New Zealand Orienteering Championships 2026

BULLETIN 1

Coonoor

Welcome

Orienteering Wellington is looking forward to welcoming you to the Wairarapa for four days of fantastic orienteering.

Visit https://ochamps.nz and follow Orienteering Wellington on Facebook for updates.

Overall event contacts

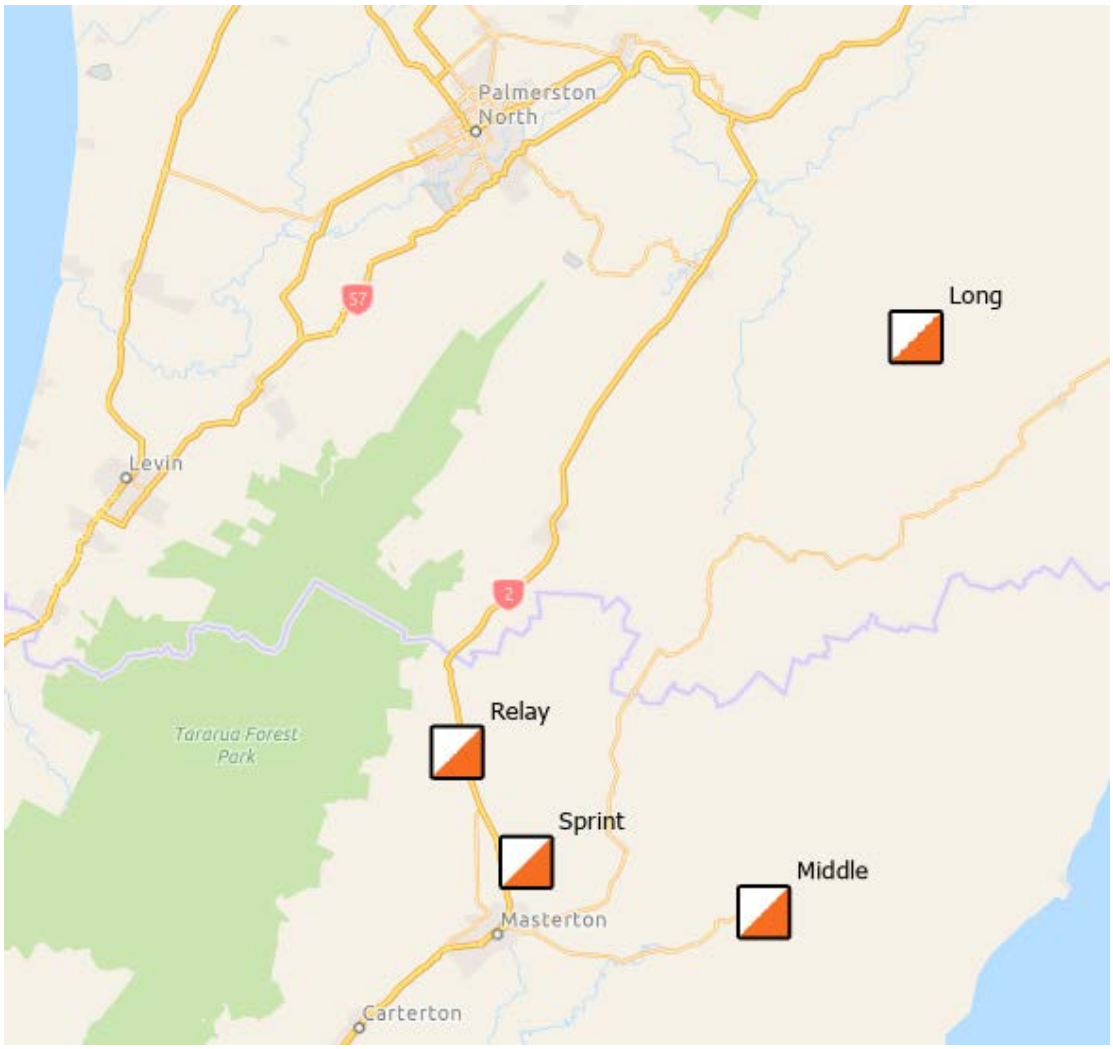
You can contact the event organisers at Orienteering Wellington via the following methods:

- Email: orienteeringinwellington@gmail.com
- Via Facebook Messenger

General event information

Date	Event	Location	Starts from
Fri 3 Apr 2026	Sprint Distance Champs	Rathkeale College	1pm
Sat 4 Apr 2026	Middle Distance Champs	Rewanui Forest Park	10am
Sun 5 Apr 2026	Long Distance Champs	Coonoor	10am
Mon 6 Apr 2026	National Relay Champs	Riverlands	10am

Location map



Entries and fees

Online entries (www.entero.co.nz) will be open from February 2026. Opening of entries will be announced via the NZOC 2026 website as well as the ONZ website. Standard entry fees apply up until midnight 15th March. After this date, late entries fees apply until entries close at midnight on 24th March. Late entries are a 50% increase on the standard entry fee. No entries will be accepted after 24th March.

- Entries cancelled partially or in full up until entries close will receive a refund less a NZ$10 administration fee. No refunds will be given for cancellations after entries close.

On the day entries will not be available.

Entrants must be affiliated to ONZ or an IOF member organisation, or pay a one-event participation fee.

New Zealand Championship titles may be held only by individual members of ONZ-affiliated clubs who are also NZ citizens or permanent residents. Payment of a one-event participation levy does not grant eligibility.

Entry fees are to be confirmed

The M21E and W21E races in the Sprint, Middle and Long will be World Ranking Events. Entry to the World Ranking Events can be made via the entries site. All runners on the M/W21E courses will be ranked. To run in a WRE you must have an IOF ID number. If you do not have one, go to https://eventor.orienteering.org/ and create an account.

Event cancellation

Cancellation of the event will occur in conditions that are too dangerous for safe competition. Any such information will be posted on https://ochamps.nz and the Orienteering Wellington Facebook page, and an email sent to all participants as soon as practicable after the decision is taken.

Transport

No transport to the events will be provided by the organisers. We encourage competitors to car-share where possible to minimise the impact on the environment.

Accommodation

There is no pre-organised accommodation for competitors. AirBnB, holidayhomes.co.nz and bookabach.co.nz have many accommodation options in the region. Masterton will serve as a good base for competitors over the four days.

Competition details

The SportIdent (SI) punching system will be used in all events. SIAC cards will be available for hire at $5 per event. When hiring an SI card, make sure you return the card at download after your last race. Lost or broken SI cards will incur a charge of $120 to cover the cost of a replacement.

Start lists for all events will be published on the event website as soon as possible. A copy of the Start List will be available at Registration during the event. The start list for the WRE races will be compiled in accordance with Section 12 of the IOF Rules. Start Lists and results will be published on the NZOC 2026 website.

Competition maps will be produced using the International Specification for Orienteering Maps (ISOM2017-2) or the International Specification for Sprint Orienteering Maps(ISSprO 2019), and will be digitally printed on synthetic waterproof paper (Teslin).

Official results will be posted on winsplits at the end of each day of competition. Unofficial results will be available on screens at the event.

Complaints and protests will be handled in accordance with the ONZ rules 27, 28, 29 and 30. The only exception to this procedure will be in the case of WRE events for elite runners, which are handled in accordance with the IOF rules.

Embargoed areas

Embargoed areas and details of embargoes may be found at https://www.orienteering.org.nz/news/onz-championships-2026-embargoed-areas/

Event details

Date	Map	Planner	Controller
Friday 3 April	**Rathkeale College**	**Will Vale**	**Dick Dinsdale**
Saturday 4 April	**Rewanui Forest Park**	**Malcolm Ingham**	**Gillian ingham**
Sunday 5 April	**Coonoor**	**Casper Harmer**	**Geoff Morrison**
Monday 6 April	**Riverlands**	**Yvette Baker**	**Liz Nicholson/Rob Collier**

IOF advisers for WRE will be announced in due course.

Sprint Distance

Terrain: school campus and playing fields.

Map scale: 1:4000 and 1:3000, 2.5 m contour interval

Courses/classes:

Course	Men	Women	Average Distance (km)*	Difficulty
1	M20E, M21E		3.5	Difficult
2	M16A, M18A, M20A, M21A, M35A, M40A	W20E, W21E	3	Difficult
3	M45A, M50A		2.7	Difficult
4	M14A, M55A	W16A, W18A, W20A, W21A	2.5	Difficult
5	M60A, M65A	W14A, W35A, W40A, W45A, W50A	2.2	Difficult
6	M21AS, M70A, M75A	W21AS, W55A, W60A, W65A	1.8	Difficult
7	M80A	W70A, W75A	1.3	Difficult
8	M85A, M90A	W80A, W85A, W90A	1	Difficult
9	M16B, M20B, M21B	W16B, W20B, W21B	2.3	Moderate
10	M12A, M14B, M40B, Open Easy	W12A, W14B, W40B, Open Easy	2	Moderate
11	M10, M12B, Open Very Easy	W10, W12B, Open Very Easy	1.6	Easy

Middle distance

Terrain**:** pine forest and farmland with some rock detail, moderately steep.

Map scale: 1:10000 and 1:7500, 5 m contour interval

Courses/classes:

Course	Men	Women	Winning Time (min)	Relative Length	Difficulty
1	M20E, M21E		35	100%	Red

2	M35A, M40A	W20E, W21E	35	75%	Red
3	M18A, M20A, M21A, M45A, M50A		30	70%	Red
4	M16A, M55A	W21A, W35A, W40A	25 (men) 30 (women)	60%	Red
5		W18A, W20A, W45A, W50A	30	55%	Red
6	M60A, M65A	W16A, W55A	25	45%	Red
7	M70A	W60A	25	40%	Red
8	M75A	W65A, W70A	25	30%	Red
	M21AS, M40AS		20		
9	M80A, M55AS	W75A, W21AS, W40AS, W55AS	20	20%	Red
10	M85A, M90A	W80A, W85A, W90A	20	10%	Red
11	M14A	W14A	20	40%	Orange
12	M16B, M20B, M21B, M40B		20	25%	Orange
13		W16B, W20B, W21B, W40B	20	20%	Orange
14	M12A, M14B, Open Easy	W12A, W14B, Open Easy	20		Yellow (median)
15	M10, M12B, Open Very	W10, W12B, Open Very	20		White

	Easy	Easy			(median)

Long distance

Terrain**:** farmland on with many tomos and rock features, both large and small, moderately steep to steep.

Map scale: 1:15000 (WRE), 1;10000 and 1:7500, 5 m contour interval

Courses/classes:

Course	**Men**	**Women**	**Relative Length**	**Difficulty**
1	M21E		100%	Red
2	M20E		80%	Red
3		W21E	65%	Red
4	M21A, M35A, M40A		55%	Red
5		W20E	50%	Red
	M18A, M20A, M45A			Red
6	M16A, M50A, M55A	W21A, W35A, W40A	45%	Red
7	M60A	W45A, W50A	40%	Red
8	M21AS, M65A	W16A, W18A, W20A, W55A	35%	Red
9	M40AS, M70A	W21AS, W60A	30%	Red
10	M55AS, M75A	W40AS, W65A, W70A	23%	Red
11	M80A, M85A	W55AS, W75A, W80A	13%	Red

12	M90A	W85A, W90A	10%	Red
13	M14A		35%	Orange
14	M16B, M20B, M21B, M40B	W14A	30% / 20%	Orange
15		W16B, W20B, W21B, W40B	20%	Orange
16	M12A, M14B	W12A, W14B, Open Easy	—	Yellow (median)
17	M10, M12B	W10, W12B, Open Very Easy	—	White (median)

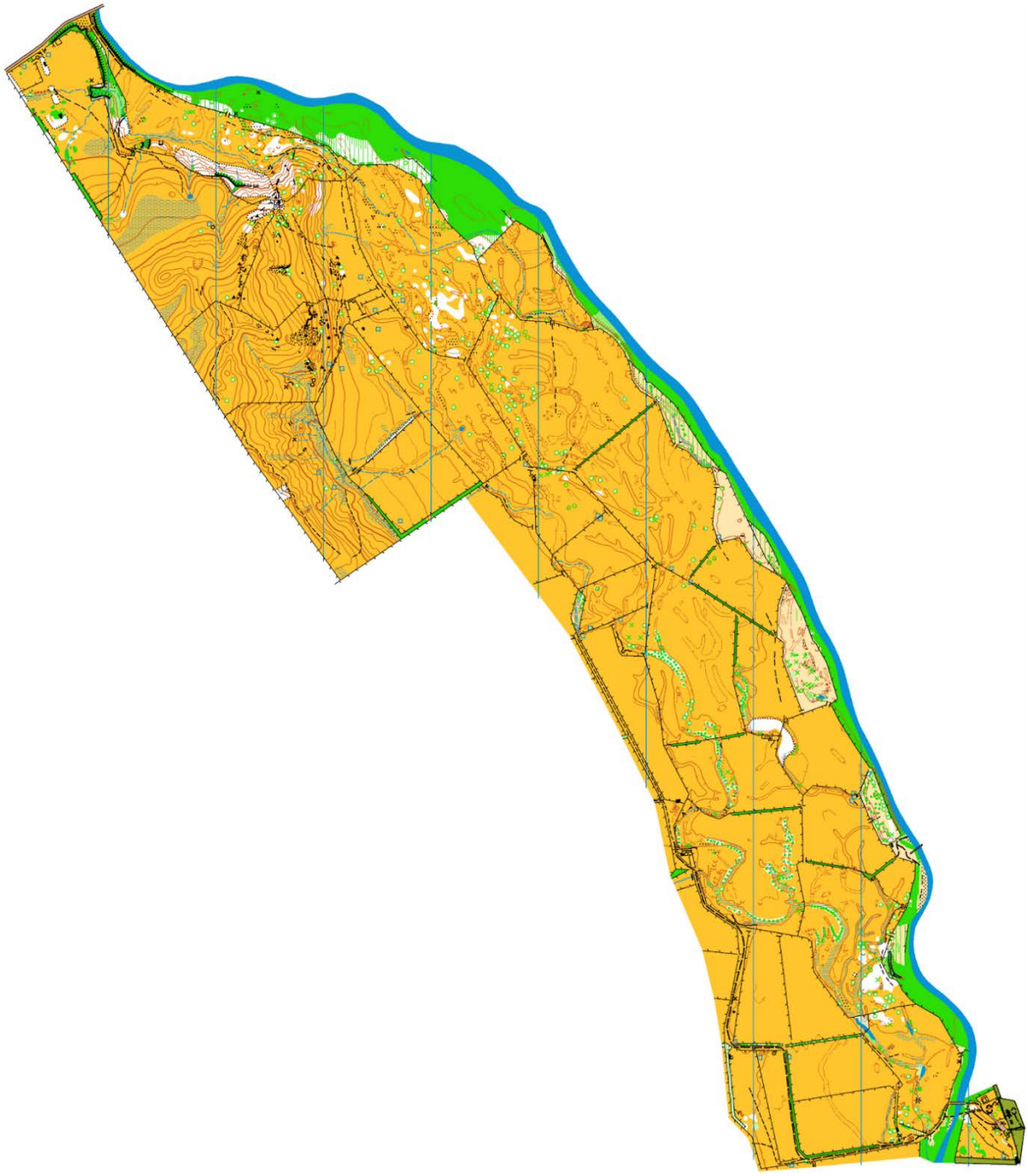
Relay

Terrain**:** farmland with subtle contour detail and some rock.

Map scale: 1;10000 and 1:7500, 5 m contour interval

Courses/classes: TBC

Previous orienteering maps

Rathkeale

Riverlands