

2021 NEWCASTLE PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS

"Newcastle Pairs Champs" might be competitive, but at its heart is a spirit of camaraderie and fun.

DATE

Sunday 9th May 2021

LOCATION

Bluegum Regional Park, Minmi

DIRECTIONS

From Newcastle, take the Newcastle Link road and turn right onto Woodford Street just prior to the Freeway exit. Turn right into Minmi Road at the lights and you'll see the park entry gates on the right about 500m along Minmi Road. Continue through the park and follow the gravel road to the parking which will be along this road.

To access the park from the Freeway, take the Newcastle Link road exit and turn left onto Woodford Street. Turn right into Minmi Road at the lights and you'll see the park entry gates on the right about 500m along Minmi Road. Continue through the park and follow the gravel road to the parking which will be along this road.

PARKING

Please park efficiently along the access road. Generally this will mean parallel with a few limited 90 degree areas. The later you arrive the further away you will be and you may need to give way to competitors already started. **THERE ARE A COUPLE OF WATER DRAINAGE HUMPS ON THIS GRAVEL ROAD. LOW RIDING CARS (eg Teslas) MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY TRAVERSING THESE.** If you prefer to park in the sealed car park, then it is about 1km walk to the assembly area. **Please do not use Tree Tops parking area.**

MAP

Bluegum Hills 1:7500

FORMAT/RULES

Due to the limitations of the mapped area this year's event will be a 4 leg relay rather than the format used over the last few years.

- As the name suggests this event is contested by teams of two people.
- Other combinations can enter but will be classed as unofficial.
- Partners will run two alternate legs each.
- The running order is Member1-Member2-Member1-Member2.
- All controls need to be visited in order.
- Some legs contain small loops with a pivot control that needs to be punched each visit.
- The maps will be printed front and back with the two different legs.
- The event will commence with a mass start for first leg runners.
- Returning runners will firstly tag their partner then punch the finish after which they download.
- Competitors will need to clear and check after downloading their first run.
- Tagged runners will need to pickup the correct map and punch the start.
- They can choose which side of the map to do first.
- Due to Covid you can retain the map after your first run and pre-plan your second leg route.
- Do not discuss or show the course to any other teams
- The winners will be the team with the fastest combined total for the 4 runs.

PAIRS CLASSES/COURSES

- Two classes - Short Pairs (SP) and Long Pairs (LP)
- Both have an East and West leg with each team member completing both of them.
- They are designated SP-E, SP-W, LP-E, LP-W
- All will be of moderate navigational difficulty but will have a few point features.
- The total lengths are Short Pairs 5.8 km (2.9 km each runner); Long Pairs 8.0 km (4.0 km each runner)

TEAM RUNNING ORDER

Alternate running course order will be allocated to teams. Please advise if for any reason you need to run in a specific order or even run your two legs sequentially. e.g. first leg to allow shadowing of sub juniors after your run.

CANT FIND A PARTNER?

Advise us which Pairs course you prefer and we'll try and find you a partner.

OTHER COURSES

Very Easy 1.7 km
Easy 1.8 km
Progressive 1.9 km
Moderate 2.5 km

The progressive course is designed for novice adults with a sense of adventure – it starts out Very Easy level of navigational difficulty but progresses to Moderate as you get further into it.

ENTRY FEES

Pairs - \$20 per team (members or non-members)
Other Courses - Regular club fee structure

MASS START TIMES - PAIRS

9:15 arrival & confirmation of team details
9:35 pairs briefing
9:45 long pairs mass start (leg1)
9:50 short pairs mass start (leg1)

NORMAL STARTS - NON PAIRS

9:30-11:00 Note shorter window

PRE-ENTRY

<https://eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events/Show/15578>

We prefer you to pre-enter so we can ensure map availability and for better Covid safety. If you wait until the morning of the event we cannot guarantee you will get a start/map.

Contact us if you are having difficulty with the rego/entry process.

CONTROL DESCRIPTIONS

Control descriptions will be printed on the maps with separate printable versions available for download via Eventor a few days prior.

SportIdent SI STICKS

Unlike previous years both team members require an SI stick. If you don't have one use the "Services" section in the entry to hire one.

SETTERS NOTES

Mostly mildly undulating spur gully with an extensive track network. Recent rains and limited use during Covid lockdown has seen some tracks become indistinct, especially when crossing at 90 degrees, be careful. Run and visibility varies with some thicker areas spread across parts of the map. Long leg coverings or tights are advised

SAFETY

Motorcycles may be present on the tracks. There is some mining subsidence in the area.

DRINKING WATER

Please supply drinking water to cover your personal needs both on and off course.

COURSE CLOSURE

12:30 pm. You must report back to the finish no later than this time.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations will be held as soon as the majority of Pairs teams have finished.

Due to Covid we are unable to provide a BBQ this year but feel free to bring a picnic lunch.

ENQUIRIES

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