

Tarilta Creek (sometimes called Mt Franklin Gorge) has been described as “*the* classic spur-gully area” and “one of the most enjoyable forests in Australia”. Originally mapped by the legendary Steve Key in 1981, updated by Adam Scammell (2007), with minor updates for this event. The Victorian NOL Squad would like to thank Bayside Kangaroos for generously allowing the use of this map.

For this event, we will be avoiding the brutally steep gorge section (other than the ‘hard-core’ on course 1, who’ll venture slightly into it). Instead the courses will be in fast, open spur gully terrain. There is very little in the forest to limit running speed other than some light green in the gullies (which reduces visibility but has little effect on runability).

While this means that the fastest route choices are often straight, the courses have still been set in a true long distance style so wider but safer route choices will be tempting. All hard courses also feature at least one long-leg, including an epic 2.4km one on Course 1 and a 1.9km one on Course 2.

A multi-technique course has also been set as an optional bonus training exercise. This has been set with Schools Team members in mind but anyone is welcome to give it a go after they’ve run their course.



Course Details (subject to minor changes):

<i>Course</i>	<i>Classes</i>	<i>Navigational Difficulty</i>	<i>Length (km)</i>	<i>Map scale</i>
1	Open	Hard	12.6	1:15,000
2	M2,W2	Hard	7.9	1:15,000
3	M3,W3	Hard	5.2	1:10,000
4	M4,W4	Hard	4.3	1:7,500
5	M5,W5	Hard but physically easier	3.3	1:7,500
6	M6,W6	Hard but physically easier	2.4	1:7,500
7	M7,W7	Moderate	3.5	1:7,500
8	M8,W8	Easy	2.0	1:7,500
9	M9,W9	Very Easy	1.6	1:7,500