

# Lake Tekapo

## Permanent Orienteering Course information

**WHERE IS IT?** Within the Lake Tekapo Regional Park on Lilybank Road just east of Lake Tekapo township.

**WHAT IS ORIENTEERING?** Orienteering is the sport of finding your way around a course from one point (**control**) to another using a **map**. It can be done at speed, or at a gentle pace to allow you to enjoy the scenery! There are different levels of difficulty and distance.

**UNDERSTANDING THE MAP:** Orienteering maps are drawn using internationally recognised symbols and colours to give a detailed representation of terrain and features. Open land is coloured yellow, open forest is white, and shades of green indicate density of vegetation. The scale of this map is 1:10,000 which means that 1cm on the map is 100 metres on the ground. The vertical lines with an arrow at the top point to magnetic north. Turn your map so that it is also pointing north and the features around you match what you can see on the map. (A compass would be helpful for the more difficult courses.)



**RECOGNISING THE CONTROLS:** Look for posts about 75cm high with a square, white and orange (divided diagonally), sign showing a 2-digit number in the white, upper triangle (this identifies the control) and a 2-letter code in the orange, lower triangle.

The locations of these control posts are shown on the map by circles. The centre of each circle indicates the exact position of a control post. The control descriptions on the map describe the feature close to the control post. The START/FINISH place is shown on the map by a triangle for “start” inside a double circle for “finish”. *Note: There are 60 controls in the Park, not all of which you will visit on any one course as a total of 11 different courses have been designed. Make sure you have identified the correct one!*

**WHERE IS THE START?** “Lake” courses (controls all between Lilybank Road and the lake) - Start in the SE corner of the Old Homestead car park.

“Hill” courses (controls all on the eastern side of the road) - Start at the NE corner of the Tekapo Station car park.

Look for posts in those locations with “Start/Finish” marked on them

**DOING THE COURSE:** A “white” course is easiest, “yellow” just a little bit harder, and “orange” and “red” get progressively more technical and challenging. From the START, visit each control in the number order shown on the map (and left-hand column in the description), until you are back where you started – that is then the FINISH. Check you have got to the right control each time by making sure the number on the post is the one shown against the map control number (second column) on the description, and write down the two-letter code to confirm you have been there.

**You can check the control codes to be sure you have got it all right by visiting the website of Peninsula and Plains Orienteers (and find out more about orienteering at the same time).**

**You can also download further courses in the Park if you would like some more challenge**  
**[papo.org.nz](http://papo.org.nz)** (click on Resources, Permanent Courses)

**Courses available (“Lake” courses are shorter than “Hill” courses of same level of difficulty)**

Lake White 1: Easy Navigation. Short, mostly on tracks. Best for beginners and younger children.

Lake Yellow 1, Hill Yellow 1: Slightly more complicated navigation. Mainly along tracks but with opportunities to short cut across country. Better for older children and beginner adults.

Lake Orange 1, Hill Orange 1: Mostly off track, navigating on features like hills and vegetation. Better after trying a couple of yellows.

Lake Red 1, Hill Red 1,2,3,4,5. (increasing distances, 3.5 to 8.9 km): Challenging navigation, mostly across country.