

# QB2021 & Covid 19 – Entry, cancellation and refund policy.

## Introduction

PAPO is organising the Queen's Birthday multi-day orienteering weekend, 5th-7th June 2021. The weekend includes the Inter-regional Schools Challenge, NZSS Orienteering Team trials and Canterbury Champs. It is also a National Orienteering League (NOL) race for the elites. For PAPO, the key consideration in developing a 'Covid-19'-document, in close consultation with ONZ, is to ensure the safety of participants planning to partake in this event. This 'Covid-19'-document follows Government and Orienteering New Zealand (ONZ) Covid guidelines on gatherings and social distancing and provides clarity on our cancellation policy, event fee refunds as well as practical guidelines during the event, depending on the Covid Alert Level at that time.

## Online Entries

- The final date for online entries at 'standard' entry fees is Sunday, 16th May 2021.
- Full refunds of entry fees are available for any reason up to the closing date for standard entries, Sunday 16th May.
- The final date for online entries is Sunday 23rd May 2021. A 50% increase in entry fees applies from 17th May to 23rd May.
- Requests for non-Covid related entry refunds after 16th May (for example due to participant illness, accident or hardship) will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the QB2021 organisers, based on a 50% refund.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

- Participants are required to pre-enter and prepay significant entry fees. In addition to the entry fees, there are travel and accommodation costs. PAPO cannot accept liability for any financial losses associated with travel and accommodation cancellations or changes.
- In line with Government advice, we ask that participants do not attend QB2021 if they are unwell, are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test or are at risk of recent contact with a person with Covid-19. In this situation, please contact the organisers before the event to be granted a full refund.

An initial decision on whether to go ahead with QB2021 will be made on **Sunday 16th May 2021**.

- If *any* part of New Zealand is at Alert Level 3+ on Sunday 16th May 2021, ONZ and PAPO will review the situation and the likelihood of changes in Alert Levels occurring in the three weeks leading up to Queen's Birthday 2021. If at this time the decision is made to cancel QB2021, all participants will receive a full refund of entry fees.

The decision to go ahead with QB2021 will be constantly reviewed with any change to alert levels from Monday 17th May onwards.

- If the Canterbury region moves *above* Alert Level 2, ONZ and PAPO will review the situation and likelihood of a return to Alert Level 2 before Queen's Birthday weekend. If the decision is made to cancel QB2021, a 75% refund will be issued to all participants.
- If any other region of New Zealand moves *above* Alert Level 2, the Inter-regional Schools Challenge, NZSS Orienteering Team trials and NOL aspects of QB2021 will not go ahead. In this situation and in consultation with ONZ, PAPO will decide whether to continue to run QB2021. Those unable to attend due to changes in Alert Level in their region will receive a 75% refund.
- QB2021 will be held with appropriate restrictions on mass gathering sizes, social distancing etc. to meet ONZ and NZ Government requirements. We realise some people may well not want to travel or compete at a sporting event in an Alert Level 2 environment. If a participant registered online at Alert Level 1 but the Alert Level changed to 2 before or during Queen's Birthday, a 75% refund will be paid on request for all race days on which a participant decides not to compete.
- If the Canterbury region moves *above* Alert Level 2, during Queen's Birthday weekend, the rest of the events will be cancelled. A 75% refund of event day entry fees for all participants will apply.

### Communication

We will communicate any changes to the orienteering community as soon as possible. PAPO will announce major changes simultaneously via the PAPO Facebook page and website, and via email to participants who have entered online. ONZ will also make announcements via their own communication channels.