

2017 NSW SL9 – Rocky Ridges – Wallaroo NP

Course Planner / Mapper's Notes

The area to be used for this event consists of two sections.

(A) Part of Wallaroo N.P. which was mapped early last year and used for Hunter Valley Championships 2016.

(B) An adjacent part of Wallaroo S.F. which was first mapped many years ago, with an upgrade this year.

The whole area has suffered from two significant events. Firstly the April 2015 super storm and then a major fire at the end of 2016. The storm uprooted many trees (some still leaning and caught in other trees). An attempt has been made to map all significant tree-root mounds. The fire has reduced a few of these to a mound of ash. The fire has meant that the mapping of some green areas has been altered to indicate improved run-ability.

The drawbacks of the fire have been

(I) much of the regrowth has come from the base of the trees which reduces the visibility of the ground and low objects such as tree-root mounds. Areas where this regrowth has been more intense have been shown with random “blobs” of slow run to indicate that, although you might be able to run at good pace, you may not be able to see far ahead or run in a straight line.

(II) The reduced density of the thicker vegetation means that the boundary between “white”, “light green” and “mid green” has become less distinct. The run ability has also been changed. All the forest is faster than before but light and mid green areas are less of a barrier than they would normally be.

As with many sections of Wallaroo there are areas of intensely rocky ground which make running slow or even difficult. These areas are indicated with the rocky ground symbol. The closer the dots the more difficult the running.

Three streamer trails (orange coloured streamers) have been created for the benefit of particular courses. These will be shown on all maps for possible use by others. A barbed wire fence crosses the northern section of the map. This was built with taught wire and can be difficult to cross. Gaps where the wire has been cut or flattened have been shown with the crossing symbol. (NOT compulsory.) Some useful, but NOT compulsory, creek crossings will be shown on the maps and highlighted in the field with orange coloured streamers.

A bridge on Wattle Flat Rd. has collapsed, with the previous road surface now sitting on the metal drainage pipes, but a metre below the road level. Concrete barriers are now in place to stop vehicular traffic. It has tested safely for pedestrians. However, courses have been set to avoid this section of the road. Wattle Flat road forms the western boundary of the map for moderate and H8 to H3 maps. On the maps for H1 and H2 this road runs North- South to divide the map into a larger eastern section and a smaller western section.

Meat-ant nests and native cherry trees will not be shown on this version of the maps. A number of large, fallen tree canopies, which may hinder straight line running, have been shown with full green hatching.

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The start will be (approx.) 400m North-East of the assembly area following the main forest road.

Very Easy and Easy will have an A4 size map at 1:7 500 scale.

Moderate and H8 to H3 will have an A4 size map at 1:10 000 scale.

H1 and H2 will have an A3 size map at 1:10 000 scale.

The control descriptions on the front of the maps will be in English for Very Easy and Easy courses. For all other courses the control descriptions on the front of the maps will be in symbols.

The control descriptions on the maps will only have the course listed. The control descriptions available as part of the start process will have both course and classes listed.

COURSE LENGTHS (Approx)

H1: 12.3km;

H2: 9.4km;

H3: 7.4km;

H4: 6.2km;

H5: 5.6km;

H6: 4.3km;

H7: 3.8km

H8: 2.1km;

Moderate: 4.0km;

EASY: 2.6km;

VERY EASY: 2.2km.