



UCOC Ultralong 2024

Welcome to the 2024 University of Canterbury Orienteering Club (UCOC) Ultralong!!

Planners: Felix Hunt & Jakob Knoef
Controller: Ryan Moore

Travel & Directions

Allow 1.5hrs from Christchurch. There will be no event signage until reaching the event centre. Head North on SH1 to Amberley. From Amberley, continue north on SH1. After 8.9km, turn left onto Georges Road, after 5.9km take a slight right onto Ram Paddock Road and continue to the event centre approximately 14km along Ram Paddock Road. Note: road turns to gravel after ~7kms. Turn right into the event centre and park as directed.

Start

Please note the distance from the event centre to the start is ~3.5km with a continuous climb back up the road. Please allow at least 45 minutes before your start time.

There will be a shuttle available to take older athletes to the top of the hill. Please only use this if necessary, as the start window will be compact and we have limited numbers of vehicles to make the trip up the hill. Please note that due to windfall and high fire risk, cars are not allowed in the forest so there will still be an 800m walk from the shuttle drop off point for **ALL** athletes.

Be aware and cautious of cars while walking to the start, and for people driving to the event centre, please be extra cautious of people walking on the road.

Terrain

The Laidmore/Mt Ellen map is a carbon farming pine forest which ranges from moderately steep to extremely steep. There is an area of farmland with a deep gorge running through. Laidmore has a range of rock and vegetation features which make navigation both challenging and exciting. The area is steep and rocky in places so caution is needed when in the forest.

There are some areas of extensive windfall. Take care when negotiating these areas. There are also areas with low branches. Eye protection could be helpful or advantageous. Leg protection is **not** necessary.

Mapping

There have been a number of updates made to the map where relevant to the courses for this event. In most cases these updates are minor and should be accurate. However, the elite courses pass through a small area in the north of the map which was previously mapped as ficht but has now opened up into rough open terrain. This area has been updated roughly but the details cannot be relied on for fine navigation, however in terms of route choice it is passable from all directions, and should not impact competition. Furthermore there may be some new patches of windfall that are not on the map, or old patches of windfall (mapped as ficht or undergrowth) that have disappeared.

Hazards

Hazards on the day include uneven ground, low branches, cold weather, cliffs and scree slopes. Please be aware that the orange and red level courses include a stream crossing. Although currently this stream is low and safe to cross, this could change throughout the week and caution must be taken when crossing this area of the map. Cars will be present on Ram Paddock Road, please take care when walking up this road to the start and stick to the side if using it as a route choice.

Compulsory Gear

For this event, there will be no compulsory gear, however UCOC **highly recommends** that all athletes wear a watch or have some way of knowing the time to ensure no one is out past course closure. If the weather is cold or rainy, we hope that you will take the precautions necessary without needing to be checked at the start.

Orienteering shoes with good tread are highly recommended for the Laidmore map.

Run Through

On all elite courses and the Long Red, there will be a run through around 65% through the courses. At this stage of the race there will be a drinks table where you can place water bottles and gels for the 2nd half of the course. At this point of the course you will need to make a judgement call whether you have enough time remaining before course closure to complete the second loop of the course. If there is not sufficient time, we ask that you please finish and download instead of heading back out on course.

Toilets

There will be toilets at the event centre and at the start.

Timing

Registration: From 9:00am

Starts: From 10:00am

Course Closure: 3:00pm

Start lists for all grades will be available on the PAPO website after entries close on Wednesday 8th of May.

All athletes must be finished and back at the event centre by 3:00pm. The course closure time is not an indicator to start making your way back to the event centre, you should already be finished. When you return to the event centre, you **must** download so we know that you have returned from your course. Controls will be beginning to be collected from 3pm to ensure everything is packed up before sunset.

Courses

Course	Distance	Climb	Controls	Scale	Water Station
White	2.5km	65m	11	1:7,500 A4	-
Yellow	2.9km	75m	10	1:7,500 A4	-
Orange	4.3km	205m	11	1:10,000 A4	-
Red Short	3.2km	190m	12	1:7,500 A4	-
Red Medium	4.9km	280m	16	1:10,000 A4	25%
Red Long	7.7km	455m	21	1:10,000 A3	30%, 65%
W20E	7.7km	455m	21	1:15,000 A4	30%, 65%
M20E	9.9km	570m	26	1:15,000 A4	20%, 60%
W21E	10.4km	630m	27	1:15,000 A4	20%, 60%
M21E	12.7km	800m	34	1:15,000 A4	20%, 60%, 80%

