



# *The Emperor*

## **Australasian Rogaining Championships**

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

(incorporating the 2017 New Zealand Championships)

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPETITORS**

**Final Version, 28<sup>th</sup> January**

<b>Team Number</b>
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Thank you for your entry. Please ensure all your team members read this document. It contains important information. **Changes to the original (16<sup>th</sup> December) version are highlighted.**

See the event website for a [list of competitors](#) and your team number. Please remember your team number and note it above and on your Indemnity Form. The Indemnity and Emergency contact form at the end of this document must be completed by all members of your team and handed in at registration.

### **Directions to the Event Centre**

The event centre is adjacent to stockyards on Glenaray Station, a 15 minute drive from Waikaia. The Riversdale-Waikaia road becomes Piano Flat Road at the Waikaia township turnoff. Travel north-east for 13km on Piano Flat Road to the Argyle Station road junction, signposted with a Rogaine sign. Turn left onto an unnamed shingle road and drive 2.5km to the stockyards. If the gates at the entrance to the shingle road are closed they must be fastened behind you.

Note that the last source of fuel is Riversdale; fuel is not available in Waikaia.

**Embargo** – the area bounded by Waikaia township in the south, Piano Flat campsite to the north, 10km west of Piano Flat Road, and 5km east of Piano Flat Road, except for public roads, is embargoed from now until the event. Any competitor found in this area will be disqualified from the event.

### **Event Centre Facilities**

The event centre is a marquee with adjacent camping and parking. Camping is permitted from 3pm Friday through to 10am Monday. There are no electricity or cooking facilities. Rubbish disposal is limited so please take yours with you when you leave.

Toilets and drinking water will be available at the event centre but the water supply is very limited so please bring your own if travelling by car. Use water sparingly for drinking and cooking only. There are no shower facilities but a wash in a nearby stream could be an option.

The marquee will provide communal shelter for meals and planning. It is not intended that it be used for sleeping although overseas competitors may use it on Friday night, but not Saturday night. Chairs and tables suitable for planning will be provided in the marquee, but if travelling by car it could be useful to bring your own.

Meals on Friday evening and Saturday breakfast may be pre-booked via the event website.

During the 24hr event soup, salads, stews and light food will be available at the event centre from 6pm Saturday to 11am Sunday, and the main meal will be available from 12:00 until 13:30 on Sunday. Specific gluten-free meals will not be supplied but there will be ample vegetable-based food.

The event centre is centrally located on the map. There is NO all-night café on the course.

Fires, smoking, dogs, or firearms are not permitted anywhere at the Rogaine venue: campsite, administration area, or on the course.

## Event Timetable

The “15 in 24” is considered to be a 24hr event.

<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>			
Camping opens	15:00		
Registration open	18:00 - 20:00		
Evening meal available if booked	18:00 - 20:00		
	<b>24hr</b>		<b>7hr</b>
<b>Saturday and Sunday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
Saturday breakfast if booked	07:30 - 09:00		07:30 - 09:00
Registration and device packaging opens	07:00		07:00
Maps and course notes distributed	09:00		09:00
Navlight activation begins, packaging closes	11:30		10:30
Briefing – compulsory for all competitors. Flight plans must be submitted by now.	11:45		10:45
Start	12:00		11:00
24hr hash-house food begins	18:00		
24hr hash-house food closes		11:00	
Finish		12:00	18:00
Meal available (snack for 7hr competitors)		12:00	18:00
Results and Presentations		13:00	18:30
Meal finishes		13:30	
Bus departs for Queenstown		14:00	14:00 Sunday
Camping closes Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	10:00		

## Registration

At registration your team (one member is adequate) must present a completed Indemnity and Emergency Contact Form signed by each team member. Check your team number is on the form. If no money is owing, the team will be issued electronic wrist tags for each team member. Any changes in team composition must be advised at registration.

## Map and Course

The map size is A2 portrait, printed on waterproof Teslin paper, and orientated to magnetic north at a scale of 1:40 000 with contour interval of 20m. The map is pre-marked with checkpoint locations and out-of-bounds areas. Check point descriptions are printed on the face of the map. There will be one map per competitor. Permanent markers (e.g. Sharpies), highlighters and ballpoint ink are durable on the Teslin paper; pencil is not.

Altitude generally ranges from 200m to 700m, and locally up to 900m. Lower areas are mainly rolling hills, mostly developed into pasture but with areas of scrub and native beech forest. The higher areas tend to be more natural tussock grasslands, also with areas of scrub. In the north, there is an extensive area of beech forest, which offers open travel in most places except where impeded by windfall. There are streams dissecting the course. While there is the usual hill-climbing that we expect in NZ, many of the climbs, although sustained, are not steep and there are multiple checkpoints on the climb. There is a range of farm tracks which will help speed, but the checkpoints are so arranged that you will be off-track for much of the time.

Please refer to the [Planners Report](#) for further comment on the terrain. A few representative pictures are also available on the event website.

**IMPORTANT** - the Waikaia River running north-south on the eastern side of the map can be deep and dangerous. Teams are NOT permitted to cross the Waikaia River AT ANY POINT except by bridge.

Streams are drinkable in the higher tussock country but not recommended in lower areas including Waikaia River. Four water drops are provided on the lower country. If you are concerned about drinking from the higher streams we suggest you carry a filter device or purification tablets.

As usual, tracks and fences exist which are not marked on the map, and others are mapped that no longer exist or are discontinuous on the ground. Tracks and fences may serve as useful navigational aids, but you should not assume their detailed accuracy.

You may encounter a few electric fences on the course identified by insulators on the posts. Cross with care or use gates. Use your pack or other item of gear to hold the wires down while you cross them. Assume all electric fences are on.

You will encounter some deer fences. These may be climbed, or negotiated via gates, provided they are not marked as out-of-bounds.

Areas marked as out-of-bounds MUST NOT be entered under any circumstances.

Remember there is a distinction between “the” and “a” in describing checkpoint locations. For example, “The” lone pine means it is marked as a tree on the map, whereas “A” lone pine means that one exists, but it isn’t marked on the map.

## **Moon and Sun**

Sunset: 21:03 Saturday	Moonrise: 21:05 Saturday
Sunrise: 06:56 Sunday	Moonset: 07:51 Sunday

The full moon occurs on Saturday 11th February.

## **Scoring**

There are 92 checkpoints numbered between 200 and 1003. The numbering system has been extended to allow for more than 10 checkpoints with a particular score value. To find the value of a checkpoint drop the last two digits and add a zero. For example, 307 and 313 are each worth 30 points, 500 and 511 are each worth 50 points, and 1002 is worth 100 points.

All team members must visit each checkpoint that they claim and must punch their wrist tags. The checkpoints are marked with an orange/white flag tied to a bush, post, tree or some other object. They are not hidden and most should be visible from at least 10 metres away depending on your approach, but some flags in potentially windy exposed sites have been tied low down in bushes. As the checkpoints have been placed in the field up to 10 days before the event we cannot be certain that all checkpoints are still intact. If a checkpoint is missing, you must be able to describe its location to the score keepers to be credited with the points.

Navlight electronic punching will be used. At a checkpoint every team member must place the punch in their wrist tag until a red flashing light is seen. (Less than 3 seconds, and probably half a second). If the punch doesn’t flash, write down the 3-letter code visible inside it. There will be a TEST punch available at the event centre for you to practice punching and for you to identify the 3-letter code.

There will be two punches at each checkpoint. You may use either punch and different team members may use different punches. Most punches are protected in a plastic pipe about 20 cm long, so look for the white string and replace the punch in the pipe. (See the top right of the homepage of the website [www.rogaine.org.nz](http://www.rogaine.org.nz) for further details on ‘NAVLIGHT’).

If you suspect that a wrist tag has failed, continue to punch it at all checkpoints and notify the official who removes your tag at the finish. Provided we are able to verify that the tag has indeed failed your team will be credited with the points recorded on the tags of other team members.

Do not pause at a checkpoint any longer than necessary. If you want to stop for a rest or a discussion you must move at least 100 metres away from the checkpoint so as not to give its location away to another team (it spoils their fun).

There is a late penalty of 10 points per minute or part thereof after the finish time of your event or for every minute over 15hrs for the 15 in 24 event. If you are more than 30 minutes late you are recorded as LATE and your score is zero.

If you return to the event centre during the event all team members must use a FINISH punch even if you intend to go out again. If you later go out for more checkpoints, use a DEPART punch and use a FINISH punch again when you return.

**Note for 15hr competitors:** The above sequence of punching is particularly important for the 15hr event as the time you spend on the course is recorded between DEPART and FINISH punching. It is therefore important to punch the FINISH punch immediately you return to base and use the DEPART punch immediately before resuming on the course. (Note: if you don't start onto the course in the mass start at 12:00 on Saturday make sure you use the START punch before leaving otherwise it will be assumed you were on the course from 12:00 until you use the FINISH punch).

## Start Procedure

Maps, flight plans, and any relevant course notes will be issued at 9am. Plan your route and mark it, including the direction of travel, on the flight plan. Put your team number on the flight plan. The event will not start until all flight plans have been lodged with administration. You may subsequently modify your route according to conditions as you progress, but the flight plan will give us some idea of where to start looking if you are in trouble.

All competitors must attend the compulsory briefing for their event. As you enter the briefing area a team of officials will check the security of your Navlight wrist strap and activate your tag. Make sure your wrist tag is activated as failure to do so will result in a reduced or cancelled score.

Unless advised otherwise at registration or the briefing, if the start of your event is delayed for any reason, the finish time will be delayed by the same amount so that the event duration is as advertised.

Novice instruction will be available to people unfamiliar with Rogaining. Please talk to the people at the registration desk.

## Finish Procedure

At the finish:

1. punch your electronic tag with a FINISH punch. The tag will then be cut from your wrist by one of the administration staff. Your entire team must finish together; your finish time will be that of the last team member to use a FINISH punch.
2. if your team has packaged GPS or other devices present the package to administration staff for opening. (Refer to the Rules of Competition below).

Wait for your printout while your tag is read and check your results. If there is anything you disagree with see the scoring supervisor, NOT the person reading the tags. The supervisor will decide on any adjustments, will write the request on your printout, and return it to the person doing the scoring.

**Extremely Important:** On no account leave the event without handing in your wrist tag. This is our check that you are off the course. If we don't have a tag a search for you will be initiated.

## Weather and Equipment

New Zealand weather is always unpredictable and is subject to rapid changes, even during a single day. Be prepared for anything from hot, dry conditions to cold weather with squalls of hail and sleet. The higher ground is particularly exposed with potentially severe wind-chill. Carry an additional thermal layer.

For a list of clothing and equipment see the Safety Sheet below. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of your clothing or equipment please ask an organiser.

## Other Gear

You will need a plate, cup, and utensils for the meals that are provided. There are minimal rubbish facilities so please bring your own rubbish bag. A tent and sleeping bag are essential if you think you might stop overnight.

Bring a range of marker pens, pencils and highlighters, pins and string, and ruler, for planning and measuring your route before you start. If travelling by car consider bringing a small table and chairs for use when planning your route.

## Safety

Please carefully read the Safety Sheet below. Also be aware that supplementary safety advisories, either written or verbal at the compulsory briefing, may be issued on the day.

If you are driving after competing in the 24hr event please have a sleep first.

## Rules of Competition

The Emperor will be run under the competition rules which are available at <http://www.rogaine.org.nz/main/CompetitionRules.htm>.

Important rules, with a few elaborations and additions, include:

- The only navigational aids that may be used on the course are magnetic compasses, watches and the competition map. The use of other navigational aids, including pedometers, altimeters (including those within watches and smartphones) and GPS receivers (including within smartphones), on the course is prohibited.
- In the championship event, if you wish to carry devices which feature altimeters or GPS receivers, including smartphones and PLBs for emergency use, they must be presented to the organisers for secure packaging at registration on Saturday morning – one package per team. Unless used in an emergency you must present the unopened package at the finish for inspection by the organisers. (For the non-championship events there will be no packaging but the rules on navigational aids still apply).
- Anyone caught or reported using any type of phone other than for an emergency will be disqualified.
- The possession at the event site of maps that provide additional information not shown on the competition map is prohibited. The use of computers for course planning is not allowed.
- Members of a team shall remain within unaided verbal contact of one another at all times. A team shall demonstrate compliance with this requirement to any event official or another team on request.
- Competitors shall carry a whistle at all times whilst on the course
- No food or equipment shall be left on the course before the event for a team's use, and no food or equipment shall be discarded on the course unless retrieved by the team during the event and brought to the finish.
- A team shall not accept assistance from, nor collaborate with, other people and supporters during course planning or on the course, nor deliberately follow another team.
- In the 24hr event any team with a person 16 or under must also have a person 21 or over. For the 7hr event any team with a person under 14 must also have a person 18 or over.
- The Waikaia River running north-south on the eastern side of the map can be deep and dangerous. Teams crossing the Waikaia River AT ANY POINT EXCEPT BY BRIDGE will be disqualified.
- Any team not leaving gates as found will be disqualified. **If the gate was fastened then it must be re-fastened the same way.**

All competitors must agree to abide by the NZRA Code of Conduct which may be viewed at <http://www.rogaine.org.nz/main/CodeofConduct.htm>.

## Protests

Reports of breaches of the rules, or protests against the event organisers, will be considered and determined by a three-person jury. Such protests must be lodged in writing within 45 minutes of the nominated finish time of the event. The jury panel for the Championships will be notified prior to the event. The fee for lodging a protest is \$20 which will be refunded if judgement is in your favour.

## **Acknowledgements**

We are indebted to the owners and managers of Glenaray Station, and the Department of Conservation, who have so willingly allowed us to use their land. Without their cooperation we would not have an event.

Mairi Dickson is coordinating the catering arrangements on behalf of Switzers Museum Waikaia Inc.

We also thank and acknowledge:

Event Director: Pete Squires

Landowner and catering liaison: Bob Cunninghame,

Planner: Stuart Payne,

Vetters: Richard Robinson and Pete Squires,

Setters: Stuart Payne and Pete Squires,

Cartographer: Bill Kennedy

Website and Entry administration: Wayne Millow, Emma de Lacey.

And to the many others who have contributed to this event we are very grateful.

# Safety Sheet – The Emperor Rogaine

11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017

This event will be cancelled only if conditions are extreme. The organisers reserve the right to shorten the duration or otherwise modify the event for safety or other reasons.

You will be given “course notes” with the maps. Be sure to read these carefully before you plan your route as they may advise you on impassable areas, areas to avoid in the dark, and other useful hints.

Your gear is your own responsibility. There will be no compulsory gear check but the organisers reserve the right to do checks on a random or selective basis. You must be suitably equipped to start.

**Note:** Weather can change to very cold and/or very wet at short notice. 24hr event teams must be equipped for a night out in poor conditions if a team member was to become incapacitated.

The **COMPULSORY minimum** equipment and clothing list is:

Light thermal top and trousers, e.g. polypro	Warm hat and gloves or mittens
Waterproof and windproof jacket	Thermal fleece or jersey outer top
Long gaiters or leggings	Survival bag or blanket
Strong footwear with a good grip	Daypack
Water bottle/bladder (2 litres minimum)	Sun hat and sunscreen
Compass, watch and pencil	Food, energy replacement/electrolytes
Whistle <b>each</b> (compulsory under rule R15)	Basic first-aid kit for the team
Headlamp or torch, and batteries	

We **strongly recommend** you also carry:

a fully rainproof parka/rain jacket (may replace the waterproof and windproof jacket above), second layer thermal top, showerproof over trousers, and a high-visibility reflective garment to warn traffic after dusk. You may wish to use walking poles.

Safety is a top priority during this event. Organisers and participants (you) have responsibilities for safety. Your responsibilities include:

- ) being aware of and meeting all safety requirements specified by event organisers in writing, on the event web site, or at the compulsory verbal briefing.
- ) carrying sufficient protective clothing and other safety equipment,
- ) advising your team member(s) of any medical conditions you have, your general level of fitness and other factors that may affect you adversely during the event,
- ) staying together as a team at all times, and providing mutual support, and helping any other team you find in difficulties,
- ) depositing a ‘flight plan’ map showing your intended course at administration before you start,
- ) recording your team’s visit to a checkpoint with the electronic punch,
- ) advising organisers and returning your tags if you withdraw from the event or when you finish. This is our safety check that you are no longer on the course and **IS COMPULSORY**,
- ) being highly conscious of time and avoiding a late return – being late results in a hefty points penalty as well as raising safety concerns,
- ) being prepared to modify your plans to be more conservative if safety conditions dictate this,
- ) monitoring team and individual progress and fitness and modifying plans as required,
- ) looking out for hazards, such as:
  1. **Hypothermia:** Wind, water and cold temperatures can lead to exposure or hypothermia. Early symptoms are subtle (clumsiness, lethargy, slurred speech). Be prepared to seek shelter or to call it a day if conditions are severe, or if any of your team is becoming exhausted. In severe weather keep off high exposed ridges.
  2. **Dehydration:** Drink lots of water, but not too much – we suggest you carry at least 2 litres each.
  3. **Streams:** Do not cross streams if they are heavily swollen.
  4. **Cliffs, slippery rocks, loose rocks, incised creeks, gullies, slippery grass, hidden obstacles such as logs, loose fencing wire**, etc. may be present throughout the event area.
  5. **Collapsed tunnels or ‘under-runners’**, especially on farm tracks
  6. **Fog/low cloud:** If in fog, orientate the map and yourself with a compass. If in doubt, don’t climb into cloud

but descend out of it as soon as possible.

7. **Road Hazard:** There will be light traffic on roads. No roads are closed during the event. The road code applies at all times; keep to the side of the road and be alert to traffic. We recommend you wear clothing with high visibility from dusk.
8. **Hunters:** We cannot guarantee that hunters will not be present in the area. We recommend teams carry a high-viz garment, and that you make yourself highly visible and heard (shout and use your whistle) if you are concerned.
9. **Electric Fences:** Usually the top wire, but sometimes lower wires, may be hot (look for insulators on the post). Treat all electric fences as ON. Climb through unlivened wires, look for a gate, or use parka, pack or map for insulation.

The Department of Conservation advises that:

- ] 1080 toxin pellets were broadcast by air as recently as two months ago over the forest to control predators and possums. Residual effects should be zero, but avoid ground/mouth contamination.
- ] This is an old gold mining area and there may be largely-hidden ground shafts, please be alert.

## Emergency

You may carry a cellphone and/or PLB for emergency use; but see the section above under Rules of Competition. Cellphone coverage on the course is patchy but is often available on higher ground. There is no coverage at the event centre.

Emergency signal via whistle – repeat (6 or more) short blasts on your whistle at about 1 second intervals, repeated every 1 to 5 minutes. Repeat if you hear one long blast from responders. Any team hearing the emergency call must respond and render assistance to the team that is in distress.

In the event of **minor** injury or exhaustion proceed to a patrolled road and await pickup. Specific roads, notified in the course notes and on the map, will be patrolled at roughly 4 - 6 hourly intervals after 8pm.

In the event of **serious** injury or exhaustion, make the injured person warm and comfortable; if possible arrange to leave someone with the person; note your exact location on the map; seek help via the nearest road. You can request a road pickup by TXTing 027 227 3963, or 027 351 0146, or 021 550 248; these numbers will be on the map. These phones will be monitored at roughly 2-hourly intervals by organisers driving to a reception area.

In **EXTREME** emergency dial 111. Tell the operator you are doing the Rogaine on Glenaray Station, Waikaia Valley.

## Environmental and farm care

Rogaining is an environmentally and socially friendly activity. We expect you to reinforce this ethic.

- ] Respect farm stock, fences and other facilities, and the right of landowners to operate their business, and lifestyle. Respect the privacy and security of houses and property.
- ] **LEAVE GATES AS FOUND.** If YOUR team opens a gate, YOUR team must close it **SECURELY** the same way it was fastened. Do **NOT** rely on people in another team to close it. As the event is largely on farm country **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.**
- ] Cross fences at a strainer post, or climb through. Do not spring off the top wire. Climb gates at the hinge end.
- ] Report any damage or distress to stock to the organisers. Do not spook or cramp stock into fence corners.
- ] Remove rubbish – more importantly, don't create it in the first place
- ] Bury toilet waste – better still, don't create it in the field. Use the toilets provided at the event centre where possible.
- ] Keep streams clean. Protect plants and animals.



TEAM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Emperor Rogaine – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### Indemnity and Emergency Contact

Teams will not be registered until the following information has been completed and presented at the administration desk.

#### **Indemnity** (signed by each member of a team)

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that the Event Organisers, NZ Rogaining Association, and the owners of the land used for this event accept no liability for any loss, damage or injury to ourselves (including vehicles at the event venue) resulting from our participation in this event. We understand that this event is organised and staffed by volunteers. We enter this event at our own risk and acknowledge that there may be risks associated with the sport of Rogaining. We will comply with safety requirements set out in organiser's briefings, including those passed on from landowners, and agree to abide by the New Zealand Rogaining Association Code of Conduct as on the website, [www.rogaine.org.nz](http://www.rogaine.org.nz).

Print Name	Signature <sup>1</sup>	Date	Date of birth

#### **Emergency Contact for each member of your team:**

Your Name and Car Registration Number <sup>2</sup>	Emergency Contact <sup>3</sup> (not a competitor) Name, Full Address, Phone No.	Allergies or Medical Condition <sup>4</sup>

#### **NOTES:**

1. A parent or guardian must sign the indemnity form on behalf of a competitor under the age of 18.
2. Registration number of the car you travelled in and parked at the event centre or write "Bus" if you travelled by bus.
3. Supply the name, address and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of an emergency. This person must not be a competitor in the event.
4. Supply details of any medical conditions or allergies that might be of assistance to First Aid staff in the event of an accident or emergency.