



Range Runners Orienteering Club

Pechey Semi-Free Order Long MTBO

Sunday 27th June 2021

Important Points

- There may be other users in the forest during the event including; motor vehicles, horse riders, pedestrians and cyclists.
- **Do not enter any area that has a Do Not Enter due to logging activities sign, even if no active logging is apparent.**
- Registration opens at 12:30pm; start anytime between 1:00pm and 2:00pm; courses close 5:00pm.
- Courses 1 to 4 have been set based on the IOF recommended winning time of 105 to 115 minutes. Course 5 has been set based on an estimated winning time of 85 to 95 minutes. It gets dark by about 5:30pm so starting as soon as practical after 1:00pm is strongly recommended.
- Once you start your course you are not permitted to ride back through the start or pre-start at any time during your ride.
- All courses have a number of normal “line” controls which must be visited in the order shown on the map. All courses **ALSO** have a number of other “free order” controls which are not connected by a line to the other controls on the course. **ALL** the free order controls on your course must be visited and can be visited in any order and at any time during the course. The free order controls can be visited before and/or between and/or after the line controls and you **MUST** visit them all to complete the course.
- You will not be able to turn over your map until **AFTER** you have punched the Start control.
- Once you have punched the Start control you **MUST** ride beyond the start triangle (approx. 200 metres from the map pick up) before stopping to do any planning and/or to affix your map to your mapboard.
- The New England Highway dissects the map and is Out of Bounds apart from one crossing section approximately 100 metres long which is shown on the map. This is a busy high speed road and riders are responsible for their own safety when crossing.
- Mobile phones, including smartphones, may be carried for emergency use only. They must not be visible whilst riding and are not to be used during the event for navigation.
- GPS enabled devices may be used during the event, provided they don't display a map or breadcrumb trail. If in doubt about your device ask the Event Organiser.

COVID Safety Guidelines for MTBO Events

Prior to the Event

- Entrants, spectators and volunteers are encouraged to install or update the COVIDSafe app on their smartphone: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app>
- If you have any COVID symptoms, do not come. Symptoms include:
 - fever
 - coughing
 - sore throat
 - shortness of breath

On Arrival

- Maintain social distancing in the parking area, at Registration and on the way to the start area.

At the Start Area

- Maintain social distancing at the start area.
- Ground marking will be used to ensure waiting riders are separated by 1.5m.
- Start lanes will be at 1.5m separation.
- Clear/Check/Test/Start units will be disinfected at 5-minute intervals or every 20 starters.
- Start officials will move the maps partially out of the trays or individually distribute maps.
- There will be no re-use of maps.

In the Field

- Maintain social distancing on the course including at control points.
- Take care to avoid physically touching the SPORTident units in the field.

At the Finish

- Maintain social distancing in the download area.
- Download, take your results printout and move away from the desk.
- Leave any hired SPORTident sticks or mapboards in the boxes provided.
- No results will be displayed at events.

As you Leave

- Maintain social distancing in the parking area.

After the Event

- If you develop COVID symptoms, self-isolate and get tested.

There will be hand sanitizer and alcohol-based wipes placed around the event. If you see them, use them to help promote hand hygiene.

Event location

The parking and assembly area is at the old forestry station in Pechey which is just off the Pechey Forestry Road. It is approximately 2 hours' drive from Brisbane and 70 minutes' drive from the morning Sprint event at Gatton.

If coming from the Gatton event the Information for Competitors for that event contains information on the options for driving between Gatton and Pechey.

If coming from Brisbane make your way to Hampton on the New England Highway via either Toowoomba, Murphys Creek or Esk. Follow the New England Highway north (towards Crows Nest) from Hampton for 6.4km. Turn right into Marion Street, sign posted for Lake Perseverance and Lake Cressbrook. Follow for 900 metres as it becomes Pechey Forestry Road and then turn right into the old forestry station at the orienteering sign.

Parking

Park as directed. Park as efficiently as you can.

Registration

The Registration Desk will open at 12:30pm.

All competitors are required to go to Registration to confirm their entry details and make any outstanding payments. If you hired a SPORTident stick or mapboard we'll issue them at Registration.

For newcomers, basic instruction will also be available, just look for our club volunteers at Registration.

A small quantity of MTBO Club mapboards will be available for hire at Registration for \$10 (free for MTBO Club members). It makes all the difference for holding your map on your handlebars.

Terrain

The area is undulating plantation forest with some remnant areas of native forest. It contains a mixture of public roads, forestry road and logging tracks. There are some short sections of steep terrain.

Map

Scale and Contour Interval

Scale 1:25,000. Contour interval 5 metres. The map will be A4 size on Monsoon waterproof paper.

There has been a lot of clear felling of the plantation forest during the past few months. We have tried to depict this as accurately as we can as at two weeks prior to the event but further changes may occur prior to the event. We trust that the impact of this ongoing logging work on the courses does not diminish your enjoyment of the challenge.

Timing

12:30pm	Registration opens
1:00pm	Start opens
2:00pm	Start closes
5:00pm	Courses close

Course Planners Notes

The key to success in a semi-free order event is getting the most efficient plan for visiting the free order controls in addition to the line controls. It is important to spend some time planning after you start but balancing this against the reality that you are doing this planning in your race time. You may wish to consider taking a highlighter or similar with you to assist with this process.

Courses

For all courses you must visit the line controls in the order shown and also must visit all the free order controls on your course but can visit these at any time during the event.

Course to Class mapping:

Course 1 Long, M21(Men 21-39), Women Open Long, E-bike

Course 2 W21(Women 21-39), M40(Men 40-49)

Course 3 Medium, M50(Men 50-59), W40(Women 40-49), M20(Men 17-20)

Course 4 M60(Men 60-69), W50(Women 50-59), W20(Women 17-20), M16(Men 15-16),

Course 5 M70(Men 70+), Short, W60(Women 60+), M14(Men ≤14), W14(Women ≤14), W16(Women 15-16)

Course Details (Note that the distances shown below is an estimate only)

Course	Distance (km)	Climb (m)	Controls	
			Line	Free Order
1	36	Approx 1.5% for all Courses	13	10
2	29		11	7
3	24		10	5
4	19		8	5
5	13.5		7	4

Course Closure

Courses close at 5:00pm. If you have not finished your course by this time, please abandon it and return to the finish control and then the Download Desk. Remember it will be dark before 5:30pm!

Out of Bounds Areas

These areas are marked on the map as Settlement and shown in olive green. You are not to ride through any of these areas. You must stay on marked tracks and permitted areas shown in the map legend. No shortcutting through the forest is allowed.

Map Notes

The position of the Start triangle on the map is approximately 200 metres from where you receive your map.

- On this map, the roads are shown with a rideability grading based on the expected speed of travel.
- Rough open land is generally either clear felled areas or areas of recent plantings. You are permitted to ride on rough open land in this event but you are very unlikely to want to do so!
- Roads may appear to be thinner tracks on the ground due to heavy plant growth that narrows them down. All roads have been graded for their rideable speeds with this plant growth taken into consideration. Where plant growth creates a significant speed reduction the track has been given a green overlay.
- Areas of forest are shown as white areas on the map and are out of bounds and can't be ridden on.
- Roads may have ruts and holes due to water damage or logs hidden in the grass. Ride to the conditions.
- There are very few fences or gates on the event area. You can pass over, under or through any closed gates within the event area. You cannot cross fences.
- This is a working forest and is constantly changing. There are old tracks that are no longer rideable which have been removed from the map but may still be visually apparent. Also the recent clear felling and replanting work has obliterated some tracks and created some new ones. We have tried to capture these on the map but will have missed some as they are continuing to change.

Directions to the Start

The Start is approximately 1,200 metres from the assembly area via a taped route. You should allow up to ten minutes to ride there.

Road Grading

Please also note that grass grows, trees fall and roads are occasionally bulldozed or slashed. These things are beyond the mapper's control. The maps have been prepared to the IOF standard for MTBO maps. The map contains roads only, there is nothing that would be considered a track under the normal Australian mapping approach. If you have any questions, please ask of our helpers.

bitumen road	
MTB grading:	
1.fast riding	
2.medium riding	
3.slow riding	
4.difficult to ride	

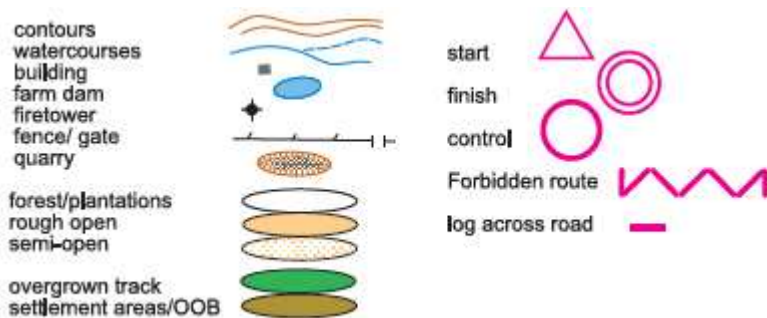
Fast – little or no restriction to the speed which a rider can attain. Generally, these are roads that would be suitable for a standard 2WD vehicle.

Medium – generally good riding with some reduction in speed and a requirement to keep an eye on where you are going to avoid obstacles such as potholes, rocks, ruts, sand, vegetation etc. Generally, these are roads that would be suitable for a light 4WD vehicle

Slow – sufficient obstacles to require the rider to pick lines to avoid obstacles. Consistently potholed, rocky, rutted, vegetated or sandy. Possibly a soft surface due to standing water or sand. Skilled, fit riders should be able to ride almost always. Less skilled and fit riders may have to dismount.

Difficult – a technical track/path which may require the rider to dismount. Skilled, fit riders may be able to ride without dismounting.

Map Symbols



Safety

The emergency contact at the assembly area is Richard on 0407880681. This is also shown on your map.

If you encounter an injured rider, you **MUST** abandon your course and render whatever assistance you can. Send another rider back to Registration for assistance, if possible. You will be permitted to re-start from your last control preceding your abandonment. Mobile phone coverage is generally quite good on the course and assembly area. Please keep alert and ride to the conditions. You must obey all road rules and are fully responsible for your own safety.

Hazards on this course may include:

- fallen trees
- potholes and erosion gullies
- long grass
- native wildlife
- Motor vehicles
- Horse riders
- Pedestrians

Rules

The Australian MTBO rules shall apply to this event. These can be found at:

https://oq.orienteering.asn.au/restricted/downloads/mtbo_rules_and_guidelines_2019.pdf

All competitors are urged to read and understand these rules. Some key items include:

- All competitors must wear bike helmets.
- Competitors must stay on the tracks or rough open marked on the competition map. If terrain or road conditions force the rider to dismount, they must carry or push their bike on a marked track or rough open. No off-road shortcuts through the bush are permitted.
- Competitors on all courses must visit the line control sites in sequential order and the free order controls at some time during the event. Check the control number on the marker is the same as the one on your map before punching.
- Competitors must not become separated from their bike during a competition, unless through injury or mechanical failure.
- Courtesy and sensible behaviour are expected when mountain bike riders encounter walkers, runners, horseback riders, land-owners, forestry workers, or logging vehicles during an event.
- Competitors and officials must avoid disturbing local flora, fauna and stock at the event and respect the local environment.
- Practise and observe the rules of the road – keep to the left on roads and tracks.
- Approach all track/road crossings, corners and hillcrests with caution.
- Ride defensively and in control at all times.
- Give way to faster riders wishing to pass on narrow roads.
- Riders going downhill should give way to riders going uphill.
- Calling out to other riders, sharing information about control locations, or seeking assistance with regards to your location, will bring instant disqualification. If you see or hear any of this behaviour, report this to the Event Organiser.
- Give assistance to injured competitors on the course. The Event Organiser will give a restart for the rider who gave assistance.

SPORTident Air Contactless Punching



This event will be using the SPORTident Electronic timing system. SPORTident sticks can be hired for a cost of \$5.00 per person per event. Lost hired sticks will be charged to the competitor at the full replacement cost of \$95.00.

Familiarise yourself with how the system works by reading the guides that are available on the event page in Eventor. For this event the SPORTident unit will be set with a range of 300mm.

SPORTident use on the Course

If an SPORTident unit at a control malfunctions and does not “beep” or “flash” when the stick is held close to, or inserted in, the unit, the competitor must use the red pin punch at the control to mark their map or other single sheet (eg a back-up punching strip). Failure to do this will result in a MP (Mispunch) being recorded. If you need to use a punch at any control, please advise the finish officials at the Download Desk as they will need to sight your punch mark, to confirm that you have completed the course.

Control Flags

Standard orange and white control flags will be suspended on pickets with an SPORTident unit and red pin punch (for use if the control unit fails). The control identification number will be on the SPORTident unit. This will match up with the control number on the map. If you accidentally punch the wrong control, continue on to your correct control and proceed as normal.

Clear & Check

It is important to remember to “clear” and “check” your SPORTident stick prior to your start, to delete previous event information stored on it. Special “Clear” and “Check” units will be positioned in the pre-start area of each event. It is the competitor’s responsibility to ensure that they have the correct SPORTident stick and that it is cleared of previous race data before they start. If you do not clear your SPORTident stick it may not have enough memory to record all your controls.

SPORTident Air Check:

There will be an SPORTident Air Test unit after the Clear/Check units to test your SPORTident Air stick, simply wave your stick over to test the air function of your stick is on.

Water

No water will be available in the assembly area. Everyone is urged to drink plenty of water before starting their ride. Please bring your own water for use before and after the event.

Facilities

There is a pit toilet located adjacent to Registration. We’re unable to offer a BBQ or food at this event.

Start

After you register, you can start whenever you’re ready. There are no pre allocated start times. You may start at any time during the starting window of 1:00pm to 2:00pm.

Note: You must Clear and Check your SPORTident Air stick, as this wakes it up. There will be a Test unit after the Clear and Check to test your SPORTident Air stick has turned on.

We use a pre-recorded announcement to give you safety warnings and tell you when you can pick up your map, so listen to it carefully!

After you’ve been given the start signal, you must immediately punch the start unit and ride beyond the start triangle. You may then stop to plan your route and/or affix you map to your mapboard if you wish to.

Note: You’re unable to change courses at the start. Do this at Registration beforehand.

Finish

At the finish, riders must punch or wave one of the “finish” controls to end their event and record a finish time. After punching the finish control, proceed to the Download Desk at Registration to download your results and receive your time. If you have a hired SPORTident stick, we’ll retrieve it from you. If you hired a mapboard this will also be recovered. Riders who finish more than 30 minutes after the official course closure time will be disqualified.

For safety reasons, all riders must go through the finish and then report to the Download Desk to indicate they have returned safely, irrespective of what time they return, to avoid search and rescue procedures.

DO NOT GO HOME WITHOUT DOWNLOADING.

Tip: The finish control turns off your SPORTident Air stick, so you must go there to end your ride and conserve its battery.

Safety

For any serious medical emergency call Triple Zero (or 112 if you don't have reception from your usual mobile carrier).

If you encounter an injured rider, you **MUST** abandon your course and render whatever assistance you can. Send another rider back to Registration for assistance, if possible. Mobile phone coverage is generally good on the course and at the assembly area. The emergency contact at the assembly area is 0407880681.

A first-aid kit will be available in the assembly area for emergencies.

Hazards on this course may include fallen trees, potholes, erosion gullies, long grass, wildlife, horse riders, motor vehicles and pedestrians. Please keep alert and ride to the conditions. You must obey all road rules.

We recommend and use the Emergency + App, to assist Emergency Services to locate you...



Emergency Plus app

'Emergency +' is a national app developed by Australia's emergency services and their Government and industry partners, helping people to call the right number at the right time, anywhere in Australia. ... Triple Zero calls are free.

Android:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.threesixtyentertainment.nesn&hl=en_AU

Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/emergency/id691814685?mt=8>

Event Results

We will not be providing updated live results for this event but the results will be available in Eventor by later in the evening of the event.

QLD MTBO STATE SERIES POINTS

The series points standings are linked from the event listing in Eventor. For all the details of this series, visit the series page: <https://oq.orienteeing.asn.au/mtbo-state-series>.

TIP: State Series Points are published on the MTBO Club Results page: www.mtbo.com.au.

PROTESTS

Complaints may be made in the first instance verbally with the Event Organiser at Registration. The Event Organiser will assess the complaint and make a ruling. If the complainant is still dissatisfied, they may lodge a formal written protest with Registration. The Event Advisor will then appoint a three-person jury to assess the complaint. The Event Advisor will chair the jury meeting but will not vote on the outcome. The decision of the jury will be final.

Organising Team

Organiser & Course Setter:	Richard Robinson
Event Adviser:	Tamsin Barnes
Cartographer & SI Operator:	Rob Crosato
On the Day Team:	RROC Club Members

Anything Else?

Contact Richard Robinson 0407880681

