

Map ratings policy for Victorian bush events

Subject to other considerations, such as having events in suitable locations, the best interests of Victorian orienteering are served by having major bush events on the best available maps. This policy is intended to support this goal, whilst still giving clubs some flexibility as to which maps they nominate for which events.

Existing maps

Existing maps are rated in three principal map standard categories, A, B or C, with a secondary designator (1 or 2) indicating the extent to which the area has potential for a higher rating with a new/upgraded map (a designator of 2 indicates that there is scope for a higher rating, 1 indicates that the rating is already the maximum that the terrain is likely to support). The categorization will be endorsed by the Bush Orienteering sub-committee by 31 August each year and will remain in effect until the end of the following year, to allow for the annual fixture to be developed.

The rating of maps is based on the following criteria:

- (a) quality of the terrain for high-level bush orienteering;
- (b) standard of the map at the time when it was first made;
- (c) extent to which the map still accurately reflects the terrain;
- (d) age of the map (least important)

The rating of a 'map' applies to the broad area fieldworked, and applies to any subsets of that area which are printed for a particular competition.

Maps may also be rated as suitable for only particular types of competition. This would, for example, apply to small areas which can support short courses but not long ones.

There is also a separate list of reserved areas. These are areas which are intended for use for a future major event, and should not be included on the fixture, even if they are not yet formally embargoed.

New maps

A club considering a new map and wishes it to be considered for the following year's fixture should advise the Bush Orienteering sub-committee by 31 August.

For the purpose of this policy, a new map is either a map of an area which has not previously been mapped, or a revision of an existing map with significant new fieldwork. A reprint of an existing map, or its redrawing onto OCAD, without significant new fieldwork would not normally be considered a new map.

New maps will be provisionally rated in category A1, B1 or C1, based on criteria (a) and (b) above, and then re-rated after their first use. Maps whose first use is for a major

championship or national carnival will normally be rated in category A1 for at least 5 years, unless changes to the terrain render the map out of date or unusable.

New maps relatively close to Melbourne may be considered for a category A rating for their first use, even if the terrain quality would not normally justify such a rating.

Use of maps for various levels of events

The following criteria apply to the maps which may be used for different levels of events:

- (a) Australian Long, Middle and Relay Championships, and Australian 3-Days – would be expected to be held on a new map.
- (b) Victorian Long Championships – would be expected to be held on either a new map, or a map which has been used once previously for one of the events listed in (a) above or another high-level event (e.g. international event, WOC selection trial).
- (c) Victorian Middle and Relay Championships, National League events in Victoria – may be held on a new map or an existing category A map.
- (d) State Series events – preferred to be held on a new map or a category A map, but may also be held on category B maps.
- (e) Other bush events – may be held on any map.

Sprint maps are a special case and are not included in this policy.

Draft list of maps in particular categories

Category A1 (note – there is no category A2 by definition)

Barambogie
 Beechworth (not long distance)
 Magenta
 Kooyoora (and all subsets)
 Mount Korong
 Browns Reef
 Mandurang
 Fiddlers Green (short distance only – category B for other events)
 Sedgwick
 Eppalock North
 Eppalock South
 Mosquito Creek
 Nerrina
 Mount Beckworth
 Creswick Diggings
 Bunjil
 Sailors Creek
 Blowhole (and extensions)

Butterfly Gully
Hepburn
Porcupine Ridge
Glenluce
Mia Mia
Blow Mine
Mount Tarrengower
Smiths Reef
Wattle Gully/Spring Gully
Deadmans Flat/Irishtown
Kookaburra Rises
Boundary Creek South
Two Kangaroo Creeks
Whroo
Petticoat Gully

Category B

Most areas on this list are either at least 10 years old, are areas which were only marginally suitable for state-level events, or have maps for which some issues became apparent on initial use

Borhoney Ghurk (B2)
Mount Doran (B2)
Carrolls Spring (B1)
Cyanide Dam (land access issues) (B2)
Table Top (land access issues) (B2)
Mt. Difficult (B2)
Diamond Hill (B2 – but any upgrade likely to be suitable for middle/sprint only)
One Tree Hill (B2)
You Yangs (B1, unless area thins out substantially)
Kimbolton (north and south) (B2)
Lyell Forest (north and south) (B2)
Canadian Forest (B1)
Jim Crow (B2)
Lake Wombat (widespread logging) (B1 or B2, depending on logging extent)
St. Georges Lake (widespread logging) (B1 or B2, depending on logging extent)
Chinamans Flat (bushfire regrowth) (B2)
Blackfellows Flat (eucalypt section) (B2)
Castlemaine (B2; middle/sprint only)
Glenlyon Roses (B2)
Boundary Creek (B2)
Belltopper Hill (B2)
Dunga Mount (vegetation believed outdated) (B2)
Graytown (B2)
Plenty River (B1)

Category C

Balt Camp (C2 – maximum potential B except as one-off)

Dale Creek (C2 – maximum potential B)

Snake Head Creek (bushfire damage) (C1 until vegetation thins out)

Little Hard Hills (bushfire regrowth) (C2 – maximum potential B at present, possibly A soon)

Macedon (vegetation outdated – potential remap as eucalypt is now much more runnable than mapped) (C2 – in general maximum potential B, but could support a one-off A as a remap)

Strath Creek (C2 – maximum potential B)

Warrigul Rocks (C2 – maximum potential A if remapped well)

Mount Hickey (C2 – maximum potential A if remapped well)

All areas not named elsewhere

Reserved areas

Chewton Diggings (2008 Vic Long Distance)

Triptera (2009 Australian Long, Australian Relays)

Kangaroo Crossing (out of print)

Mount Alexander (access currently difficult)

Crocodile Reservoir (2009 Vic Long Distance)