

Xmas 5 days 2019 – Program – V3 Dec 25 pm

General Information

The following information applies to each day of the carnival unless otherwise indicated.

Weather conditions

The weather forecast for Armidale for the coming week is extremely hot, cooling off a little for Xmas then warming up again during the carnival.

Water will be provided on all the longer courses, but given the conditions you may want to consider carrying your own water.

Fire, road closure, and air quality information

For a map of fire areas and conditions in NSW see <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fires-near-me>

For up to date information on road closures and conditions see <https://www.livetraffic.com>

Air quality information can be seen at <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/air-quality/current-air-quality> and <https://www.purpleair.com/map?opt=1/mAQI/a10/cC0#9.62/-30.5615/151.6707>

Fire prevention

In view of the fire conditions there must be no open flames or other potential sources of ignition at any of these events. This includes, but is not limited to:

- cigarettes and e-cigarettes
- barbeques
- petrol generators
- cars with faulty exhaust systems

Fire contingency plan

As we all know, the potential for serious fire at the moment is very high so all necessary precautions should be taken. This particularly includes not driving vehicles through long grass.

Organisers reserve the right to change venues or cancel an event at short notice should the fire conditions make it advisable in accordance with ONSW Manual Rule 4.3.

Circumstance	Response
Fire equipment at each event	- two vehicles with water tanks and pumps - two knapsacks
Fire at or near event area in preceding days	- move to back-up venue (Oakview or Newling), or - cancel the event
Catastrophic warning level forecast	- move to back-up venue in town (Newling), or - cancel the event
Fire outbreak during event	Organisers - call 000 - attempt to contain small outbreak if safe to do so Competitors - move away from fire, down hill to open ground or major road if possible

Clothing

Full leg and arm covering is recommended for the Hard and Moderate courses as some of the undergrowth can be quite scratchy.

Enter on the day courses

Enter on the day will be available on Hard 5, Moderate, Easy and Very Easy courses

Start and Finish

Start There will be a queueing start on each day at 1 minute intervals. The starter will ask you to punch the check unit after you have collected your course descriptions. Don't forget to punch the start unit.

Note there will be 2 starts on some days – check the course details for each day below.

Finish: After you punch the finish unit, proceed to the download tent, collect your result tag and take it to the result hanger.

Map collection: Maps will not be collected at the end of your course. It is your responsibility not to show your map to anyone who has not started.

Out of Bounds: Please respect out of bounds areas as indicated by signage

Course closure: Please note the course close time for each day and abandon your course if you have not finished by that time. You must still report to the finish tent.

Facilities

There will be some tree shade at the arena on Day 1 but little if any on the other days.

Toilets will be located near the arena

Water will be available near the arena and on all the longer courses. Be aware of the severe water restrictions in Armidale. **Water on the courses is for drinking only** – please do not pour it on your head.

A **Coffee Van** with a limited supply of sandwiches and snacks will be present each day **except on Day 1**.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the daily winners in each class except that anyone who has already won a stage will not be eligible for a second daily prize.

Daily spot prizes will also be drawn each day at random. You must be present at the draw to claim a prize.

In addition there will be a prize for the overall winner in each class based on the best 4 out of 5 day's results. For this purpose points for each day will be calculated as follows:

Class winner receives 1000 points

Point reduction for each percent behind the class winner: 10 points

Minimum score for finishers: 200 points

Minimum score for starters: 100 points

The overall score for each person will be the total of their 4 highest scores.

Prize-giving will occur as soon as possible after the last start, but there will be no prize giving on Day 1 due to the lateness of the event. All Day 1 prizes will be presented on Day 2 so no one loses out!

Controls & Sportident (SI)

All controls will be mounted on stands with a blank flag, an SI unit and (hopefully) a manual punch. Control numbers will be on the SI units.

SI units may not be activated before the event so if you are out early please make sure to give the units time to wake up and respond. If the SI unit fails to respond, make sure to punch on the map with the pin punch.

SIAC contactless punching will **NOT** be activated.

Maps

Be aware that all the maps are at least 18 months old, some much older than that, and although there have been some revisions, they are not always consistent. The things most likely to change are

1. vegetation (the obvious one)
2. tracks, especially on Pine Tree
3. watercourses – ha! ha! don't be fooled by blue lines on the map!
4. termite mounds

Day 1 – Friday 27 December

Venue: 5 km northeast of Armidale

Map: *Armidale Pine Forest*; 1:7500; 6 colour; revised 2019

Fieldwork and cartography: various

Course setter: Alec Watt **Controller:** Eric Baker

Organising club: Northern Tablelands

Directions & Parking

From the town centre, proceed north along Marsh Street, **through** the traffic lights and follow Rockvale Road for about 5 km. Enter the Pine Forest on the right at the first entrance and follow the main internal road to the parking area. Park as directed.

Notes on the map

As a consequence of the prolonged drought, many of the pine trees in the competition area are now dead or dying resulting in an accumulation of pine needles on the forest floor. This has the effect of making many of the tracks much less distinct than they were and so caution should be used when attempting to use them for navigation. The needles can also make the ground quite slippery underfoot.

Event details

Registration open: 3:00 pm

Start window: 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Course close: 6:30 pm

Warm Up Area: Hard & Moderate courses, anywhere on the west side of the creek

Walk to start: Orange – 300 m; Blue – adjacent to arena

Safety bearing:

Mobile coverage: arena and most of the map

Course	Classes	Length	Climb	Start
Hard 1	Men A	4.0 km	110 m	Orange
Hard 2	Men B, Women A	3.4 km	90 m	Orange
Hard 3	Men C, Women B	2.9 km	95 m	Orange
Hard 4	Men D, Women C	2.5 km	70 m	Orange
Hard 5	Men E, Women D	1.9 km	55 m	Orange
Moderate	Men F, Women E	2.0 km	75 m	Orange
Easy	Men G, Women F	2.0 km	40 m	Blue
VEasy	M/W Novice	1.4 km	25 m	Blue

Day 2 – Saturday 28 December

Venue: 20 km west of Armidale

Map: *Oakview*; 1:10,000; 6 colour;

Fieldwork and cartography: various

Course setter: Don Barker **Controller:** Eric Baker

Organising club: Bush n Beach/Northern Tablelands

Directions & Parking

Take the Bundarra Road (off Miller Street) and follow it for 20 km. Entrance is on the left just after a right hand bend at the bottom of a steep descent. Follow the gravel farm track 500 m to the parking area.

Course notes

Owing to the late change in venue, all controls south of the river will be hanging from trees or bushes rather than suspended from stands. Also they will have numbers on the flags and as well as on the SI units. This will affect the hard and moderate courses.

Event details

Registration opens: 7:30 am

Start window: Orange start 8:00 – 10:00 am; Blue start 9:00 – 10:00 am

Course close: 11:30 am

Warm Up Area:

Walk to start: Orange and Blue – both close to the arena

Safety bearing: North

Mobile coverage: none

Course	Classes	Length	Climb	Start
Hard 1	Men A	5.5 km	220 m	Orange
Hard 2	Men B, Women A	4.8 km	235 m	Orange
Hard 3	Men C, Women B	4.3 km	185 m	Orange
Hard 4	Men D Women C	3.5 km	185 m	Orange
Hard 5	Men E, Women D	2.8 km	110 m	Orange
Moderate	Men F, Women E	3.2 km	110 m	Orange
Easy	Men G, Women F	1.9 km	75 m	Blue
VEasy	M/W Novice	1.4 km	55 m	Blue

Day 3 - Sunday 29 December

Venue: Yarrowyck, 40 km west of Armidale

Map: *Pine Tree North*, 2018; 1:10,000; 6 colour

Fieldwork and cartography: Maurice Anker and Don Barker

Course setter: Alastair George **Controller:** Toby Wilson

Organising club: NSW Stingers

Directions & Parking

Take the Bundarra Road (off Miller Street) and follow it for 28 km to the T-junction with Thunderbolts Way. Turn right and follow Thunderbolts Way for 7.2 km to the “Pine Tree” access road on the left. Proceed carefully on this private road (there is a short, very steep, concrete-paved section about half way along) for 1 km and park as directed.

Notes on the map

Because of the prolonged drought, the grass is quite short so will not impede running. Much of the understorey vegetation has also suffered from the affects of drought so what was previously shown as “green” may now be more open. Some of the bushes are very scratchy so long sleeved clothing and O pants are strongly recommended for those on the Hard and Moderate courses.

There are numerous new, minor vehicle tracks from the landowners checking the dams and carting feed to their livestock. Please ignore these.

Some of the fences near the Start and around the paddock surrounding the Arena have very tight wire and are difficult to get through. Crossing points have been provided as marked on the map and you are strongly advised to use them to avoid damaging either yourself or the fences. There are also a number of broken fences likely to be encountered on the Hard courses so be careful crossing them where they have fallen on the ground.

Event details

Registration opens: 7:00 am

Start window: 8:00 – 10:00 am

Course close: 12:00 pm

Warm Up Area: paddock north side of the route to the start

Walk to start: 300 m

Safety bearing: north to bitumen road, then west to event entrance

Mobile coverage: May be some weak signal on higher ground

Course	Classes	Length	Climb
Hard 1	Men A	6.3 km	350 m
Hard 2	Men B, Women A	5.9 km	300 m
Hard 3	Men C, Women B	4.7 km	235 m
Hard 4	Men D Women C	4.0 km	205 m
Hard 5	Men E, Women D	2.5 km	140 m
Moderate	Men F, Women E	3.6 km	155 m
Easy	Men G, Women F	2.8 km	55 m
VEasy	M/W Novice	2.4 km	70 m

Day 4 – Monday 30 December

Venue: Yarrowyck, 40 km west of Armidale

Map: *Pine Tree South*, 2018; 1:10,000; 6 colour

Fieldwork and cartography: Maurice Anker and Don Barker

Course setter: Simeon Burrill **Controller:** Liz Bourne

Organising club: Bullecourt Boulder Bounders

Directions & Parking

As for Day 3

Notes on the map

As for Day 3

Event details

Registration opens: 7:00 am

Start window: 8:00 – 10:00 am

Course close: 12:00 pm

Warm Up Area: Between the Arena and the Start.

Walk to start: 1.5 km easy, flat walk across an open paddock

Safety Bearing: west to the fence on the edge of the map and follow north back to the Arena

Mobile coverage: May be some weak signal on higher ground

Course	Classes	Length	Climb
Hard 1	Men A	5.4 km	210 m
Hard 2	Men B, Women A	4.5 km	180 m
Hard 3	Men C, Women B	3.9 km	175 m
Hard 4	Men D Women C	3.1 km	140 m
Hard 5	Men E, Women D	2.6 km	90 m
Moderate	Men F, Women E	2.8 km	85 m
Easy	Men G, Women F	1.8 km	35 m
VEasy	M/W Novice	1.6 km	30 m

Day 5 – Tuesday 31 December

Venue: 22 km west of Armidale

Map: *Kooringle* 2015, revised 2019; 1:10,000; 6 colour

Fieldwork and cartography: Eric Andrews, Maurice Anker and Don Barker

Course setter: Don Barker **Controller:** Eric Baker

Organising club: Northern Tablelands

Directions & Parking

Take the Bundarra Road and follow it for 22 km and look for the turn off on the right just past Booralong Creek. Follow signs to the parking area, taking care over a few rough sections of track.

Notes on the map

As used for 2015 Xmas 5 days with minor revisions. Vegetation in the area is drought affected and is thinner than shown on the map. Also tracks have become indistinct in places as stock have been removed and then no traffic movement.

Event details

Registration opens: 7:00 am

Start window: 7:30 – 9:30 am

Course close: 11:30 am

Warm Up Area: in the car park paddock

Walk to start: 100 m

Safety Bearing: west

Mobile coverage: May be some weak signal on higher ground

Course	Classes	Length	Climb
Hard 1	Men A	6.9 km	170 m
Hard 2	Men B, Women A	6.0 km	150 m
Hard 3	Men C, Women B	5.0 km	100 m
Hard 4	Men D Women C	4.2 km	115 m
Hard 5	Men E, Women D	3.1 km	50 m
Moderate	Men F, Women E	3.7 km	75 m
Easy	Men G, Women F	2.6 km	35 m
VEasy	M/W Novice	2.1 km	30 m