Welcome to Hamel’s Haunts, the 2018 New Zealand Rogaine Association 24 Hour Championships and associated 6hr events. The Otago region has had a long history of hosting the NZRA Championships, this will be the 9th event South of the Waitaki. I suspect that Bob Cunningham has been involved in the majority of those either as the primary organiser or land owner liaison and has kindly volunteered his time again. Scrolling through the list of winners from the previous 16 Championships it’s a pleasure to still see entries from the inaugural event in 1995, Pete Squires, Anne Kennedy, Bill Kennedy and Viv Prince.

Hamel’s Haunts came about a number of years ago when I was running the trails behind Dunedin. I stumbled across the guide book “Tracks and Trails of Dunedin” by Antony Hamel. Antony is a local lawyer and avid tramper and the guide book became my training tool as well as my history lesson of the area. Although I have never met him, I appropriated his name for the first 3 hour I organised in 2010 and the name has stuck for several more events. When I first searched for the tracks, many were unmarked, difficult to find and rough. Now they are marked, cut, and easy to find, but still rough. Luckily, I have found many more that are not in the book and they are difficult to follow, in the daylight!! The Green Hut Track Group and MTB Otago have had a significant influence on Dunedinites ability to get out and enjoy our surroundings. Thank You.

That first event used a topomap downloaded as an image and circles drawn with MS Word. The map is a bit more sophisticated now thanks to a lot of advice from Michael Wood. It’s no longer a topomap, nor is it an orienteering map. Examples of the map as at 2015 when the area was used for a loops based 24hr are on the website (Old Maps). The 2018 edition of the map, to the best of my knowledge, is the most complete and comprehensive register of tracks that are accessible to the public. The DCC don’t know about them, they are not in guide books, they are not on tramping club registers, they exist in perhaps a handful minds. Enjoy.

**Organising Team**
Planner: Matt Bixley  
Vetters: Steven Smith, Tom Spencer, Ann Bixley  
Setters: Steven Smith, Tom Spencer, Ollie Bixley, Matt Bixley  
Entries: Wayne Millow, Trevor Merrifield  
Nav Light: Douglas Woods, Pete Squires  
Catering: The Unfortunate Repercussions, Cindy Baker  
 Helpers: Bob Cunningham, Annie and Alan Grant, Darrel Thompson, Sam Bixley, Ollie Bixley, Max Cunningham, Ann Bixley  
Control Collecting: Steve, Isaac, Nolan, Croydon, Malc, Glen, Nick and Others
Getting to the Event
Registration and the Start/Finish area are at the Waiora Scout Camp, Silverstream Valley Road.

From Dunedin the two options are:
- From the top of Taieri Road/Three Mile Hill turn right just past the 70 kph sign onto Flagstaff/Whare Flat road, this is a twisting, single lane, gravel road with two fords to cross. 8.5km, 15 Minutes
- Continue over Three Mile Hill turning right just after the bridge onto Silverstream Valley Rd. This is sealed for all must the last 1 km. 9.5km, 10 minutes

From the Airport/Mosgiel side there are various options, but get onto Dukes Road travelling towards the hills and Three Mile Hill Road, turning left onto Silverstream Valley Road, if you start going up the hill there are two options for turning around approximately 2km up the hill, one on the left and one on the right.

Waiora Scout Camp is 4.5km along Silverstream Valley Road. It is approximately 25 minutes from the airport, or 20 minutes from the Octagon.

Event Chronology
Friday 23\textsuperscript{rd} November
- 4:00pm - Camping Opens
- Various – Airport Shuttles as required

Saturday 24\textsuperscript{th} November
- 8:00am Registration Opens
- 9:00am Map Handout 24 hrs
- 9:15am Adventure Teams
- Track briefing on areas where bike can and can’t be taken
- 9:30am GPS into sealed bags, Flight plans returned
- 11:30am GPS into sealed bags, Flight plans returned
- Note: AO for the 6 hour should attend at 9:15
- 11:30am GPS into sealed bags, Flight plans returned

Sunday 25\textsuperscript{th} November
- 11:30~1:00pm Meal available
- Midday Finish 24 Hr
- 1:00pm Prize Giving
- Afternoon Shuttles as required
- Control Collecting
- Dinner and Drinks
- All teams are welcome to stay on
- Sunday night

Monday 26\textsuperscript{th} November
- Tidy Up
- 10:00am Camping Closes

Sunset: 9:01pm
Sunrise: 5:47am
Daylength: 15 ¼ Hours

Moonrise: 9:56pm
Moonset: 7:21am
Illumination: 99.8%
Start
All members of your team must attend the event briefing. The two wearing a wrist-tag must register their wrist-tag on one of the BRIEF Punches as they enter the briefing area. An organiser may check the security of your Navlight wrist strap. For details on using the Navlight Electronic Scoring System see the homepage of the website www.rogaine.org.nz. The event time will start at Midday, regardless of whether the briefing is finished or not.

Finish
As soon as you finish, register your wrist-tag on any one of several FINISH Punches, assemble your team, and then present yourselves to the computer desk to have your wrist-tags removed by an organiser and scored. Depending on the queue you will be given a printout immediately, or pick it up later. If you have any disagreement with it, see the event organiser, not the scoring team. Your event will close after the 24 or 6 hrs has elapsed. Aim to finish on time as you will be penalised 20 points per minute or part minute late and if you are over 30 minutes late you lose all your points.

Post-event meal
For 24hr competitors, meal available from about 11.30 am, Sunday
Catered by The Unfortunate Repercussions who have used this to fundraise for a trip to Sydney, there are plenty of Vegetarian, Dairy Free and Gluten Free options.
For 6hr competitors, Burgers available from about 5.45 pm.

Event procedure
We recommend you spend at least one hour planning your route, making the day more enjoyable and rewarding. Limited Table and Chairs will be available at the event centre along with bunk rooms and cabins. You should plan your route carefully, aiming to challenge your map reading and navigation skills but staying within the safe limits set by the terrain and weather, and your experience and fitness. If your team lacks confidence in finding its way in rough, untracked tramping terrain, you might confine your route to the more easily accessible check points.

All teams start together. On the course do not try to follow other teams or get distracted by them as they may have set a different route. Tracks and numerous streams exist which are not marked on the map, and others are mapped that no longer exist. Tracks and streams may serve as useful navigational aids, but do not assume their detailed accuracy. Tracks have I think ALL been run with GPS. Generally, there has been more effort put into mapping features around the controls. Keep out of the areas marked as out of bounds. Keep away from roads marked as closed to the event.

At each checkpoint there is an orange/white flag and an electronic punch. These should be visible from at least 10 meters away, depending on your approach. If a checkpoint is missing, you must be able to describe (photograph) its presumed location to the score keepers to be credited with the points. When you visit a checkpoint, ‘punch’ your tag until you see a red flashing light (takes up to 3 seconds). Both wrist tags assigned to a team must record a visit to a checkpoint. If the punch does not flash, write down the 3-letter code visible inside them. (See the top of the homepage of the website www.rogaine.org.nz for further details on ‘NavLight’).
The Map

The map is printed on A3 Teslin at 1:40,000. Teslin was used in Waikaia last year and the 2016 World Rogaine Championships in Alice Springs. In my experience it is strong and robust and will not require additional covering. However, I do find that using a highlighter to mark my route does not hold well. Contours are 20m, with index contours at 100m. There are NO spot heights on the map. The NW and NE peaks are both in the 700m range. The eastern and western high points are in the 5-600m Range. The Event Centre is at 80m above sea level.

Control Descriptions are printed on the map in text and also available separately as text and pictorial. Controls are generated via Condes in a simplified form of Orienteering codes. I.e. not all object sizes or specific are detailed.

There is a legend describing the colour coding and some of the features on the map. Vegetation has been mapped to indicate ‘type’. Native, Exotic, Grassy/Tussock. Where green stripe has been used it indicates that travel would be either very unpleasant or very slow.

No control has been intentionally placed in an area that requires travel through significant patches of Gorse, Briars or Bush Lawyer, however you will encounter some. A significant number of controls require bush travel which is generally slow, varies in density but is not unpleasant. We removed the section that we did find unpleasant.

Speed. While planning and course setting 3 hourly estimates of speed have been made. The Western 1/3 is 3kph, the middle of the map 4kph and the North and Eastern Parts 4-5kph. Within all sections there are faster and slower portions, hence giving a 3-hourly average. Those are based on people who would typically finish in the top 5 of a Rogaine. Adjust accordingly.

There are 75 controls with a total value of 4220 Points. It will not be possible to clear the course.

Adventure/MTB Section

as indicated in the time line, there will be a short briefing after map handout to indicate where bikes could be taken and where they can’t.

Not all off the course can be reached on a bike. It is up to you how you go about planning and collecting controls. Bike Drops and completing loops on foot will be the most efficient way to collect controls. It is my experience that due to the remoteness, and lack of track use, hiding a bike in the bush is safe. If you are not comfortable with that there is still a large amount of riding you can do and leave your bike at the event centre. I suspect there is to 10-12 hours of riding on a variety of Roads, Forestry, MTB tracks and other tracks. There will be some Hike a Bike. There is only the Pineapple Track and Leith Saddle tracks where you can’t ride.
Rules
A full set of rules governing Rogaining in New Zealand is available under “Resources” at www.rogaine.org.nz.

A note on some specifics, overall the rules apply specifically to the 24hr Foot Rogaine. The AO and 6hr Options are Non-Championship.

GPS – this is becoming a grey area due to the capability of phones. However, a phone is part of the compulsory equipment for safety reasons and will generally not provide any benefit to competitive teams. However, a watch tracking distance will and must be in a bag sealed by the organisers.

“R7. The only navigational aids that may be carried on the course are magnetic compasses, watches and copies of the competition map. The possession of other navigational aids, including pedometers, altimeters and GPS receivers on the course is prohibited except where event organisers provide a means by which information on the devices cannot be accessed while on the course. The possession, at the event site, of maps that provide additional information not shown on the competition map is prohibited.”

I was asked about stashing of food, equipment. Several competitors’ houses or friends properties are on the map. You may NOT go home. See R14 below.

My house has been marked (near 94/24), 46 Mooltan Street. There will be a flag on the street and you may use the Tap on the deck for water. In addition, there are 4 Food outlets marked on the map. You may use your phone to call and order pizza. F4 is not on the optimal route. I suggest cash or eftpos, NOT credit cards.

F1 – Halfway Bush Dairy hours ~8am – 8pm
F2 – Halfway Bush Fish Supply (03 4763100) 11:30am-9:00pm
F3 – Wakari Fish Supply (03 4554093), Dairy, Petrol Station
F4 – Dominos Pizza, Indian, Subway, KFC, Cableways Bar (Hours up to 11pm)

“R14. 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 by the team with them to the finish.”
Safety Sheet – New Zealand Rogaining Championships
24 and 6-hour Rogaines - Saturday 24th – Sunday 25th November 2018

Cancellation
This event will be cancelled only if conditions are extreme. The organisers reserve the right to shorten the event by time or geography for safety or other reasons.

Compulsory clothes and equipment:
Per team member:
thermal top & trousers
thermal hat and gloves
rain proof coat
survival sheet or pack liner
whistle, torch/head torch

Per team:
first aid kit – that must include strapping tape and the ability to patch a significant cut/gash
watch
at least one compass
pencil or fine spirit marker

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. We strongly recommend you also carry: long gaiters, showerproof over trousers, a compass each, watch each. Cell phone coverage is patchy and best from high points in the landscape. Organisers can be reached on the numbers printed on the map.

Water
No water is being provided on course. All streams are drinkable, and I am unaware of any health issues that have been caused over the years from this supply. Generally, there is no stock above the streams other than some goats and pigs.

Organisers AND Participants have responsibilities for the safety for you and others, including:

- being aware of and meeting all safety requirements specified by event organisers in writing, on the event web site, or at verbal briefings
- paying attention at the race briefing
- carrying all compulsory 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,
- submitting a ‘flight plan’ map showing your intended course at registration before you start,
- recording your team’s visit to each 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. Roads will be patrolled from time to time through the day.

2. Streams. Do not cross streams if they are heavily swollen. (SEE MORE BELOW)

3. 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.

4. Fog/low cloud. If in fog, orientate the map and yourself with a compass. If in doubt, don’t climb into cloud and descend out of it as soon as possible. This also applies to bush travel, particularly at night. Check your map is oriented to north, regularly.

7. Road Hazard: There will be light traffic on roads. No roads are closed during the event. There will be motorbike on the forestry roads.

8. The Road Code applies at all times: keep to the side of the road and be alert to traffic. We recommend you wear Hi-Viz clothing from dusk.

9. Hunters: unlikely on this course but be alert – if in doubt be visible and vocal.

**Significant Injury**
By virtue of the nature of the event, terrain and number of people taking part it is likely that there will be an injury that requires medical treatment. There will be more person hours on the course that I have put in on the terrain in the last 15 years. I have had several rolled ankles, broken ribs and countless falls.

A plan has been put in place to mitigate any serious on course events. A discussion has been had with LandSAR about what approach to take and the same with St Johns.

We can give no assurance that teams unable to make their own way to the finish, or a road, can be assisted for several hours. Upon notice of an injury requiring on course support, a member of the organising team will come out with additional shelter, first aid, food and warm fluids. This may take 2-3 Hours AFTER learning of the need for support. Should an evacuation be required, depending on location and needs, Police and LandSAR will be notified.

St Johns will not be present at the event centre as they will be unable to help anyone out on course. Medical Centres and the Hospital are within 20 minutes of the event centre and anyone requiring treatment at higher than superficial level will be transported to the appropriate place as soon as possible.

In the event of significant injury or exhaustion, make the injured person warm and comfortable; arrange, if possible, to leave someone with the person; note your exact location on the map; seek
help via the nearest road. Emergency signal – repeated (6 or more) short blasts on whistle at about 1 second intervals repeated each 1 to 5 minutes. Repeat if you hear one long blast. If you become totally disorientated, travel down slope to sheltered ground, preferably to a road or track. In an extreme emergency you may call 111 or trigger a personal PLB.

**Weather**

The weather forecast for the event is currently not too bad. Depending on what website you look at, Friday-Sunday will be mostly dry, but some showers will be around. However, this week there is expected to be significant rain early in the week. You were always going to get wet feet.

[metvuw.com, Norwegian, Metservice](#)

The significance of the weather are the two streams that run through the middle of the course and have controls in them. Depending on route choice there is between 60 and 120 minutes of travel IN the streams.

Otago Regional Council have rain gauges on and just below the course as well as a flow meter approximately 10 km downstream of the course. These have been monitored in the last month in combination with visuals on course to estimate what rainfall and flow will result in course restrictions.

**Silverstream Flow, Mosgiel Rainfall, Swampy Rainfall**

The organisers reserve the right to delay the start, shorten the length of the event or restrict your route choice if they feel that the streams are unsafe. There are several bridges near the event centre that allow safe crossings which in turn will allow nearly the entire course to be accessed safely. It should however be anticipated if this is going to happen as the Silverstream runs directly past the event centre. There are three branches that converge just above the events centre so the flow at Gordon road is only indicative of what is happening.

Thank You
Green Hut Track Group
Waiora Scout Camp
LINZ Data
Dunedin Orienteering Club
DOC, DCC, City Forests
Mountain Bike Otago
Ribbonwood Nurseries