

BULLETIN 2



2025 VICTORIAN MTBO CHAMPIONSHIPS

NATIONAL MTBO SERIES – ROUND 1

Australian MTBO team selection trials

SATURDAY 12TH and SUNDAY 13TH APRIL

CASTLEMAINE and MUCKLEFORD

Sprint, Middle and Long Distance

Organised by Yarra Valley Orienteering Club and Bayside Kangaroos Orienteers with grateful assistance from Melbourne Forest Racers and Nillumbik Emus clubs.

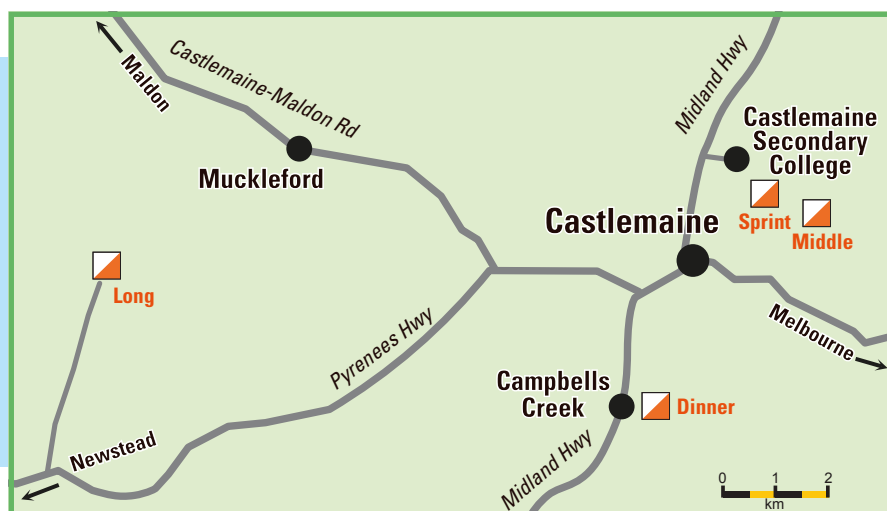
The Sprint and Middle Distance events will be held in Castlemaine using the *Old Quartz Hill* map, first used for MTBO at the 2004 World MTBO Championships. It was last used in 2016.

The Long Distance event will be held at Muckleford using the *Muckleford Diggings* map. It was last used in 2023 but has been updated to include a number of new tracks.

Maps have been updated for these event to the current ISMTBOM specifications.



EVENT SCHEDULE		
SATURDAY Morning	SPRINT	Castlemaine
SATURDAY Afternoon	MIDDLE DISTANCE	Castlemaine
SATURDAY Evening	CHAMPIONSHIP DINNER	Campbells Creek
SUNDAY Morning	LONG DISTANCE	Muckleford



ENTRY PROCEDURE AND FEES

Entries to be made via [EVENTOR](#).

Entries close at midnight on Sunday 6 April.

ENTRY FEES	Sprint	Middle	Long
Adult (age 21+)	\$30	\$32	\$38
Junior (<21)	\$15	\$16	\$19

NON-CHAMPIONSHIP ADVENTURE CLASSES

If you don't want to enter a championship age class, you can compete in one of these non-championship **Adventure classes** and choose the course and class that suits you best.

Line courses: **Adventure A** (long), **Adventure B** (medium) or **Adventure C** (short).

Score course: visit any of the controls on the map, in any order, within the nominated time. Score 10 points for each control visited, lose 20 points for each minute late. 30 minutes for Sprint, 60 for Middle distance, 90 minutes for Long distance. Compete individually or in a pair.

e-Bike classes: Compete in one of three e-Bike classes.

ENTRY ON THE DAY

On-the-day entry is possible in the Adventure Classes. Fees will be an extra \$5 over the online entry fee.

START LISTS

Championship classes start lists will be posted on Eventor on Tuesday 8 April.

Adventure class competitors can start after the championship classes for each course. We can give an indication of this time once the start lists are created.

REGISTRATION

The registration tent will be near the finish/download tent at each event. Please check-in to confirm your SIAC number with the official or to collect your hire SIAC. You only need to register once for the weekend.

Registration is open at the following times:

Saturday 9:00-10:00 am, 1:00-2:00 pm

Sunday 9:00-10:00 am

PUNCHING SYSTEM

We will be using the SPORTident Active Card (SIAC) system – the contactless timing system. We will be using BS11 control boxes that have a range of 1.5 metres. **These units will only work with a SIAC.**

More details on how the SIAC punching system operates: www.sportident.com/news/385-fast-faster-siac.html

BATTERY CHECK: check the condition of your SIAC's battery using the "battery check" box at Registration.

If you would like to check how old your SIAC battery is before the weekend, use this website: <https://www.sportident.com/siacservice/>

RULES

These events will be conducted in accordance with the [Orienteering Australia Competition Rules for MTBO Championship Events](#)

Rules 26 and 27: Complaints and Protests

The details of the complaint and any action that you believe should be taken by the organisers on that matter, should be put in writing and handed in to the Registration desk (or if Registration has closed, to an official at the finish.) Complaints (or subsequent protests) should be made as soon as possible.

A jury pool will be selected from available competitors.

Organising Club: Yarra Valley OC

Organiser: John Gavens (BK)

Course Setter: Gavin Bennette

Event Advisor: Kathy Liley

Map: Old Quartz Hill

Location: Castlemaine

Scale: 1:5000 **Contours:** 5m

Map Size: SRA3 (320mm x 450mm)

Course Closes: 12:15

To the Start: The Start is one end of the arena. Within 100m of Lawson Pde.

Warm-up: in the bus parking area as shown on map on pg 4.

Expected winning time - minutes	Sprint
M/W16 and under	15 - 20
M/W20	16 - 20
M/W21-Open, M/W40 and over	20 - 25



The golf course is very dry at present.



Often it is not easy to distinguish between 'fairway' and 'track' or 'allowed route'.

Course	SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES	ADVENTURE CLASSES	Dist km	Climb m	No of controls
1	M21		5.9	110	17
2	W21, M20, M40, M50	Adv A, e-Bike A	5.3	105	15
3	W20, W40, M16, M60, M70	Adv B, e-Bike B	4.0	85	14
4	W16, W50, W60, M14	e-Bike C	3.3	70	14
5	W12, W14, W70, W80, M12, M80	Adv C	3.0	55	12
Score	Open to solo or pairs		30 min limit		

Terrain notes: The Sprint event will include bush tracks, a golf course and a school. Many bush tracks have loose stones and small rocks that make the going slow and slippery. The mapped tracks are generally at the lower end of the rideable classifications.

In recent weeks, we have found quite a lot of additional small man-made and animal tracks, however the mapped tracks are generally pretty obvious.

On most courses you will need to follow the golf course tracks that deviate around the fairways, to get from one control to the next. You must not cut across the golf course unless there is a track or '*permitted route*' orange symbol used on the map. (See below for further notes from the controller).

Within the school grounds, routes include narrow passages and blind corners. In particular, riders should take care and be aware of other riders in the bush and school.

Additional notes: We have been given permission to ride on the golf course on Saturday morning only and riders are expected to ride according to the '*permitted to ride*' symbols used on the map. There is a lot of '*open land*' yellow on this map: mainly ovals and golf course fairways. It is not allowed to ride on these '*open land*' yellow areas.

Some route options are on mapped tracks beside golf course fairways. The fairways are out of bounds except, in a few cases, where crossing the fairways is permitted and the '*permitted route*' orange symbol is used. Riding across fairways where it isn't mapped as '*permitted route*' orange, will result in disqualification and will jeopardise future use of this area.

Often it is not easy to distinguish between 'fairway' and 'track' or 'allowed route'. Look for evidence of vehicle tracks. Here are two photos on the left of the same view - in the second we have superimposed the track (black) and allowable route (orange) as shown on the map of this area. There will be ORANGE TAPE marking each end of the orange routes across the fairways.

Please refer to the sample legend on page 6.



Sprint and Middle location

The Sprint and Middle Distance events are based at the **Castlemaine Secondary College**, Lawson Parade, Castlemaine.

Parking is along Lawson Pde, and up to 200m from the assembly area.

The assembly area, registration, finish tent, portaloos, middle-of-the-day sausages and toasties, and Ralph's new O Shop will be located on the staff/visitors' carpark which is accessed off Lawson Pde.

All tents must be tied down with sandbags or similar. (No pegs.)

Please only access the assembly area via bitumen roads! (ie from the west or south-west).



2025 VICTORIAN MTBO CHAMPIONSHIP – MIDDLE DISTANCE

Saturday 12 April – from 2:00 pm

Organising Club: Yarra Valley OC

Organiser: John Gavens (BK)

Course Setter: Dion Keech (MFR)

Event Advisor: Kathy Liley

Map: Old Quartz Hill

Location: Castlemaine

Scale: 1:12 500 **Contours:** 5m

Map Size: SRA3 (320mm x 450mm)

Course Closes at 4:30 pm

To the Start: The start is 1 km from the arena, with a 75m climb up a rough and sometimes steep road. Please allow plenty of time to get there.

Warm-up along the 1km route to the start.

Expected winning time - minutes	Middle
M/W16 and under	32 - 37
M/W20	40 - 44
M/W21-Open, M/W40 and over	50 - 55

Course	Middle Distance Championship classes	ADVENTURE CLASSES	Dist km	Climb m	No of controls
1	M21		16.1	425	19
2	W21, M20, M40, M50	Adv A, e-Bike A	15.0	410	19
3	W20, W40, M16, M60, M70		11.4	290	17
4	W16, W50, W60, M14	Adv B, e-Bike B	10.7	260	15
5	W14, W70, M80	e-Bike C	9.4	215	13
6	W12, W80, M12	Adv C	5.7	115	9
Score	Open to solo or pairs		60 min limit		

Terrain notes: A mix of pine plantation and native forest through old gold mining areas. Mainly forest tracks and roads, with some single tracks. There has been a lot of work in the pines in the last few months.

Note that the tracks there are generally on the slower end of the classifications. Many tracks have loose stones and small rocks that make the going slow and slippery – please take care. Generally fairly hilly.

There are a number of private properties marked as out of bounds. Where roads are clearly shown passing through out-of-bounds areas, these roads are permissible riding.

Location

The location is the same as the Sprint event, Castlemaine Secondary College, Lawson Parade, Castlemaine.

Organising Club: Bayside Kangaroos

Organiser: John Gavens

Course setter: Rob Edmonds (NE)

Event Advisor: Tim Hatley

Map: Muckleford Diggings

Location: Muckleford

Scale: 1:15 000 **Contours:** 5m

Map Size: SRA3 (320mm x 450mm)

Start triangle is 110m from pre-start

Course Closes at 2:00 pm

To the Start: Start is 400m from assembly

Warm-up area: use the assembly paddock and the ride to the start. Please don't ride back along Mia Mia Road.

Expected winning time - minutes	Long
M/W16 and under	70 - 75
M/W20	84 - 92
M/W21-Open, M/W40 and over	105 - 115

Location

The assembly for the Long distance event is on private land off Mia Mia Road, Muckleford.

Directions from Castlemaine: take the Pyrenees Highway / B180 towards Maryborough and Newstead. 2km after passing through Green Gully and about 1km before Newstead turn right (north) onto Mia Mia Rd and follow O-signs north for 2km to assembly area.

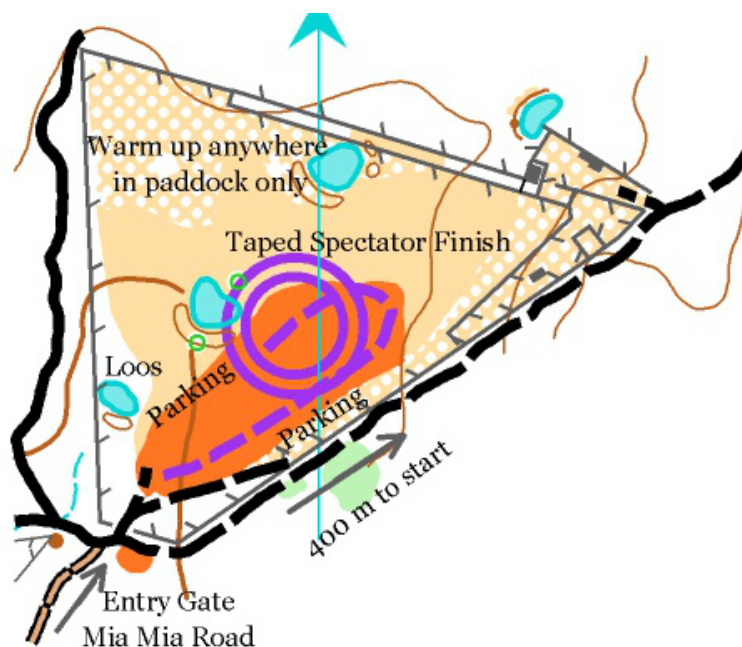
Enter through the gate into the assembly paddock. Take care entering the property as the track has a dip on the left.

NOTE: As all riders will also be using this gate when finishing their course, please do not drive out of the paddock prior to the majority (or all) of the riders finishing. We don't want any clashes.

A big thank you to the Ruggles family for the use of their property for our assembly. They are keen mountain and road bike riders.

Course	Long Distance Championship classes	ADVENTURE CLASSES	Dist km	Climb m	No of controls
1	M21		36.5	450	17
2	W21, M40, M50	Adv A, e-Bike A	30.3	415	13
3	W40, M20, M60		26.3	345	14
4	W20, W50, W60, M70	Adv B, e-Bike B	22.3	255	11
5	W70, M16, M80		18.8	240	10
6	W14, M14, W16, W80	Adv C, e-Bike C	18.1	220	10
7	W12, M12		13.4	135	10
Score	Open to solo or pairs		90 min limit		

Terrain notes: Open bush typical Victorian terrain with a network of vehicle tracks and a number of MTB single tracks laid out by local MTB riders. The forest tracks are generally medium to fast. Some lesser used tracks are strewn with leaves and sticks.



THE START

Start procedure:

Please line up in start order as your start time approaches.

The clock at the front of the first start box viewed from the Pre-Start area, will display 'the Start Time for those with that allocated time now being called up'. E.g. if your start time is 11:00 then this will be the time displayed on that clock when you must present yourself to the Start Official. (There will be a second clock actually on the start line – showing the time of those actually starting.)

At each event, the call up will be 4 minutes prior to your start time.

At -4 min	Name and SIAC number check. SI CLEAR box. Move into the first box.
At -3 min	Move into the second box. SI CHECK box – turns your SIAC on SI TEST box – confirms your SIAC is working
At -2 min	Move forward to stand at the maps.
At -1 min	Take your map and immediately move forward to the start line. Arrange your map on your map board.
At start time	GO on the 6 th beep of the clock. (there is no Start Punch).

Late Starters

The officials at the Start and Finish are not authorised to change a rider's start time. Riders who arrive at the start later than 4 minutes before their allocated start time must report to the Start Official. If possible, the rider will be directed into the correct start box and start normally. Otherwise, the rider will proceed through the late start process and start at the next available half start interval using a manual start punch – however, their start may be recorded as per their official allocated start time. If they believe the Event Organiser caused their late start, they should make a request to Registration or to an official at the Download after they finish for consideration.

Volunteers have access to the Late Start process without penalty if they are unable to ride at their allocated start time due to volunteering duties.

FINISH

There will be a flying finish timing beacon in place at each event. **Ride between the two finish banners**, which will be approximately 3 metres apart, and your SIAC will beep and record your finish time. The finish control also turns off your SIAC. Make your way to the results tent to download.

In case of SIAC failure, use the manual punch on each control to punch your map. Register your finish by inserting your SIAC into the separate 'standard' SI box at the finish.

SAFETY AND COURTESY

The hazards you may encounter will vary over the weekend. Vehicles on the main forest roads, 4WD and motor bikes on other trails, and cyclists and walkers on the smaller tracks. And of course other competitors! There are the usual hazards of bush cycling, loose gravel, deep ruts and pot holes. Please observe the rules of the road, keep left of approaching vehicles/bikes, give warning to other cyclists/walkers when passing, downhill cyclists give way to uphill, and ride within your abilities.

There will be a small first aid kit and certified First Aiders available at the event. For emergencies, call 000.

MAP LEGEND

Permitted to ride

	track	path	permitted route
fast riding			
medium riding			
slow riding			
very slow riding			
sealed road			
unsealed road			
open land permitted			
rough open permitted			
forest permitted			
paved area			
crossable obstacle/gate			
dangerous section			

Where you CAN'T ride

forest		settlement	
thick forest		out of bounds	
open land		forbidden route	
rough open			
scattered trees			
rough open scattered trees			

Note: this legend is printed here at 150%

CHAMPIONSHIP DINNER

Planned for 6:30 pm on Saturday at the **Five Flags Hotel in Campbells Creek** (on the Midland Highway, 4 km south of central Castlemaine).

If you would like to attend the dinner, please select the dinner option in the "Services" menu when entering the Middle Distance event in Eventor. This will allow us to make a booking for our number. Order and pay on the night.

PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Presentations will take place at approximately 12:30 pm on Sunday after the long distance event.

We would appreciate if as many of you as possible can attend the presentations to acknowledge the successful riders and give thanks to the organising team.

PRIZES

Top three in each class will receive a Vic MTBO Champs certificate. Championship winners can receive a pair of our new Vic MTBO socks, or some cans of Harcourt Sparkling Apple. Placegetters can receive some Harcourt Sparkling Apple drink or a chocolate bar.



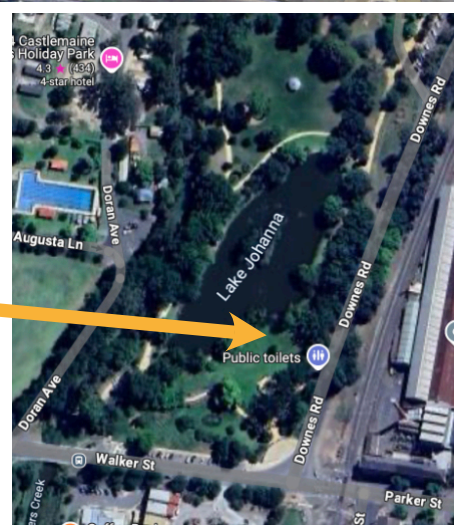
TOILETS

There will be a Portaloo at each event, but you may find it more convenient to use Public Toilets in Castlemaine. There are public toilets in the centre of Castlemaine in Victory Park and also in the Botanic Gardens.



Victory Park
Public Toilet.

Botanic Gardens
Public Toilet.



We've received some assistance from the local company **Harcourt Apple** with some of their extremely refreshing Sparkling Apple drink. We highly recommend dropping into their shop at 8795 Midland Highway, Barkers Creek over the weekend to pick up some of their fantastic produce.

<https://harcourt cider.com.au>

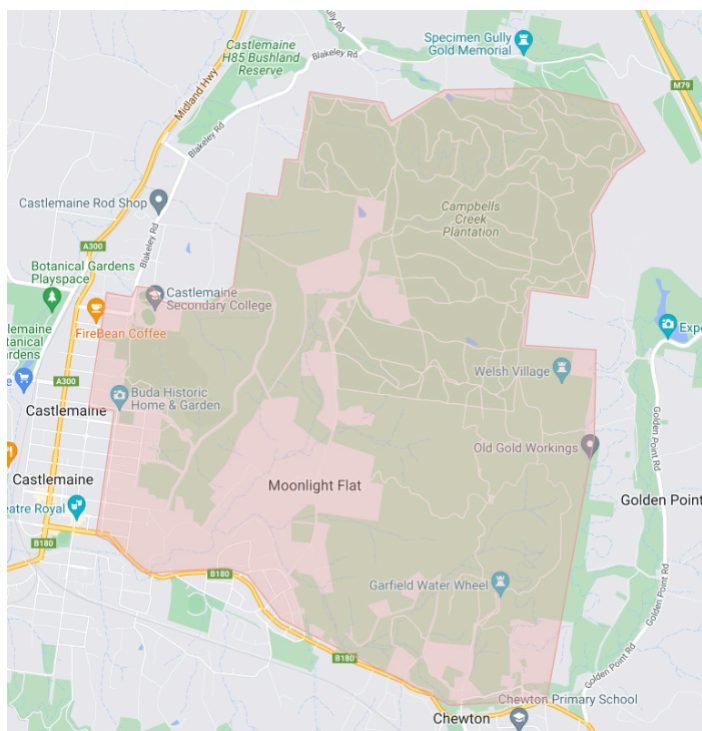


The Mill, 9 Walker Street, Castlemaine

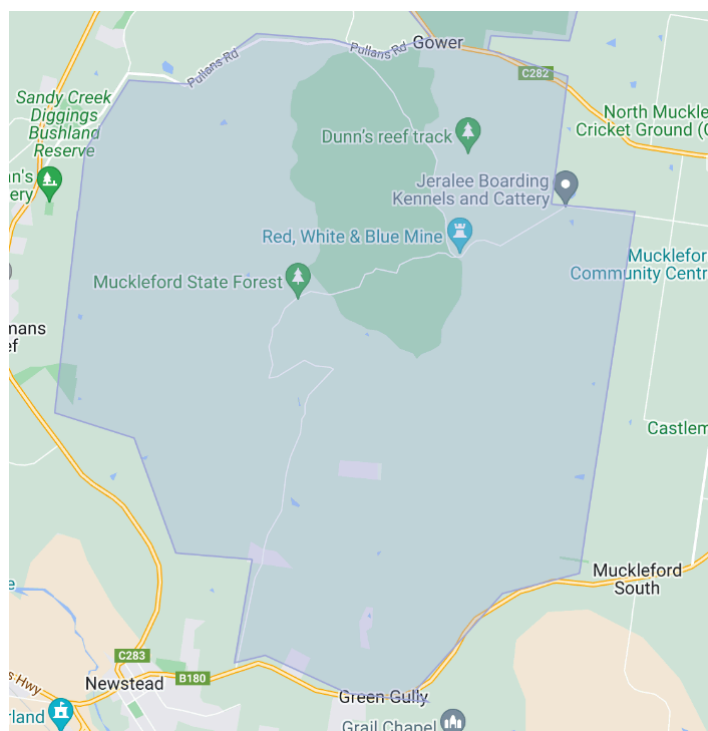
Local Castlemaine coffee roaster **COFFEE BASICS** has kindly assisted us with some coffee bean packs for our prize pool. Also try their fantastic cafe **Das Kaffeehaus** for wonderful food and coffee.

CHAMPIONSHIP EMBARGOED AREAS

The EMBARGOED area for these championships is shown on the maps here. You can see the areas in more detail on [this Google map link](#).



Sprint and Middle embargoed area



Long event embargoed area

Adrian Jackson on his way to winning gold at the 2004 World MTBO Championships Middle Distance on the Old Quartz Hill map at Castlemaine. The finish was on the Castlemaine Secondary College oval.

ACCOMMODATION

Check out the usual websites for accommodation options in Castlemaine and nearby towns.

Caravan option: For those with a self contained caravan, there is an option to stay at the Castlemaine Golf Club for a minimal fee. There are four sites available. Contact Carolyn Cusworth 0402075112 to make a booking.

NATIONAL MTBO SERIES

These Victorian Championships comprise the first round of the 2025 National MTBO Series.

Other rounds:

- Queensland MTBO Champs, 15-17 August
- Australian MTBO Champs in WA, 5-7 September
- ACT MTBO Champs, 18-19 October

For full description, see: <https://orienteering.asn.au/index.php/national-mtbo-series/>

PREVIOUS VICTORIAN MTBO CHAMPIONS

This year's events mark the 28th running of the Victorian MTBO Championships. On this link you can find the historical details of the previous championships and also a list of the [Previous champions](#).

MORE INFORMATION

For other enquiries contact Championships Director, John Gavens on 0427 840 816 or email jgavens@gmail.com

