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Club Rules

Participants at all events run by the Hawke's Bay Orienteering Club are asked to respect the following general rules.

- Leave your dogs and other pets at home – many events are held on private properties where the landowners ban visitors dogs. (Dogs on leads are also banned.)
- Leave gates as you find them – we encourage everybody, children included, to climb over a closed gate at the hinged end, rather than open it.
- Do not smoke at events – cigarettes pose a significant fire risk.
- Take all rubbish home.
- All buildings, sheds, stock yards and machinery are out-of-bounds, unless the event has permission to enter. Children cannot play in these areas.
- If you open a gate while driving to or from an event it is your responsibility to make sure the gate is closed.
- If you notice any damaged property or livestock behaving strangely, report it to the officials at registration.

Our club is dependent on the goodwill of private landowners, who generously allow us to use their properties for our sport. Please help us keep our landowners happy, as failure to follow these rules can result in us losing access to these properties.

Event Registration, Start, Finish

These notes apply to HBOC events using computerised registration and electronic punching (SI Cards) and 'Pre-printed' maps (ie) the course is pre-printed on the map. The event location will be available on the [club website](#).

Registration.

- Read the 'Hazards Board' which lists any special hazards to be aware of.
- Read the 'Course Board' and decide which course you will run.
- Pay at the caravan.
 - Pay your map fee
 - If you do not own an "SICard" you need to hire one. *(The electronic timing system requires that you use an "SICard".)*
 - Borrow or hire a club compass if you need one.
 - If the club equipment you hire, or borrow, is lost or damaged you will be responsible for replacing it or compensating the club for the replacement.
- Register at the computer
 - Normally near or behind the caravan.
 - You **must** register at the computer before you start.
- Make sure you are ready to run with: compass, SICard, whistle, map, map bag (and some others also need: glasses, magnifier, water bottle and more.)

Note: At rural events all participants must carry whistles while competing.
- Follow signs to the start area.

Start.

The start area may be near the registration area or a long walk away. Look for signs at the registration area that indicate where the start is and how long it might take to walk there. An official "Starter" and "Start Clock" should be there to organise the start.

- Clear and Check your SICard. *(Clearing can take almost a minute, checking is much quicker. Wait until you hear a beep and see the light blink before removing the SICard.)*
- Ensure that you know the course closure time.
- The starter may start you at any time, you cannot pre-select your start time, they will ensure a suitable gap between starters on the same course.
- Start when the starter clock beeps, or the official starter says go.
- Competitors **must** "punch" the start control with their SICard before proceeding to the "Start Triangle"
- Your race time starts from the moment you "punch" the start control with your SICard.
- The start point for the course is not the map pick-up point. You **must** first go to the "Start Triangle", marked on your map, before heading off to the first control. *(There is usually a tape or track to follow to the triangle.)*
- At the controls on the course you dip the SICard into the control box and wait for the "beep" sound and/or the flashing light.
- Everybody that starts must report to the finish and the "download" table, whether you complete your course or "dnf". A search will be started for anybody who started but did not report to the finish and the "download" table. *(The "download" table is usually the same place that you registered on the computer.)*

Finish.

The finish line is normally marked with a finish banner.

- The finish line will not normally be manned.
- At the finish line "punch" the finish control with your SICard.
- Your race time finishes the moment you "punch" the finish control with your SICard.
- Go to the "Download" table. It might be at the finish or near the registration area. *(The "download" table is usually at the same place that you registered on the computer.)*
- At the "Download" ...
 - Summer series events (and some others!). First, dip your SI Card into the "Course" download box. (These events do not register which course you ran until you do the "Course" download)
 - All events. Dip your SI card into the "Print" download box and take your results slip from the printer.
- Leave any hired SICards at the download table.
- Return any other borrowed or hired equipment to the caravan.

Course Closure.

There is a set course closure time for most events. If you are running on a course at course closure time you must abandon your course and report to the finish and "Download" table.

Controls could be removed from the course any time after the course closure time.

Results.

1. Results lists will be displayed at the caravan now-and-then, or, if your lucky, there will be a computer screen showing the results.
2. Final results will be on the club website later.

Club Events

Club events are held throughout the year and are in effect training runs. The results do not count towards anything. You can run any course you choose.

Courses will be set according to the course colour coding rules where possible. On some maps it is not possible to set true red standard courses. (The course colour coding is explained in the resources section of the club website www.hborienteeing.com)

The number and types of courses available may vary between events. The courses could include memory courses, contour only courses, star courses etc. , There will usually be at least a 'White' level course for inexperienced runners.

Events usually allow you to start any time between 10:30am and 1:30pm.

Check the course closure time. Courses usually close at 3:00pm, but may be earlier. if you are still out on a course you must abandon the course and report to the finish.

Visit the [club website](#) for the specific details about each event.

Orienteer of the Year (OY) Series

The Orienteer of the Year (OY) is a series of events run throughout the year. Points gained at each event determine the Orienteer of the Year in various categories. The events are open to all club members.

Courses for Orienteer of the Year series

The OY Series comprises four different types of events...

Long O.	Standard orienteering courses with estimated winners times as noted below.
Middle O.	Standard orienteering courses with estimated winners times approx. 50% of the Long O. times.
Sprint O.	Very short courses in complex areas, town parks/reserves, campuses etc. Winning times 15 to 20 minutes.
Score O.	60 minute time limit, 1 point off for every minute or part minute late. Points are related to the control code (eg) 110-119 = 10 points, 120-129 = 20 points, 130-139 = 30 points. Do not have more than 30 controls as older SI Cards only hold 30 times. Results are separated into course colour codes according to your chosen course at previous OY events.

Orienteer of the Year courses and times.

Course	Long OY EWT minutes	Middle OY EWT minutes	Sprint OY EWT minutes
Red Long	70	42	12 - 15
Red Medium	50	30	12 - 15
Red Short	40	24	12 - 15
Orange	45	27	12 - 15
Yellow	35	21	12 - 15
White	25	15	12 - 15

(The course colour coding is explained in the resources section of the club website [.hborienteering.com](http://hborienteering.com))

OY Rules

- The competition comprises a number of races. When there are 6 or more races you can discard your worst performance.
- To be eligible to score points competitors must have paid the annual membership fee prior to running. Points are not back-dated if you are late paying.
- Members may compete on whichever course they choose, however, once you have completed two events on the same course, this then becomes the only course for which they can score points.
- Members are eligible for points once they complete a course without assistance.

Event Information

- Points cannot be back-dated when you become a member after running in an OY.
- There are separate competitions for men and women on each course, except for Red Short Super-Vet. Open Women's competition is on Red Long.
- There are additional separate sections in each of Red Short and Red Medium as below:
 - Red Short Veteran (RSV) for M40 and W40.
 - Red Short Super-Vet (RSS) for M60 and W60 as one combined grade.
 - Red Medium Veteran (RMV) for M40 and W40.
- Points are calculated as $((\text{Winners time} * 25) / \text{Your time})$ to 2 decimal places.
- Planner's (setter's) and Controller's (vetter's) can receive the equivalent of their best points during the year, for the event they organise.
- Non-members may enter any course they choose, however, they will not be awarded points.
- Protests may proceed in accordance with the club protest rules.

Event Information

Club Championships

The annual club championship event is the most important event of the year. The event is open to all club members, however, you must run the correct course for your age grade.

The courses will be set and vetted by the more experienced club members on one of our more challenging maps.

Courses and Age Grades for 2022 club championships

Course	Ewt (minutes)	Grades
Red Long	70	M Open, W Open
Red Medium	50	M40, M50, M18, W18
Red Short	40	M60, M70, M80, W40, W50, W60, W80, W18, M16, W16
Orange Long	45	M Open B, M14
Orange Short	40	W Open B, W14
Yellow	35	M12, M Novice, W12, W Novice
White	25	M10, W10

(The course colour coding is explained in the resources section of the club website www.hborienteering.com)

Notes...

- Competitors must be HBOC club members for their result to be official. Any non-members may enter as “unofficial” competitors.
- The change from one grade to another takes place at the beginning of the calendar year in which the competitor reaches a new age group.
- Competitors aged 20 and under may enter a higher grade up to and including the Open grade. Competitors aged between 21 and 39 may only enter the Open grade. Competitors aged 40 and above may enter a lower grade to the limit of the Open grade. Women cannot enter men’s grades and men cannot enter women’s grades.
- Anybody may enter the Open B or Novice grades.
- You may enter and run on any course as an “unofficial” competitor.
- Refer to the documents in the Resources section of the website for information on what to do at an event. (The “Next Event” notice on the website will often have links to the appropriate documents.)
- Protests may proceed in accordance with the club protest rules.

Summer Series

Rules updated January 2024.

Summer events are held on Wednesday evenings from late January to early March. They are generally simple events on school grounds, town parks and streets.

Grades:

- M/W Open
- M/W Senior (40+ at 31 December of current year)
- M/W Junior (under 16 at December of current year)

Leagues:

- Standard loop courses
- White Course

Points:

For 2024:

The first few events will not score points. They will be followed by 2 Grading events and a Final event.

Grading events will accumulate points on the basis of placing, with points being given to the first 15 finishers in each category. First place be awarded 15 points, second 14, and so on. After the 2 Grading events, the top 6 place-getters in each category based on points accumulated will be eligible to participate in the final.

The Final event for the top 6 in each grade will be a mass-start loops race. The winner of the final sprint will be the first runner in that category across the finish line. Following this, other members and the public (those not involved in the final) will be able to run the same courses on the same day.

You can run any course you choose. There will usually be only two types of courses. White for children and novices, plus three courses involving the same three short loops. The loops will be set to 'Yellow' difficulty with estimated winners time (EWT) of NOT more than 15 minutes, (ie) are suitable for all levels of experience with running distance of not more than 3km.

Starts are between 6.00pm and 7.00pm

Score Events

The club runs one or more score events each year. Cups are awarded to the individual winners of the Score Champs event, in Men's and Women's grades.

Score event:

- Each control is worth a number of points, some controls being worth less/more points than others. (Usually there are 27 controls in total.)
- There is no set course, or order to visit the controls. You can visit the controls in any order you like. (The maps are pre-marked.)
- Some events will have a mass start at a set time, others will have the normal range of start times. (If a mass start is used it will be stated in the event announcement.)
- There is a time limit. Finishing outside the time limit will incur penalty points. The later you finish, the more penalty points you incur.
- The winner is the runner with the most points, after penalty points are subtracted and handicap points added. In the case of several runners getting the same points, the one that finished in the shortest time is the winner. (Sometimes bonus points are given for finishing early.)

Score Championship:

- Trophies are awarded to the highest men's and women's scores irrespective of grade.
- Grades are...
 - Men's Open, M16, M55
 - Women's Open, W16, W55

Team Score event:

- The rules are similar to a normal score event, with the following variations.
- Teams of three people. Special rules are often applied to team composition (eg) sum of members ages must be more than 100 years.
- Each team member has their own map.
- Each team member has an SI-Card.
- The Team starts together, receives their maps and plans which controls the members will visit.
- There is no time limit. The aim is for the team to visit all the controls in the fastest possible time.
- The Team cannot cross the finish line until the slowest team member is back.

Event Information

Notes...

- Bring a watch as well as your usual orienteering gear.
- Bring a pen and take a minute or two to plan your route and draw it on your map.

Rogaine Events

The club attempts to run one rogaine event each year, called the “Deborah Turner Memorial Rogaine”.

Rogaine event:

- You must enter in teams, individual runners not allowed.
- The event location, fees and other information will be available in the event notice. (The normal club event fees do not apply to rogaines.)
- Each control is worth a number of points, some controls being worth less/more points than others.
- There is no set course, or order to visit the controls. You can visit the controls in any order you like.
- Event maps may be copies, possibly enlarged, of part of a DOSLI 1:50,000 series map, not orienteering maps.
- The maps are normally handed-out before the start time to allow for route planning before the start.
- There is a mass start.
- There is a time limit. Finishing outside the time limit will incur penalty points. The later you finish, the more penalty points you incur.
- The winning team is the team with the most points, after penalty points are subtracted. In the case of several teams getting the same points, the one that finished in the shortest time is the winner. (Sometimes bonus points are given for finishing early.)

Before the Computer Age

Maps were commercially Offset printed, 2000 to 5000 at a time. Courses were not printed on the map and map corrections were only printed if a reprint was required.

National badge events had courses printed onto the maps using an over-large rubber stamping method.

Clipcards were used to prove that a control had been visited.

Start times could be pre-booked on the day. Finish times were manually recorded.

Elapsed times were manually calculated and clipcards were manually checked.

Master maps and clipcards

- Register and pay at the caravan. Receive a map and clipcard.
- Manually copy any map corrections from a corrections master map onto your map.
- Book a start time on the start times sheet.
- At the start the official starter will try to start you at your selected start time.
- After starting proceed to the course maps table/boards and copy your course from the course master map onto your map. (The time to draw the course onto your map is counted as part of your race time.)
- At each control clip the clipcard in the correct box.
- At the finish, often the caravan, make sure the official finisher notices you and records a finish time. Hand your clipcard to the official finisher who will write the finish time onto your clipcard and, if not too busy, calculate the elapsed time.
- Completed clipcards were stapled over a fence wire as the results board.
- Results were published in the local papers and the club magazine.

Buckets and pencils

In the first year the club had no orienteering controls or clippers. A control was a green bucket with a pencil and code, often hanging in a tree. Maps were black&white printed on a Gestetner (Cyclostyled).