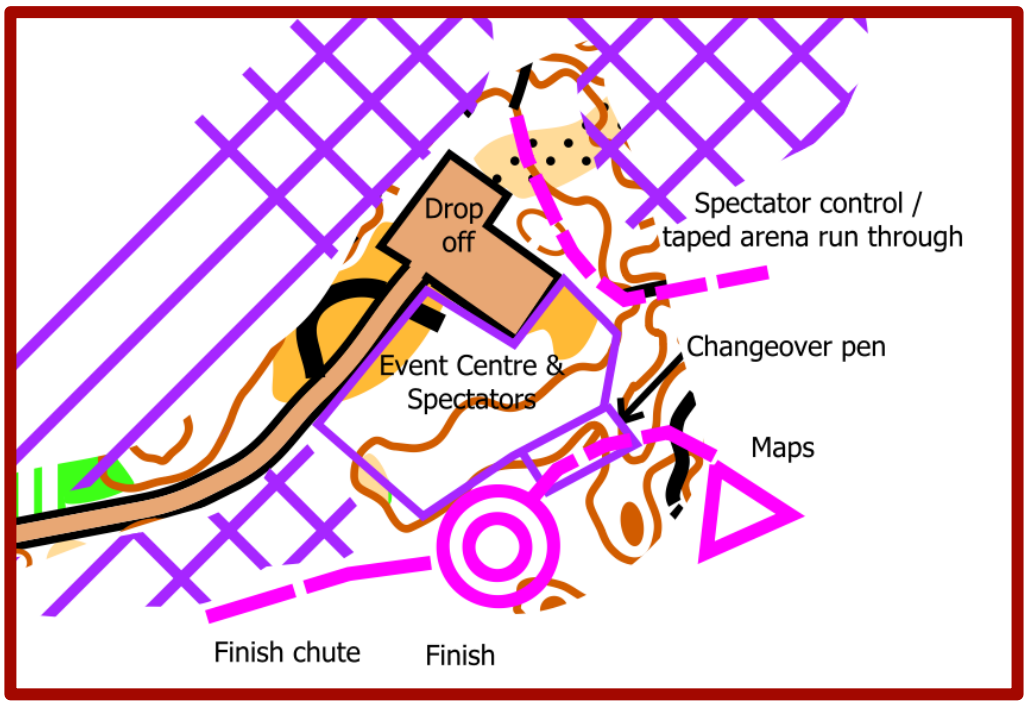
Recommended Clothing: Lower body cover is recommended for competitors in the Senior classes.

Hazards: common forest hazards exist such as uneven ground, low spikey branches, blackberry.

Safety Bearing: East to the Beach. Once there, either north or south to Pines beach access road and then to the Event Centre.

Relay procedure: All courses consist of 2 loops. At the end of your first loop is a spectator control. After punching this, follow the mandatory taped run-through next to the Event Centre to start your second loop.

- The spectator run through is positioned at approximately 70% of the total length for all courses. If you see your teammate in the run-through you should go to the relay changeover area without delay.
- The event briefing will include a visual description of the relay run-through and changeover (also see Event Centre layout below).
- At the end of your course, after punching the last control, follow tapes to the finish. 1st and 2nd leg runners must punch the finish and then proceed to the changeover and tag your teammate. For 3rd leg runners, placings will be determined by the order over the finish.



Forking/splits: There are several forkings/splits that create course variations in your course. Ensure you check your control descriptions and codes and read the course markings on the map carefully.

Control Descriptions: Control descriptions are only printed on the map. There are no separate descriptions. The control descriptions for the senior classes are symbols, all other classes will have text control descriptions

Taped routes: Yellow and white courses have taped routes on their course in addition to the run-through between loops. This is a navigation aid to be used if needed. Make sure to read your control descriptions carefully so you know when to follow these.

Team bibs: The bibs must be collected from Registration prior to the briefing.

Composite teams: Competitors who are not running in a team from their school or have entered a composite team via the google form will have been allocated into a composite team. Please come to registration to collect your registration pack and meet your teammates.

Timings:

- 11.30am Registration opens for pack collection by team managers or a delegated school rep. Only 1 person per school to pick up.
- 12.45pm competitor briefing.
- 1pm first event mass start.
- 3pm approximate timing for prizegiving. This will take place as soon as possible after podium placings are known

Briefing: NZSSOC Relay briefing is at 12.45pm. All competitors must attend the briefing. There will be an explanation of the spectator control, as well as the team change-over process.

Start times: There will be four Leg 1 mass starts and these will be staggered with intervals of 5 minutes:

1pm Senior Boys and Intermediate Boys
1.05pm Senior Girls and Intermediate Girls
1.10pm Junior Boys and Year 7 and 8 Boys
1.15pm Junior Girls and Year 7 and 8 Girls

All first leg runners should clear and check prior to the briefing to avoid any delays, as the starts will need to occur on time.

Mini mass starts: To keep the event running smoothly, mini-mass starts will be used if some runners are taking longer than expected.

- If not all Leg 1 runners have returned by a set time, all remaining Leg 2 runners will start together.
- If not all Leg 2 runners have returned by a set time, all remaining Leg 3 runners will start together.

The timing for mini-mass starts will be announced on the day once racing has started but it is expected to be at 1.45pm for the Leg 2 runners and 2.15pm for the Leg 3 runners.

Water: There is no water on any courses.

Course closure: 4pm

For a Relay team to be Official, as per NZSSSC rules:

1) The students must be from the same school.
2) Official teams comprise of 3 different competitors, none of whom have completed a leg for another team in the relay in the current competition.
3) Girls may run officially in a boys' team as long as they run the equivalent boys' class. Boy may not run officially in a girls' team (for mixed schools).
4) Year 7/8 students cannot run up in the secondary school classes in official teams (this would disadvantage Year 9-13 schools).
5) Within the secondary school competition, Junior or Intermediate students may run up a class.
6) All other combinations will constitute a non-competitive (NC) entry with regard to points contributing to the Top School competition.

Non-competitive teams (NC) and composite teams:

1) Mixed boys' and girls' teams will normally run the 'boys' version' of the highest-class runner in the team. However, when the competition is not compromised by non-competitive teams running in the girls' class or in lower classes, this can be permitted at the controller's discretion. These teams should be entered as a 'Full Team' when completing the initial entry forms.
2) Individual students that have been selected to run in a composite team will be placed in teams of the same class and gender.
3) Non-competitive junior teams may be entered in the year 7/8 relay.

4) In official result lists, non-competitive teams should be listed with their times at the end of the results, below the competitive teams but above teams that mis-punch.

Map Flip: Courses 1 & 2 (Senior classes) have a map flip. The map is printed on both sides. Make sure you start on Side 1 which shows the start triangle and the first controls. When you reach the last control on Side 1, flip the map over to Side 2, relocate the control you are at (now marked by a triangle inside a circle), and continue with the remainder of your course.

The map flip will be shown on symbolic control descriptions like this:

Course	Class	Difficulty	Scale	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Map Flip
1	SB	Orange	1:7500	3.2	40	Yes
2	SG	Orange	1:7500	3.2	40	Yes
3	IB	Yellow	1:5000	2.1	20	No
4	IG	Yellow	1:5000	2.1	20	No
5	JB	Legs 1 & 3 Yellow, Leg 2 White	1:5000	2.1 / 2.0	20	No
6	JG	Legs 1 & 3 Yellow, Leg 2 White	1:5000	2.1 / 2.0	20	No
7	Y7/8B	White	1:5000	2.0	20	No
8	Y7/8G	White	1:5000	2.0	20	No

Beginners guide to how an orienteering relay works:

In an individual orienteering race, every competitor in the same class runs the same course. Individuals start at timed intervals to separate them and prevent following. Relays, in contrast, have a mass start for the first leg runners, with “split controls” or “forks” used to create variations and so keep competitors separate.

Each runner may have a few controls in common with another runner in their class, but then a split or fork will result in runners heading to different controls. The key principle is that overall, i.e. after all three runners have completed their courses, every team will have run the same combination of course legs. However, in general, there will be a large number of course combinations through which this can be achieved.

Here are some key points to note in relay orienteering:

- It is important not to follow the runners around you, as they will have different courses!

- Because of the forking there will be a large number of controls, often close together, so it is important to carefully check your control codes.
- Control descriptions are printed on the maps only, as they need to match the forking assigned to that particular map.
- Teams are numbered and each leg runner is identified separately. For example, runner 101-1 is the first leg runner from Team 101, with 101-2 being the second runner and 101-3 the third runner.
- Maps are numbered corresponding to the bib numbers. It is essential runners take their correctly numbered map. If any runner takes a different map number their team will be disqualified.
- Once you complete your leg of the race you will tag your next leg runner, who will complete a course with a different set of forks than you.
- Each team member must punch the finish control when they complete their leg.

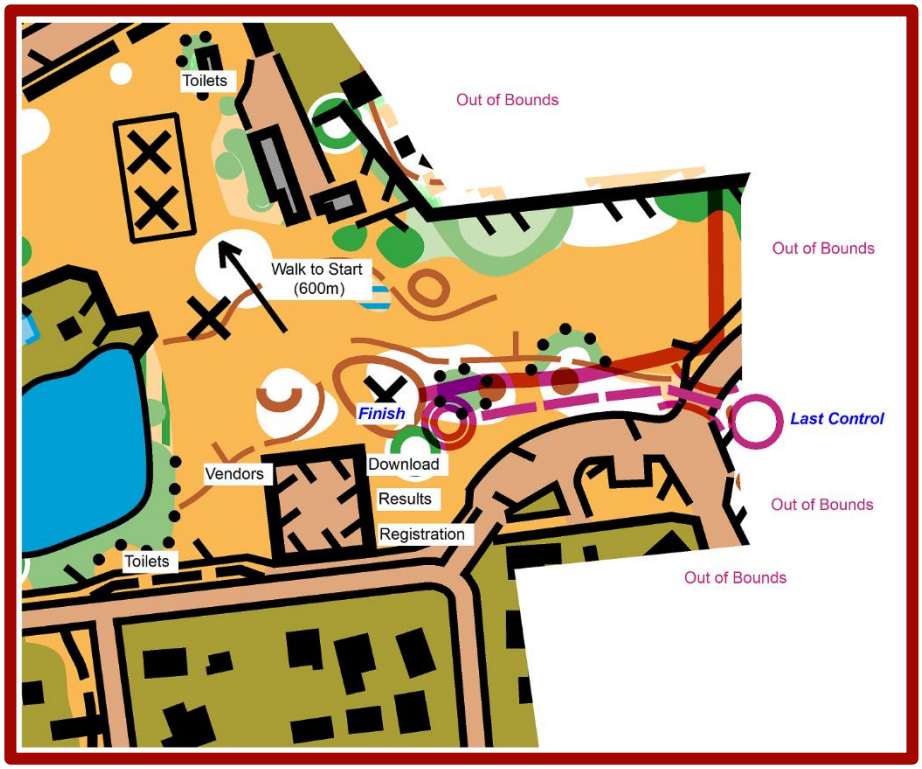
NZSS Orienteering Long Championships

Date: Friday 17th July 2026
Map: Waikuku Beach
Planner: Alister Metherell
Controller: Tim Wright
Coordinator: Anthony Wild
Map Scale: 1:7500 or 1:5000
Contour interval: 2.5m

Directions: From Christchurch, head north on State Highway 1, through Woodend and through the roundabout with turn-offs to Pegasus and Ravenswood. Turn right at Waikuku into Waikuku Beach Rd. Continue 2.6km and turn left or right at the T junction into Park Terrace for street side parking. The Event Centre is a right turn into Park Terrace and then left into Bridge St. However, easy access to the Event Centre is also available across Waikuku Beach Domain, if you turn left into Park Terrace.

Parking: Parking will be street side in the Waikuku Beach village (Reserve Rd, Park Terrace, Rotten Row etc) or across the Domain on Domain Terrace. No vehicles will be allowed to proceed eastbound on Bridge St beyond the Pine Ave intersection.

Event Centre: The Event Centre is located in Waikuku Beach Domain by the tennis courts, adjacent to Bridge St (-43.2881, 172.7179, Google Maps link). See layout below:



Distance to Start: Follow streamers 600m from the Event Centre to the Start (around 10 mins walk). There are toilets at the start.

Start Times: Pre-allocated start times from 10am.

Course closure: Course closure will be at 2.30pm.

Maximum time on course: The maximum time allowed to record a result is 2½ hours. All competitors are required to then return to the finish whether they have completed their course or not.

Use of Streamers on Courses 7,8 and 9: These courses at White and Yellow standard (refer to the course table overleaf) have some legs that follow small, indistinct paths. Where this occurs, pink streamers are positioned at regular intervals along the paths to improve visibility.

Terrain & mapping notes: The terrain is mostly pine forest planted on undulating sand-dune terrain with many areas of intricate contour detail.

The trees are mature pines with predominately good visibility and fast running. Where tree density and low branches reduce visibility and running speed, this is mapped using the light green symbol ("slow run"). Small areas of blackberry or other vegetation may be mapped with green stripe (passable) or dark green "fight."

Fallen trees have affected some areas. A single fallen tree that you can easily run around is not mapped, but where they create an obstruction these are mapped as dark green “fight”. Senior championship courses will also include an area of younger replanted pines with low visibility, mapped with medium green (“walk”). Extensive areas of blackberry, dense bracken and large old log piles within this forest are mapped with the dark green (“fight”) symbol.

Map Flip: All courses except course 9 have a map flip. The map is printed on both sides. Make sure you start on Side 1 which shows the start triangle and the first controls. When you reach the last control on Side 1, flip the map over to Side 2, relocate the control you are at (now marked by a triangle inside a circle), and continue with the remainder of your course. The map flip will be shown on symbolic control descriptions like this:

Clothing: Normal orienteering clothing. Leg protection is recommended. Note that it can be cold in the forest, so consider wearing a thermal layer. In the event of very cold and wet conditions, competitors may be required to wear/carry a waterproof. In the event of severe winds/gales, the event may be cancelled due to falling tree/branch risk.

Water: Available for all courses.

Hazards: All courses cross a road immediately before the finish. Marshals will patrol this crossing, but minimal traffic is expected. Low fences must be crossed both sides of the road.

There is the possibility of other users in the forest, including horse riders. Give them a friendly greeting if you see them so as not to frighten the horses.

Safety Bearing: Follow tracks or the beach, south or north, as appropriate, to the surf club or Event Centre (all courses will pass close to the surf club heading south from the Start).

Course	Classes	Difficulty	Scale	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls	Map Flip?
1	SB Championship	Red	1:7500	6.3	170	28	Yes
2	SG Championship	Red	1:7500	4.9	145	26	Yes
3	IB Championship	Orange	1:7500	4.5	125	26	Yes
4	IG Championship	Orange	1:7500	3.8	100	22	Yes
5	SB Standard	Orange	1:7500	3.6	95	20	Yes
6	SG Standard	Orange	1:7500	3.3	90	19	Yes
7	JB Championship IB Standard SB Novice Y7/8B Championship	Yellow	1: 7500	3.8	85	20	Yes
8	JG Championship IG Standard SG Novice Y7/8G Championship	Yellow	1: 7500	3.3	70	18	Yes
9	JB Standard JG Standard Y7/8B Standard Y7/8G Standard	White	1:5000	3.0	60	28	No

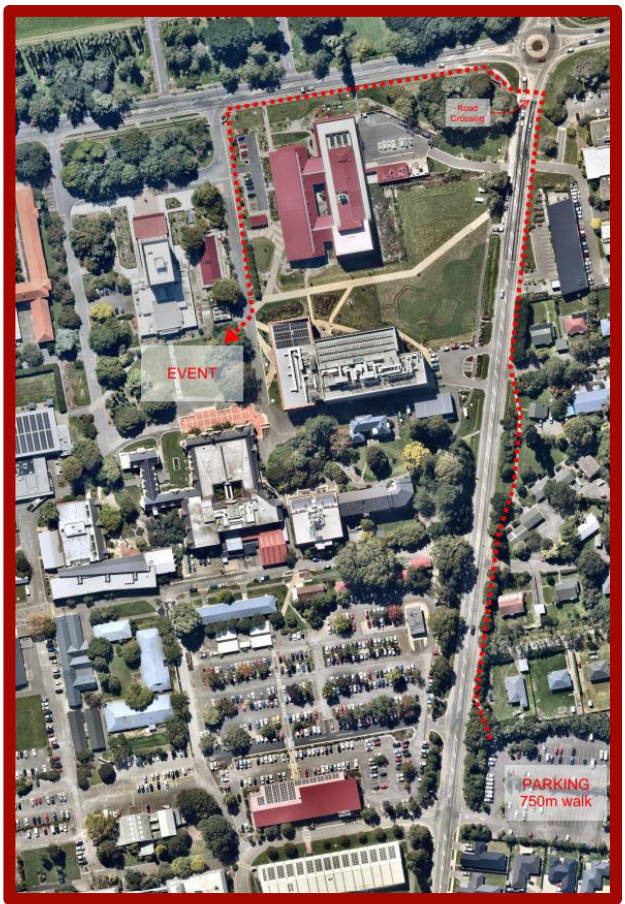
NZSS Orienteering Sprint Championships

Date: Saturday 18th July 2026
Map: Lincoln University
Planner: Christina Freeman
Controller: Martin Peat
Coordinator: Lisa Chubb
Map Scale: 1:3000
Contour interval: 2.5m

Directions: From Christchurch, take the Southern Motorway/ SH76 West. Take the Halswell Junction Rd exit, turn right then left onto Springs Rd. Continue 10km to the Ellesmere Junction Rd/Springs Rd roundabout. Continue 450m on Springs Rd then turn left into the Lincoln University Springs Rd car park (-43.6461, 172.4702).

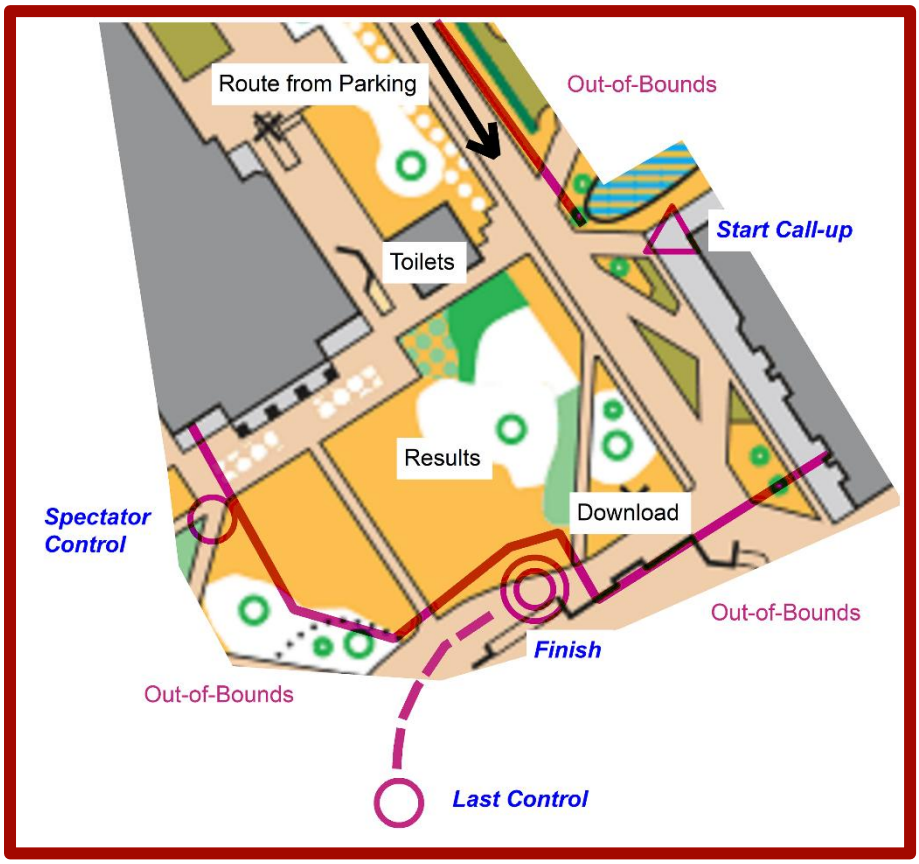
Parking: Parking will be in the Springs Rd car park. Follow any instructions from a parking marshal.

Event Centre: The Event Centre is in the heart of Lincoln University (-43.6436, 172.4678, Google Maps link). Access is only from the north through Gate 1 on Ellesmere Junction Rd, 750m walk from the event parking. From the event parking, walk north on Springs Rd to the roundabout, cross Springs Rd and continue along Ellesmere Junction Rd to Gate 1 at the University, see map. Springs Rd must be crossed at the traffic island near the roundabout.



School tents may be erected on the grass in the Event Centre, however no pegs can go into the ground in many areas because of the irrigation system. Please ask at registration to discuss the placement of tents. Don't erect a tent before you have been allocated a space.

All areas around the Event Centre are out-of-bounds, except for the access route from the north. See layout below.



Toilets: Portaloos will be available at the Event Centre.

Media: parts of the NZSSOC Sprint event will be filmed, and later broadcast on Whakaata Māori. The film crew are likely to roam the Finish and Event Centre areas. The crew may be present in some clearly marked out-of-bounds areas. They should not be a distraction to competitors at any time.

Route to Start: The Start is adjacent to the Event Centre.

Start Times: Pre-allocated start times from 10am.

Course closure: Course closure is 1pm.

Maximum time on course: The maximum time allowed to record a result is 1 hour. All competitors are required to then return to the finish whether they have completed their course or not.

Map description: The map is a university campus with a mix of buildings, fences, walls, paved areas, gardens, grassed areas and trees.

Special Map Symbols:

	530 Prominent man-made feature – o. Used to denote tall poles / floodlights.
	531 Prominent man-made feature – x. Used to denote prominent benches and seats.
	708 Out-of-bounds boundary. Used to denote temporary barriers that shall not be crossed. Marked in terrain by tape or solid barriers.

Water: There will be water available at the Event Centre after download.

Footwear: NO METAL-STUDDED SHOES MAY BE WORN.

Hazards: The campus will remain active during the event, with other users moving through the area. Competitors may encounter vehicles (including bicycles) on open roads and carparks within campus and must obey all marshal instructions. Tiled areas and stairs may be slippery, particularly when wet, and narrow passageways, blind corners, and low overhangs increase the likelihood of collisions with other competitors travelling in the opposite direction. Curbs, ramps, retaining walls, and other changes in level present additional trip and fall risks. Uneven ground, roots, loose or slippery surfaces, vegetation, fences, and obstacles such as trees or branches may be encountered, along with a water feature near the finish that must be avoided.

Out-of-Bounds Areas: There are many small gardens mapped as either dark green or olive green which MUST NOT BE CROSSED. Some that are not obvious on the ground will be taped but it is the competitor's responsibility not to cross any out-of-bounds area. There will be marshals on course who will record anyone seen to cross any out-of-bounds area and the competitor will be disqualified. This also applies to any features marked as uncrossable on the map – walls, fences and gates marked with a wide black line. It is the competitor's responsibility to know the mapping symbols used on the sprint map and not to cross anything marked as uncrossable (even if they could physically do so). Anyone seen to cross an uncrossable feature will be disqualified.

There are some areas marked on the map with temporary out-of-bounds symbols where construction activity is occurring, and in the field marked with tape or fencing.

There are no artificial barriers on course (we're not trying to trick you).

Course	Class	Difficulty	Scale	Length (km)	Controls
1	SB	Difficult	1:3000	3.3	27
2	SG	Difficult	1:3000	2.8	24
3	IB	Difficult	1:3000	2.9	26
4	IG	Difficult	1:3000	2.5	22
5	JB	Moderate	1:3000	2.5	25
6	JG	Moderate	1:3000	2.4	26
7	Y7/8B	Easy/Moderate	1:3000	2.2	23
8	Y7/8G	Easy/Moderate	1:3000	2.1	21

NB Climb is negligible for all courses.

NZSS Rogaine Championships

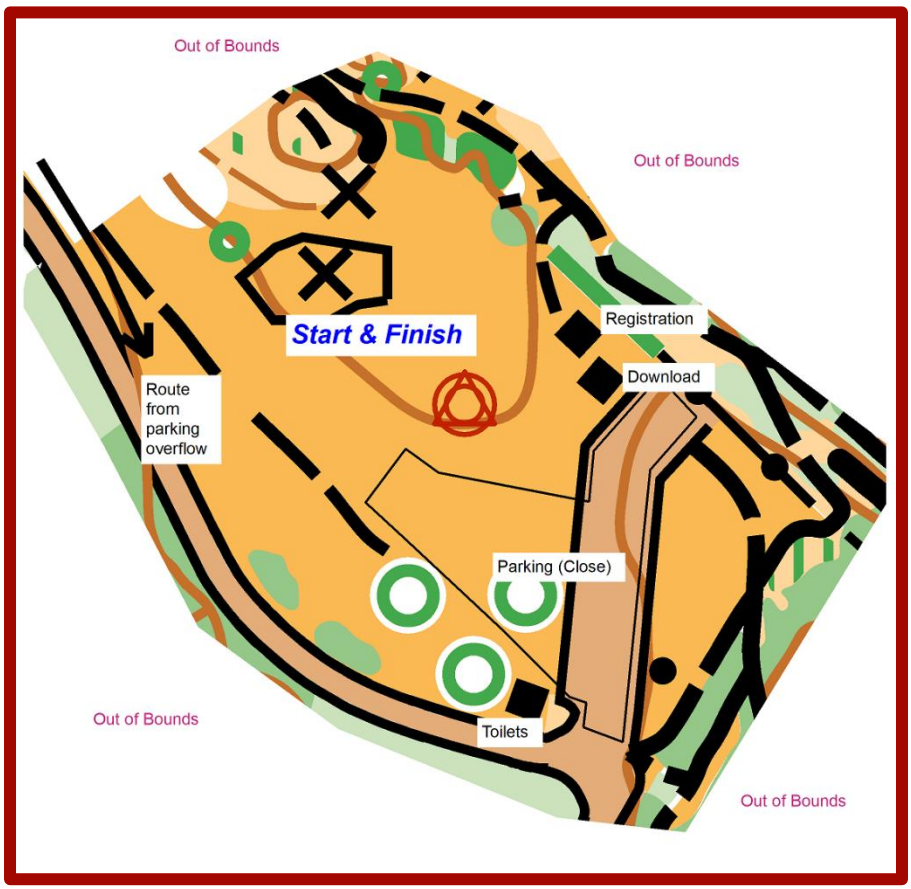
Date: Sunday 19th July 2026
Map: Port Hills
Planner: Greig Hamilton
Controller: Jan Harrison
Coordinator: Steve O'Neill
Map Scale: 1:10,000
Contour interval: 5m
Note: Air is turned **off** at the controls

Directions: From Christchurch CBD, drive south to Dyers Pass Rd and up to the Sign of the Takahe. Turn up into Victoria Park Rd.

Parking: Please park as directed by the marshals in Victoria Park. There will be very limited parking on the grass by the Event Centre – please drive slowly in this area. Later arrivals can park on the road and other carparks but may have a walk of up to 1km to the Event Centre, so allow an extra 10-15mins in your planning.

Event Centre: The Event Centre is located near the playground, visitor centre, public toilets, and ranger's office in the middle of the park (-43.5895, 172.6434, Google Maps link), see layout below.

The Event Centre is NOT sheltered so if it is a cold day bring suitable clothing to keep warm.



Teams and registration: 2-3 competitors per team. Classes are Senior/Junior/Year7&8, Girls/Boys/Mixed. All team members must be in the same class. Note no Intermediate class: Junior class is for school years 9-11.

One high-capacity SI card per team will have been allocated to the team from those the individuals have entered with. Please ensure that this is the one that the team competes with.

If none of the individuals in the team entered with a high-capacity SI card, we will allocate one to the team. Please come to Registration to collect it as soon after 8:00am as possible.

We will be issuing one map per person in each team. Only 1 person per team to collect maps and SI cards from Registration please.

Composite teams: Competitors who are not running a team from their school or have entered a composite team via the google form will have been allocated into a composite team. Please come to Registration to meet your team mates as soon after 8am as possible.

Route planning: One map per person will be handed out at Registration from 8am, giving you up to 75mins of planning time between then and the briefing.

The start will take place immediately after the briefing.

Timings:

- 8am NZSSRC registration opens, maps and hired high-capacity SI cards handed out.
- 9am Public Rogaine registration opens.
- 9.15am NZSSRC briefing.
- 9.30am NZSSRC (3hr time limit) starts.
- 10am Public Rogaine (2hr time limit) starts.
- 12noon Public Rogaine finishes.
- 12.30pm NZSSRC finishes.
- 1pm all NZSSRC competitors must be back or they forfeit all their points.
- 1.30pm approximate timing for NZSSRC prizegiving. This will take place as soon as possible after podium placings are known. There will be no prizegiving for the public Rogaine.

NZSSRC Briefing time: 9.15am. All Schools competitors must attend the briefing. There will be an explanation of the rules, as well as safety notices.

Distance to Start: The Start and Finish are at the Event Centre.

Start Times: All NZSSRC classes start in a mass start at 9.30am.

Course closure: Course closure will be at 1pm.

Rules: All teams must abide by the following rules. Remember that your fellow competitors will be watching you.

- Teams must stick together and must be within 20m of each other at all times.
- All team members must get to within 5m of each control.

- No GPS tracking (phone, watch or otherwise) may be used.
- Cross fences at posts only.
- Do not frighten sheep as they may be heavily pregnant or have lambs with them.
- Give way to other park users.
- Look out for and give way to mountain bikers particularly in Victoria Park. Do not stand on MTB tracks reading your map!
- If you hear another team using their whistle because of an accident or injury, offer assistance.
- Ensure you pick up any litter that you drop.
- 20 points will be deducted for each minute or part of a minute a team is late: 1min and 1sec late is 40 points deducted. All points will be forfeited if you get back after 1pm.
- All competitors are required to follow all instructions from race officials and event organisers.

Compulsory gear:

- Each member of the team must carry:
  - a thermal top,
  - a windproof jacket,
  - enough food and water to sustain them for 3.5hrs of activity.
- Each team must carry:
  - A whistle,
  - A phone (fully charged but switched off, for use in emergencies only),
  - A first aid kit.

We will be doing spot checks of gear and whistles before and during the race.

Terrain & mapping notes: The terrain is a mix of farmland, forest and bush (native and pine). Most of the course is steep with numerous spurs and gullies. There are cliffs, exposed under runners, and rocks – please be careful. It will be slippery in places and shoes with good grip are strongly recommended

Clothing: This event is taking place in winter and it may be cold, wet, and windy. Parts of the course can be very exposed, and you may be out for up to 3.5hrs so please wear and take appropriate clothing even if it is not listed as compulsory.

Leg protection is recommended.

Water: Is available at several places on course which will be marked on the map. None of the locations will have enough for you to completely refill bladders or drink bottles so make sure these are full before you start.

Hazards: Most of the Summit Rd is out-of-bounds as it is open to traffic. It will be marked accordingly on the map, but there are four marshalled crossing points to enable you to cross it safely. Obey all instructions from the marshals.

Other hazards include **mountain bikers** (some moving very fast downhill), **walkers** (some with dogs), **runners**, and **cars** on the roads inside Victoria Park. They will not be expecting you, so be careful not to surprise them.

In addition, you will come across uneven ground, sticks and branches, onga onga, and (rarely) wires on the ground that may pose a trip hazard.

Be mindful of the land and environment: Use gates wherever possible leaving them as found, cross fences at posts carefully, and avoid unnecessarily disturbing stock. If you encounter any damage or issues, please report them to the organisers as soon as you finish so that we can let the landowners know.

Safety Bearing: Walk west to the Harry Ell walking track above Evans Pass Rd, then head north along the track following signs back to the visitor centre to get to the Event Centre.

Gratitude to the Mt Vernon Trust:

We are grateful to the Mount Vernon Trust who care for the Western part of the competition area in the Port Hills of Christchurch for support provided to our event. Please consider donating to them to enable further work www.mtvernonpark.org.nz/donate in the area. If you are based in Christchurch, please also consider volunteering with them (www.mtvernonpark.org.nz/volunteer).

Beginners guide to how a Rogaine works:

Rogaining is the sport of long-distance cross-country navigation in which teams of two to three members visit as many checkpoints as possible in the time allotted to the event. Teams travel entirely on foot, navigating by map and compass between checkpoints in terrain that varies from open farmland to steep hilly bush clad countryside.

The planning of your route begins before the start of the event. You are provided with a map with all the checkpoint locations marked on it, and a description of each checkpoint and its point value. You choose your own route to get whatever checkpoints you want but the idea is to maximise the total point value obtained. You need to make sure that you get back before the time limit expires as there are hefty points penalties for being late. At each checkpoint there is a recording device which proves you have been to the checkpoint.

Competitors don't have to spend the whole time on the course, they can return to the Event Centre at any time for a rest or food, before heading out again. The distance they travel is entirely up to them. The satisfaction comes in finding your way around the course according to the route that you have chosen and navigating back to the finish within the time limit.

Appendix 1 - School Competitions

The following competitions apply to the orienteering events (Relay, Long and Sprint) only.

Top Secondary School Competition

The top secondary school competition caters for the broadest spread of competitors. It is intended that the trophies go to the schools that display the greatest depth of orienteering talent at all levels. There are separate trophies for boys and girls.

1) Only 3 competitors in each age class will contribute to the school's points for any one race. Therefore, a maximum of 9 competitors (3 at each age group) will be able to earn points for their school for any one race for either the boys or girls trophies. Over the full competition, different team members may score on different days meaning many more than 9 athletes may contribute to a school's points. A "no-blocking rule" applies (see below): remaining competitors from the school are removed from the results for the purpose of points allocation only.
2) In the Sprint event, the best three results at each age class will be counted. Only one level is offered.
3) In the Long event, the best three results at each age class, whether in the Championship, Standard or Novice event, will be counted. A school can gain points from no more than two athletes from outside the Championship class, except when the "same points rule" applies (see points calculation notes below).
4) When the points for the third contributing competitor for a school in a class could come from different classes, the "same points rule" applies (see points calculation notes below).
5) In the Relay event, only the highest positioned team from any school in each age class will count. (Runners in composite or non-competitive teams do not count).
6) When two competitors receiving points tie in any race, they each gain the points appropriate for their placing. For example, if there is a tie for 5th place both get points for 5th place. The next counting athlete gets points for 7th place.

Points for this competition are as follows:
Individual Sprint: 1st = 25 pts, 2nd = 24 pts, 3rd = 23 pts, down to 25th = 1 pt
Individual Long Championship: 1st = 25 pts, 2nd = 24 pts, 3rd = 23 pts, down to 25th = 1 pt
Individual Long Standard: 1st = 15 pts, 2nd = 14 pts, 3rd = 13 pts, down to 15th = 1 pt
Individual Long Novice: 1st = 3pts, 2nd = 2pts, 3rd = 1pt.
Relays: 1st team = 60 pts, 2nd = 54, 3rd = 48, down to 10th = 6 pts

Premier School Competition

This competition is for Boys and Girls with a Trophy for each. It is aimed at encouraging schools to support their top performing competitors at national level. The winners are the schools that have the best performance by their top competitors at Championship level only. The results of one competitor from each school in each Championship age class count, with points from 10 for 1st to 1 for 10th.

Small Teams Competition

This competition is to cater for schools who have insufficient numbers or an inadequate spread of competitors to compete seriously in the Top School Competition. It is restricted to schools that have entered five or fewer competitors, as determined on the day of close of entries. There are separate boys' and girls' competitions. Mixed schools with more than 5 competitors in total but whose boys, girls, or both teams number fewer than 5 competitors are eligible for the Small Teams Competition. This competition will be based on results in the Top School Competition.

Year 7/8 Competition

This competition follows the rules of the Top Schools Competition. There are only two classes: Boys and Girls.

Points Calculation Notes

1. The "no blocking" rule. This means that once a school has scored its best competitors then any further competitors from the same school do not interfere with points. Eg in the top school competition, if a school has runners at 2, 4, 6 and 7, the school will score 24, 22 and 20. The 7th place getter is then removed from the equation so the runner who is 8th will score 19 points (as though he/she were 7th).
2. The "same points" rule. This relates to the unusual case where a school has two team members on the same points, either of whom could be considered to generate the points for the third counting runner in a class. This has arisen when two athletes from the same school and same grade, but competing in different classes (Championship, Standard, or Novice) have shared the same points. The points are to be awarded only for the runner from the less technical class (Novice -> Standard -> Championship). This does not affect the school's points but leaves more points available for distribution to remaining competitors in the more technical class. An example is where the runner 11th in Championship and 1st in Standard are both at the same school in the Long event. By attributing 15 points from the Standard class, the 15 points for 11th place in the Championship class remain available and now given to the 12th place competitor (as the 11th place Championship competitor will be removed from calculations by the no blocking rule). Although points are not allocated to the higher technical class competitor, their achievement is valued.