



## What is Tyakunda Trailblazer?

Tyakunda Trailblazer is a multi-section annual rogaining competition hosted by Tyakunda District. The inaugural event was held in 2023 for Tyakunda District, and then it was opened to other districts in 2024.

There are two separate competitions: one for Joeys and Cubs, where each team is supported by a Leader, and they can learn some navigation skills and get a taste for rogaining; and another for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers, where they will come armed with the skills they have developed and compete in a team of peers.

## What is Rogaining?

Rogaining is an orienteering sport of long-distance cross-country navigation. Originating in Australia in 1972 by a Victorian Rover Crew, it involves both route planning and navigation between checkpoints in a small team. The key difference between rogaining and (traditional) orienteering is that in orienteering, you must visit all checkpoints in a specific order to finish in the shortest time; whereas in rogaining, you choose your own route and visit the checkpoints you want in any order to maximise your score.

Rogaining features a combination of teamwork, strategy and map reading, as teams try to get the most points to win.

## Summary Information

**Applications close:** Sunday 22 June 2025  
**Event date:** Sunday 20 July 2025  
**Cost:** \$16 per youth member



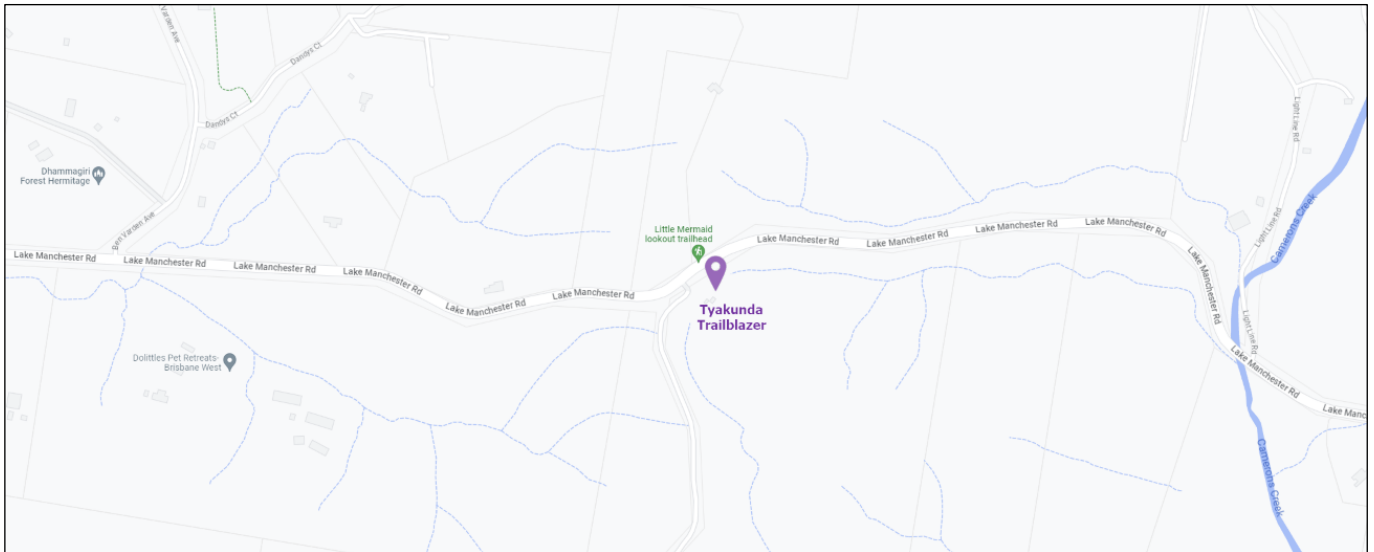
**Arrival:** 9:15am\*–9:45am  
**Rogaine:** 10:30am–12:30pm  
**Rogaine duration:** 2 hours  
**Departure:** 2:00pm

7:30am–8:00am  
9:00am–1:00pm  
4 hours  
2:00pm

\* or from 8:45am if planning your route on the day

# Location

The event will be held at Changing Mountain Bushland and our HQ will be set up on the left-hand side of the road when heading west on Lake Manchester Road. It is opposite the Little Mermaid lookout trailhead and is roughly halfway between the crossing of Camerons Creek and Ben Varden Avenue.



The drop-off and pick-up zone will be marked with Scouts Queensland banners, and parents should be prepared to drop and go. Please encourage carpooling to help with minimal environmental impact, as well as to avoid queuing on the road. Leaders will be there to help escort participants across the road, direct them to the registration area for check-in, and then on to HQ. There is no parking available for parents. Note that this area has changed from last year so please follow directions and signage.

There is limited space for Leader parking but if you need to park, it will be behind the drop-off/pick-up zone. Please ensure you park neatly up against the fence to maximise the space available for other Leaders and for the drop-off/pick-up zone. If you are also bringing youth members, please proceed directly to a parking space, and then all head to the check-in area together.

No one is to park or be dropped off directly in front of the HQ area.



# Orienteering vs Rogaining

- ◆ Orienteering is a set course that you do as quickly as you can; rogaining has a set duration in which you choose your own course prior to starting and try to maximise your total points.
- ◆ Orienteering is done solo; rogaining is done in a team of two to five.
- ◆ Even long orienteering events generally are not as large as the shortest rogaines.
- ◆ Teams get their maps half an hour before the event starts to give them time to plan their route.
- ◆ Checkpoints in a rogaine are not equal, which makes it strategic because rather than just get to the most checkpoints, teams may choose to find the hardest checkpoints, which may be harder to find or more physically difficult to get to, but they will be worth more points.
- ◆ Teams must be aware of the strict finish time because they lose 10 points for every minute late in returning from the course.
- ◆ It is possible for younger teams to take an easier route and collect more points than an older team who push too far and either don't quite make it or return late, so we really could have any section win! This is exactly what has happened at Tyakunda Trailblazer before.

## Who can attend?



### Team size:

2–4 youth members  
1 adult

3–5 youth members  
(no adult)

All participants must be registered members of Scouts Queensland and all youth members of a team must come from the same section. Joey and Cub teams must also include a Leader or Rover to help supervise and support the younger youth members while out on the course.

We ask that the Leader/Rover plays a supporting role to help teach the Joeys and Cubs navigation skills while they go and provide encouragement, rather than doing all the work yourself and dragging unhappy children along for the ride. This is the best way to foster a love for the bush, navigation, and rogaining, so they might come back in future years and compete unaided as Scouts or Venturers.

All units/groups attending must have a leader attending that will assume responsibility for their youth members. Please ensure the nominated leader has access to Operoo profiles for any youth members under their supervision.

## Cost

The activity fee for all participating youth members (Joeys to Rovers) is **\$16**.

There is no charge for Leaders or Rovers supporting a Joey or Cub team, nor is there a charge for Leaders who are coming along to supervise their youth members (from up at HQ).

### Inclusions:

- ◆ All youth members and leaders will get a burger to eat upon completion of the course.
- ◆ Everyone will also receive a 2025 Tyakunda Trailblazer event badge for their camp blankets.

# Applications

To register, please complete the Tyakunda Trailblazer (TT2025) application form via the [Scouts Queensland Activity Management System \(AMS\)](#). All individuals (or their parents) must register and pay for themselves via the AMS. All adults attending must register via the AMS, so we know who is attending and remain in compliance as a Child Safe Scouting Activity.

Scout, Venturer and Rover teams must designate a Patrol Leader, who will then be able to set up their team. They will need the name and member number of all other team members.

For Joey and Cub teams, the Leader or Rover who is accompanying them should select Squire as their Scouting Role. This allows us to take advantage of a legacy role in the AMS and give Leaders the ability to select themselves as Patrol Leader so they can access the team setup page above.

If you have any issues during the application process, or in setting up your team, please email the Tyakunda Trailblazer team: [trailblazer@tyakunda.scoutsqld.com.au](mailto:trailblazer@tyakunda.scoutsqld.com.au).

The closing date for applications is Sunday 22 June 2025. Applications will not be accepted after the closing date.

## Event Format

There will be two courses: a 4-hour course for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers, alongside a smaller 2-hour course for Joeys and Cubs.



Scouts, Venturers and Rovers will be issued with their maps just prior to the course start, as is traditional in rogaining. They will have 30 minutes to look at the map and plan their route before the event starts. If anyone needs extra time, they are welcome to keep going while other teams start the course. Each team member will need their own annotated map, and one extra annotated map will be submitted to admin so we know roughly where they'll be.



Based on observations from a previous year, Joeys and Cubs struggled to plan their route when maps were issued within the hour before the course started. This was presumably due to shorter attention spans but also less knowledge of maps.

To combat this, we trialled a new idea last year, where Joey and Cub teams were issued their maps one week prior to the event. We are doing the same again this year. This will allow you to plan a unit night around mapping and navigation, and actively involve the youth members in planning their route at their own pace. We suggest breaking them into their teams and working with their team's support Leader, so they can do their own planning for the route they would like to take on the day. Non-participating youth members could either be spread across the teams to watch/help, or they could form their own groups and plan the route they would have taken.

Since Tyakunda Trailblazer is at the end of the first week of term 3, you will need to plan your route setting unit night for the first week of term 3. We will be posting your maps out at the start of the school holidays to ensure you have them in time. Unlike last year, we will not be providing electronic copies of the maps. This is to ensure everyone is using the same maps, printed in full colour and at the correct scale. We saw far too much variance in printing quality last year.



Please bring the maps with you on event day as you will need one annotated map per team member (including the Leader), and one extra annotated map to submit to admin so we have a pretty good idea of where you're planning to be.

We also understand that this approach may not work for all units, so if you would prefer to do your route planning on the day of the event, we suggest you arrive up to 30 minutes earlier (starting from 8:45am). This will give up to 60 minutes to plan your route but please be warned that attention spans may wane during this time.

At the end of each course, there is a 30-minute late period where teams can still complete the course. However, they lose 10 points for every minute they are late. This is a very significant penalty so we strongly recommend teams manage their time properly to avoid any late penalty. Any teams not back after the extra half hour are automatically disqualified.

After the late period has finished, we will announce the winners. The winning team for each section will each receive a trophy, and the winning team for each course will get to hoist the perpetual Tyakunda Trailblazer trophy!

## Event Schedule

**Applications close:** Sunday 22 June 2025  
**Route planning:** Week of Monday 14 July to Friday 18 July 2024 (Joeys & Cubs only)  
**Event date:** Sunday 20 July 2025



**Scouts**



**Venturer Scouts**



**Rover Scouts**



**Joey Scouts**



**Cub Scouts**

|         |                             |                                           |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 7:30am  | Start arriving              |                                           |
| 8:00am  | Finish arriving             |                                           |
| 8:15am  | CSSO & participant briefing |                                           |
| 8:30am  | Maps handed out             |                                           |
| 9:00am  | <b>Start of rogaine</b>     | Start arriving (if planning route on day) |
| 9:30am  |                             | Start arriving (if route already planned) |
| 10:00am |                             | Finish arriving                           |
| 10:05am |                             | CSSO briefing for adults                  |
| 10:10am |                             | CSSO & participant briefing               |
| 10:20am |                             | Teams submit maps to admin                |
| 10:30am |                             | <b>Start of rogaine</b>                   |
| 12:30pm |                             | <b>Finish of rogaine</b>                  |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Finish of rogaine</b>    | End of late period                        |
| 1:30pm  | End of late period          |                                           |
| 1:40pm  | Announce winners and prizes | Announce winners and prizes               |
| 2:00pm  | Start departing             | Start departing                           |
| 3:00pm  | Finish departing            | Finish departing                          |

# What to bring

Each participant should have:

- ◆ Comfortable, sun smart clothing (Scout uniform is not required)
- ◆ Long sleeve shirt recommended
- ◆ Long pants recommended
- ◆ Sturdy, enclosed walking shoes
- ◆ Gaiters optional
- ◆ Sun smart hat (preferably wide brim)
- ◆ Sunscreen
- ◆ Insect repellent
- ◆ Water bottle (filled at home)
- ◆ Personal first aid kit
- ◆ A pen

Each team requires:

- ◆ Two (working) compasses
- ◆ A pealess whistle

Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, and Leaders may bring a mobile phone to be used only for contacting HQ or 000 in case of emergency. **Any use of a mobile device to help on the course will result in disqualification.** Joeys and Cubs do not need to bring a mobile device as they will be with a Leader who has a mobile phone. For Scouts and Venturers, only the Patrol Leader should be carrying a mobile phone.

## Questions

For any questions, please email the Tyakunda Trailblazer team: [trailblazer@tyakunda.scoutsqld.com.au](mailto:trailblazer@tyakunda.scoutsqld.com.au).

**Richard “Meerkat” Pickett**

Indooroopilly Scout Leader

Tyakunda Trailblazer Event Leader