



HUNTER S.S.A. 47th ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Speers Point Park

Tuesday 19th August, 2025

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

Orienteering is a sport that challenges both the body and the mind, using a special orienteering map to navigate your way around a course and visit marked check points along the way. The school championships are open to primary and high school students and is contested in an open park environment. Navigation and compass skills will still be required.

All individuals or teams of two complete TWO courses.

1. Age Division Line Course (straight line distance of 1.4 km to 3 km from start to finish)
2. Open Score Course (30 minute time limit)

Schools are asked to enter only serious, reliable students. It is expected that all competitors will conduct themselves in such a manner that *everyone* will be able to have a fair go at the courses.

EVENT ENTRY:

Each student participating in the event must complete an event entry.

Secondary students from Government schools must enter and pay the \$12 entry fee using the DASH platform.

Club members can enter and pay the \$12 entry fee via Eventor.

Other students please contact Geoff Todkill (printing@newcastleorienteering.asn.au) to arrange event entry.

All students will require the completion of a HSSA consent form. Please contact Geoff Todkill (printing@newcastleorienteering.asn.au) to obtain the form.

COURSE SELECTION:

Individuals and team must indicate their preferred AGE and SCORE courses using Eventor or the Course Selection Form. Please contact Geoff Todkill (printing@newcastleorienteering.asn.au) to obtain the form.

The absolute latest date to receive entries is Tuesday 12th August, 2025.

Maps are being specially printed for this day, and only the required number will be printed. Students cannot just 'turn up' on the day.

EVENT ORGANISATION

Duration: The duration of the event will depend upon the number of competitors. Typically, the event will begin with a safety briefing at 10 am and conclude by 2:30 pm.

How to get there:

From Argenton Travel south along TC Frith Avenue, and continue past Bunnings, turn right (west) at the Speers Point roundabout, turn left (south) into Creek Reserve Road, and then into the boat ramp carpark.

From Warners Bay Travel west along The Esplanade past the Speers Point pool and Football centre. Exit the Speers Point roundabout at the second exit (west) and continue to Creek Reserve Road as above.

From Toronto Travel north along Toronto Road and continue to cross the Five Islands bridges in the left lane. Exit the Speers Point roundabout at the first exit (west) and continue to Creek Reserve Road as above.

Parking: Parking will be available at the eastern side of the boat ramp carpark.

Assembly Area: The assembly area for the event will be located between the carpark and the Playground.

Facilities: Toilets are provided. Food and drink is not for sale.

Event area: The event will be held in open parkland. Students are required to avoid out of bounds areas as shown on the event map and as highlighted during the event safety briefing. There will be a number of Newcastle Orienteering Club officials in the terrain to monitor the out of bounds areas.

WHAT TO BRING:

The following items are the responsibility of individual schools/competitors.

- Each individual/pair need to carry a compass and a whistle for safety and a watch to check elapsed time.
- Students should wear comfortable running attire. The event area is mainly open parkland, but due to some overhanging branches, eye protection may also be considered.
- Students are to apply adequate sun protection, and be prepared for wet weather.
- Students need to bring their own drink bottles, water, snacks, towels or other personal gear.
- The assembly area has limited shade so consider bringing a shelter, tarp or blanket and folding chairs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Age Division Course: The age division course is determined by the age turned this year. For beginning orienteers there will be an “Intermediate” course and a “Senior” course which will be navigationally easier than the corresponding age championship courses.

Score Course: The score course is where you find as many controls as you can within a time limit of 30 minutes. A points penalty applies if you exceed 30 minutes. The course should be select courses based on **experience** rather than age. The courses are graded with A the most difficult and D the easiest.

Team Entries: Mixed age teams will be accepted provided they run the more difficult course. Teams of two **MUST** start, do the whole course, record the control code on **ONE** map, and **FINISH TOGETHER**. Any **team** which splits up at any stage will be disqualified.

NSW School Championships: The top finishers in each age group at Regional Championships are encouraged to compete for a state title. This event is open entry with no pre-qualification required. Pre entry is essential via the Orienteering NSW website www.onsw.asn . At the state event students can choose from an A (moderate to hard) or B (easy) course. This year the NSW School Championships are on in the Southern Highlands from the **23rd to the 24th of August 2025**.