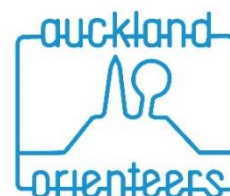


Auckland Secondary Schools Orienteering Championship 2018



Temu Rd, Woodhill Wednesday 23rd May, 2018

The Auckland Secondary Schools Individual Orienteering Championship is being hosted by Auckland Orienteering Club on the Temu Rd map in Woodhill Forest. Year 7 and 8 students may also enter. There will be courses designed for all ability levels. Please read the information below carefully and make sure each student is entered in the appropriate grade. The Top School trophies will be awarded to the top Boys and Girls teams.

General Information

Event	Auckland Secondary Schools Individual Orienteering Championship 2018
Date	Wednesday 23 May 2018*
Organising Club	Auckland Orienteering Club
Enquiries To	auckoc@hotmail.com
Location	Temu Rd, Woodhill Forest
Course Setter	Joanna and Alistair Stewart
Event Controller	Alison Comer
Map Scale	1:10000; 1:7500
Contour Interval	2.5m

Entries

Entry fee is \$15 per student (includes all forest access levies), plus \$2.00 per SportIdent card hired.

Total is payable to **Auckland Orienteering Club, Westpac 03-0195-0641747-00**

All entries must be sent via email in the Excel spreadsheet provided to auckoc@hotmail.com

Entries must be received by 6pm Thursday 17 May, 2018

Start lists will be published on Monday 21 May, 2018

Embargo

The event area is embargoed until the event. Access to the area from Inland Road to the coast, between Temu Road and Rimmer Road is prohibited for all competitors.

Directions

Entry is via Rimmer Rd, 13.5km northwest of Waimauku on SH16. The route will be sign posted from Waimauku on SH16. The forest gate is a further 6km along Rimmer Rd, which becomes a gravel road - please take care and drive with your headlights on low beam in the forest.

The forest gate will be open from 9:00 am. The event parking is a 5 minute drive from the gate. This is a working forest and you may come across logging trucks and other forestry equipment. Do not deviate from the signed route.

Parking

Parking is on Temu Road as you approach the event centre. Please park close to the vehicle in front to reduce the walk required for those parking behind you. Please do not go past the road cones on Temu road as they denote the out of bounds area. If you are bringing a large bus let us know, alternative parking arrangements may be required.

Event Centre

The event centre will have limited tents for cover from the weather. Contact us if you want to bring your own tent or gazebo – you can drop it off at the event centre and won't need to carry it too far.

Start Procedure

Start times will be allocated from 10:30am onwards. There will be at least 2 minute gaps between runners on the same course and runners from the same school will be starting at least 6 minutes apart. The start area is adjacent to the event centre. Please get to the start 10 minutes before your start time and follow the directions of the start officials.

Auckland Championship – Top School Trophies

The Top School trophies are awarded to the Boys team and Girls team who earn the most points in the championship grades according to the allocation below.

Points allocation: 1st = 5; 2nd = 4; 3rd = 3; 4th = 2; 5th = 1 for each championship grade.

Year 7/8 students are not included in the Top School Trophy calculations.

Timekeeping

Timing will be done using the SportIdent system. A SportIdent card may be hired for \$2.00 for the day if the student doesn't own one. Please indicate that you need a hire card on the entry form.

Terrain

Predominantly fast open running sand dune forest with excellent visibility. Mostly flat to rolling hills with some sections of tricky contour detail.

Safety

Orienteering involves individual navigation through unfamiliar and sometimes rough terrain. There are hazards that can trip you up (literally) while running in the forest. Please be aware of the following hazards that you may run across. Running with a whistle is recommended – If you need urgent assistance, the signal is six short blasts on the whistle to alert others that you need help.

Hazards

Holes in the ground that may be hard to see and rough ground in general.

Wire fences near tracks that may be hard to see.

Sharp sticks (attached to trees and lying on the ground).

Vehicles on forestry roads – they have right of way.

Getting Lost

Another potential hazard is getting lost – try not to get lost. If you do get (really) lost, head east using your compass until you find a gravel road and then wait there until someone finds you. If you find the sea then head north until you find the gravel road and wait there until someone finds you. We will come and look for you if you don't come back, so stay on a road and be easy to see.

Storm Damage

The forest was considerably damaged by storms in April, and there are a number of trees that have fallen or been partially uprooted but are now on a significant lean (usually supported by adjacent trees). Fallen trees have not been mapped, you must navigate around these as you encounter them. Any particularly dangerous trees on a lean that we discover will be taped off – do not try to pass under these. In general stay aware of your surroundings, and do not linger under any trees that are leaning significantly.

Grades

Grade	School Year
Senior	Year 12 or 13
Intermediate	Year 10 or 11
Junior	Year 9
Year 7/8	Year 7 or 8

Course Information

The technical difficulty of the championship courses will match those recommended by Orienteering NZ for the NZSSOC.

Schools should be responsible when choosing which competition grade to enter their students. Orienteering is difficult and not much fun when you can't complete a course because it is too hard. This is the Auckland Champs and the championship courses are set as difficult as possible within the guidelines to test the most able orienteers in each age group. If a student has not completed a course at the championship level for their age group, then they should enter the standard grade.

In 2018 new qualification criteria need to be met for students entering the Championship grade at AKSSOC, with the primary objectives of a) improving health and safety (ensuring students do not compete on courses too difficult for their skill-level); and b) strengthening competition integrity (enabling Championship grade courses to be set to the maximum allowable difficulty levels for the age grade, in accordance with Orienteering NZ guidelines). These guidelines were sent out to schools in March 2018, and a summary of the qualification criteria can be found in Appendix 2.

The standard grade courses still provide a good level of technical and physical challenge. We estimate that roughly half of the competitors should be running in the championship grade, with the rest running standard or novice grade. The Novice grade is available for Senior students who are new to orienteering.

Grades	Technical Difficulty [#]	Estimated Winning Time	Approx. Distance *
Championship			
Senior Boys	Red	45-50mins	6.5km
Senior Girls	Red	45-50mins	5.3km
Intermediate Boys	Orange	35-40mins	5.4km
Intermediate Girls	Orange	35-40mins	4.6km
Junior Boys	Yellow	25-30mins	3.5km
Junior Girls	Yellow	25-30mins	3.5km
Year 7/8 Boys	Yellow	25-30mins	3.1km
Year 7/8 Girls	Yellow	25-30mins	3.1km
Standard			
Senior Boys	Orange	35-40mins	4.0km
Senior Girls	Orange	35-40mins	3.4km
Intermediate Boys	Yellow	25-30mins	2.5km
Intermediate Girls	Yellow	25-30mins	2.5km
Junior Boys	White	20-25mins	2.5km
Junior Girls	White	20-25mins	2.5km
Year 7/8 Boys	White	20-25mins	2.4km
Year 7/8 Girls	White	20-25mins	2.4km
Novice			
Senior Boys	Yellow	25-30mins	2.5km
Senior Girls	Yellow	25-30mins	2.5km

* Courses have yet to be finalised, all distances are approximate and may change.

See Appendix 1 for a description of the technical difficulty levels.

Training Opportunity

There is a club orienteering event (AOS3) on May 6th. It will be held in terrain similar to the AKSS event. This event is part of the Auckland Schools Forest Series, and there will be coaching available from 10am.

More information about the event is available from auckoc@hotmail.com.

Appendix 1: Technical Difficulty Descriptions

From the Orienteering NZ policy document section 16.9

16.9 The following colour labels shall be used to denote the technical difficulty:

WHITE COURSE

Courses must follow drawn linear features (tracks, fences, streams, distinct vegetation boundaries etc).

A control site must be placed at every decision point (eg. a turning point, a track junction or a change in the type of linear feature - from following a track to following a stream). All control markers must be visible from the approach side.

Where the course has to deviate from the handrail feature (e.g. to cross through a forest block), the route must be marked all the way until a new handrail feature is reached. The Start Triangle shall be on a linear feature. If no such feature is available, then there must be a taped route all the way from the start to a linear feature (i.e. the first control).

Compass use is limited to map orientation only. No route choice is offered. Doglegs are permitted.

YELLOW COURSE

Control sites must be on or near (<50 m) drawn linear features (tracks, fences, streams, distinct vegetation boundaries, etc) but preferably not at turning points. This gives the opportunity to follow handrails or to cut across country (i.e. limited route choice). Control sites shall be visible from the approach side by any reasonable route.

Compass use is limited to rough directional navigation. Contour recognition is not required for navigation but simple contour features may be used for control sites. Doglegs are permitted.

ORANGE COURSE

Course shall have route choice with prominent attack points near the control sites and/or catching features less than 100 m behind. Control sites may be fairly small point features and the control markers need not necessarily be visible from the attack point. Exit from the control shall not be the same as the entry (doglegs are not permitted). Simple navigation by contours and rough compass with limited distance estimation required. Use of a chain of prominent features as "stepping stones" is encouraged.

RED COURSE

Navigation shall be as difficult as possible with small contour and point features as preferred control sites (no obvious attack points, no handrails etc.). Control sites shall be placed in areas rich in detail. Route choice shall be an important element in most legs. Doglegs are not permitted. Note: It may be impossible to set RED courses on some maps.

Appendix 2: AKSS Qualification Guidelines 2018

AKSS Orienteering Championship is recognised by Orienteering NZ, College Sport, and New Zealand Secondary School Sports Council as the Auckland regional inter-school/individual Championship event for Orienteering.

In 2018, new qualification criteria have been introduced for the Championship grade at AKSSOC with the following objectives:

- a) Improve health and safety by ensuring students do not compete on courses too difficult for their skill-level.
- b) Enable Championship grade courses to be set to the maximum allowable difficulty levels for the age grade, in accordance with Orienteering NZ guidelines.
- c) Provide opportunities for students to gain important skills for forest/farmland orienteering, to become more confident and competitive, and have a more fulfilling time during their competitions.
- d) Over time, improve the quality and depth of competition in Championship grades.

Qualification for Championship Grade

All competitors aiming to compete in a Championship grade at AKSSOC should demonstrate they have met the following qualification criteria.

1) Results from previous forest/farmland orienteering events that indicate the competitor has the navigational ability sufficient for the Championship course for their age grade. E.g. they have completed courses of corresponding difficulty within a reasonable time (as decided by AKSSOC organisers) at any forest/farmland orienteering event.

For example, previous AKSSOC events, Auckland Orienteering Series Club events, National Club events, North Island Secondary Schools Individuals, National Secondary School Individuals.

**Results from AKSS Sprint Series are not applicable.

OR

2) Competitors who have not met the requirements in (1), must complete at least 2 School Forest Series races on the corresponding course difficulties of their grade within a reasonable time (as decided by AKSS organisers):

- a) Initially, newcomers are required to complete a course at the difficulty of their age grades standard level. This aims at introducing inexperienced competitors to forest/farmland navigation. It will also give competitors an idea of what is expected of them for their age grades standard level, and ultimately will help them gauge their navigational competency regarding their age grades Championship difficulty.
- b) Competitors must then complete at least 1 course at their age grades Championship level within a reasonable time (as decided by the AKSS organisers).

Definition – “*within a reasonable time*”: In this criteria we define ‘within a reasonable time’ as a competitor completing the appropriate course within 50% of the winning time for that course. For example, if someone wins the Yellow course in 25mins, a competitor aiming to qualify for AKSSOC Championship level in their age grade must complete the course within 37.5mins. A competitor over this time cut off, cannot qualify with this result.

Competitors are encouraged to complete more than 1 race at their age grades Championship level. This will help solidify the decision made by AKSSOC organisers if their first result is close to the cut off time of being in the Championship grade. It also means that competitors get more practice at this difficulty level.

Individuals who do not meet the criteria set out in points (1) and (2) should be entered in Standard for their age grade. A Senior (Year 12-13) who has not completed any qualification race or has performed very poorly, as decided by AKSSOC organisers, on an Orange course (Senior-Year 12-13 Standard difficulty) will be entered in Novice.

All decisions on entry and qualification are at sole discretion of AKSSOC organisers.

Example:

John wants to qualify for the Intermediate Boys Championship Grade (Orange level difficulty). As John has does not met the criteria set out in (1), he is firstly required to complete a course that corresponds to the Intermediate Standard level (Yellow). After completing this, John can then complete an Orange course. He must then show that he can complete the Orange course within a reasonable time (as decided by AKSS organisers). If John struggles with his first Orange course, he is welcome to complete the other Orange course at the event, and/or an Orange course at another School Forest Series event. If he completes his 2nd Orange course within a reasonable time, he will be eligible for Intermediate Boys Championships. If he does not, it will be suggested that he enter Intermediate Boys Standard.