

Hogs Back Ultralong - Event Info

Directions

The event arena is the Cheeseman Forest Lodge. From Christchurch, take SH73 towards Arthurs Pass. After passing Castle Hill Village, take the next left onto the gravel road to Mt Cheeseman Skifield (signposted). This left turn is 2.2 km past the Castle Hill Village turnoff and just before the bridge over Broken River. Drive up the Mt Cheeseman Skifield Access Road for 6km, and after crossing Tims Stream take the right turn to the Forest Lodge. Allow 1 hour and 30 minutes from Christchurch International Airport. Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/aLvbsj2wTEs>

Parking on the map is limited so please carpool. If you have booked accommodation at the lodge, you may drive up to the lodge to park. If you are just coming for the day, please park at Texas Flat. From Texas Flat it is a short walk up to the lodge (1.8 km).

There will be runners crossing the road after 11am so drive slowly and give way to them.

The finish is at the Forest Lodge. You are encouraged to leave your bags/lunch at the Forest Lodge before you start so that everyone can socialise at the lodge once they are finished.

Registration

There is no need to go to registration if you have pre-entered, have your own SI card and have paid in full. If you cannot answer “yes” to any of these you must go to registration before your start.

Regular event fees apply (\$12 senior, \$6 junior). VIP cards will be accepted.

Start

The start is 400 m back up the road from the Forest Lodge. Warming up is permitted on the gravel roads only (do not enter the forest).

Grades: M21, W21, M20, W20

There are allocated start times for these grades, from 11am. The start interval is 6min for JWOC competitors and 3min for other grades. Assemble at the road junction with the road down to the Forest Lodge and collect your descriptions. When called (3min before start), cross the road, bag your map, clear and check, and listen to any start instructions. Punch the start when you are told to start.

The start triangle is 100 m along the track (20m climb).

Important note:

If you have entered the W20 course but are not eligible for the W20 grade, do not be alarmed to see your name is not in the W20 start list! You have been entered on the W20 course (course 4) but have been placed in the Short Red – Other grade. We have simply chosen not to draw a start list for this grade. You are free to start on this course when you wish from 12:15pm. Please see below.

Grades: Short Red – Other, Orange, Yellow

There are no allocated start times for these grades. Starts will be from 12:15pm, after the M21, W21, M20, and W20 competitors have started. Assemble at the road junction with the road down to the

Forest Lodge and collect your descriptions. Cross the road, clear and check and bag your map. Write your name on the sheet of paper so that we know who has started (and can come looking for you if you are not back!). Start yourself when you wish but ensure you leave at least 2min between you and the person before you on your course. The start triangle is 100 m along the track (20m climb).

Starts are until 2pm. Course closure is 4pm.

Prize Money

Active Timing (Marcus Diprose) has decided to sponsor \$500 in prize money for the elite grades (M21, W21, M20, and W20). This shall be allocated as to winners of each grade as follows:

Grade	Prize Money
M21	\$150
W21	\$150
M20	\$100
W20	\$100

We will hold a prize giving at 4pm to announce the winners in these four grades.

Courses

Course lengths are detailed in the table below. Entry on the day is permitted for the Short Red – Other, Orange, and Yellow courses. Payment is the same as regular PAPO events; \$12 for seniors, \$6 for juniors.

Course	Grades	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Scale	Map size	No. of controls	Enter on the day
1	M21	13.7	1005	1:10 000	A3	24	No
2	W21	8.4	525	1:10 000	A3	13	No
3	M20	9.5	695	1:10 000	A3	16	No
4	W20, Short Red - Other	5.6	395	1:10 000	A3	11	Yes
5	Orange	4.5	290	1:10 000	A4	7	Yes
6	Yellow	2.0	60	1:10 000	A4	6	Yes

There are mountain bike tracks crossing the map. Please be careful and watch out for mountain bikers who may be travelling very quickly.

Water

Water will not be provided on the courses. The streams are generally very clean and are probably fine to drink from. If you are concerned about water quality you should bring your own supply.

The courses are long. You are advised to bring some food with you on the course.

Weather

The long-range forecast is looking quite good, with a fine but cool day and rain coming through in the evening.

May in the Castle Hill Basin can be extremely varied. Generally, the area is quite isolated from wet weather systems but being a subalpine environment, snow may fall on the terrain, it could be extremely wet or even very hot and sunny. Please be prepared for any conditions. South Island orienteers are generally pretty hardy folk and if the weather forecast is looking different to what you hoped, throw on a thermal and enjoy the experience. There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.

Wasps

The beech forest in recent years has been subject to large wasp populations. Extensive baiting operations have been run but the wasps are still present. The wasps should not be an issue in May – it is generally over the summer that they pose problems – but be aware of this if you think you may be allergic.

Safety Bearing

The safety bearing is west to the mountains, from which you should have a sufficient view to figure out where you are.

Terrain

The Hogs Back map is a subalpine area with a mixture of mature beech forest and open tussock. The elevation ranges from 700m to 1200m above sea level. Large flat areas are dissected by steep valleys and ridges. The beech forest offers a range of runnability, from open mature forest with running speeds < 4min/km to extremely thick areas of regrowth. There are some isolated areas of limestone rock detail. The map has been extended since its last use.

The map is drawn to ISOM2017.

