

CWCRRFC Regional Challenge 2011

Challenge Tasks and Instructions

(These instructions make up part of the rules)

Challenge Concept

1. Loosely based on Rogaine – the concept is that crews complete as many tasks as possible within the time allocated.
2. The tasks are point weighted for their difficulty and knowledge component.
3. There will be a pre-start briefing at 08:00 hrs, and then 15 minutes following to finalise crew preparation and walk the 10 or so minutes to Ground Support where transport leaves at 08:35 hours to pre-assigned tasks.
4. There is a 60 point penalty for missing the transport to the pre-assigned task.
5. Pre-assigned start-up tasks start at 09:05 hours, and on completion of the task crews will receive packs with full instructions on how to complete the exercise.
6. No further tasks can be booked until completion of the start-up pre-assigned task.
7. All tasks have set times in which to complete them.
8. Transport from task to task is by foot or scheduled transport using the “bus” system
9. Challenge finish time is set at 16:00 hours. There is a 10 minute grace period to 16:10 hours after which for every five minutes a crew is past 16:10 hours they will be deducted **30 points**. Finish is when the end task is complete which requires the walk back from Ground Support to the other facilities.
10. Points are lost for failure to complete a task and not finishing on time. Points are not allocated for tasks missed.
11. Planning strategy
 - a. Think about gaining the most points and how to cover most ground efficiently.
 - b. Consider distance to tasks and their point value.
 - c. Watch for bottlenecks at particular tasks especially towards the end of the day e.g. 3 or 4 crews saving the same task for last and only one will get the opportunity depending on timing.
 - d. Be mindful of crew fitness.
 - e. Think about crew skill set – crew compatibility – ask, who in the crew has what skills?
 - f. Note the 16:00 hours finish time and the 16:10 hours cut off where penalty points apply.
12. The crew with the most points wins. In the event that two crews have scored the same points, the fastest crew wins.
13. All tasks will have a “Task Marker” person on site explaining the task, and marking the activity.
14. Any task started must be completed to the best of your ability, a crew can’t simply brief and get points for correct PPE and move on.

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15. All crews will be required to carry hand tools for the day (each member), just as they would at a fire (checkout hand tools at the Supply Unit).

General Tips and Preparation

1. When you are deciding on crew configuration, take into account each person's fitness, knowledge and skills. This should help with putting together compatible crews that will work happily together and perform well on the day.
2. The Challenge location is in the Canterbury Hill and High Country where the weather is changeable and can deliver extremes of hot and cold. Come prepared with clothing for rain and shine.
3. Check the industry minimum standard for fire fighter PPE and then check that each crew member's equipment meets the standard and items are in good order. Special attention should be given to footwear, as the challenge requires people to walk a reasonable distance and work for up to eight hours. Please remember that clothes worn under the fire resistant overalls must not be synthetic or nylon and there will be checks done on the day to ensure this is adhered to.
4. There are two tasks that involve contact with water. Crew members must carry some old running shoes, thermal underwear and warm garments to wear **instead of Fire PPE**. This clothing will make up part of the PPE for these tasks and without it a crew will not be able to undertake the tasks. A good rubbish bag to put that wet gear in once the task is completed would be sensible.
5. The next couple of months are a great time to practice the skills required for undertaking some of the tasks listed here. You may want to include them in your training program, and work on leadership and strategy setting so that the crew is sharp on the day.
6. Once the challenge starts you will not be returning to the ICP until the end of the day. Each crew member will need a day pack to carry their lunch, (provided) spare clothes, wet weather gear, sun hat and other personals.
7. If you have time read up on the Rogaine concept. Some understanding of the concept may help you with a strategy for undertake the challenge (<http://www.mapsport.co.nz/rog/rogaine.html>).
8. During the challenge there will be Sector Supervisors coordinating "Task Bookings" based on first in first serve and likely travel times between tasks. Take this into account when working out the best approach for the day, as multiple bookings will not be permitted and you will want to maintain a flow that limits waiting time, while other crews finish a task.
9. As in most score based events the Task Markers word will be final.

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Additional Rules for Tasks

1. Correct PPE to be worn. PPE will be checked during check in and throughout the day by Markers, with a 50 point penalty for incorrect PPE per task. Refer to Rural Fire Management Handbook, Section 2 pages 1 & 2. Water contact task will require clothing as indicated in point 3 above.
2. Other than the shuttle vehicles servicing the tasks (continuous bus), foot travel is the only permitted way to get around the tasks. Start at ICP and finish at ICP. The bus service will only pickup and drop off at designated drop points which will be shown on your crew map.
3. Do not interfere with task information found on-site or any navigation aids.
4. Checkout from the Supply Unit a hand tool for each crew member, which they must carry for the duration of the challenge.
5. Checkout, or if you have your own check-in and then out, a radio from the Communication Unit.
6. Check-in and then out your GPS, Kestrel and Compass from the Supply Unit.
7. This year's challenge is on private property and will include areas where access is restricted, listen carefully to the operations briefing at the start of the day (accessing any restricted area carries a penalty of disqualification).
8. All tasks have time limits and allocated points – both will be strictly adhered to.
9. Absolutely no rubbish will be tolerated. Toilets (Porta-loos) will be staged around the challenge area for your convenience.

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Challenge Tasks

Note

All crew members must participate in tasks undertaken unless instructed otherwise by the task marker. The task numbering here will not follow the numbering on the day of the Challenge.

1. **PSL - Travel and Communication** – Stay balanced while maintaining a steady direction. Know your flag semaphore alphabet (refer to the following website http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_semaphore).
2. **CITY CARE - Mental Strength** – Through the rock in stunning terrain.
3. **CASTLE HILL STATION - Crew on Crew** – Will require two crews working together at the same time. Fast moving, agile thinking on the run, and getting the best out of the crew.
4. **GARDEN CITY HELICOPTERS - Dripping Fire** – Know how to light fire and contain/put it out. Check the U/S 3289 and 3294 NRFA student note for detailed knowledge requirement.
5. **SCION - Navigation** - Crew should be familiar with navigation using maps NZTM2000, compass, pacing and GPS, and **resection** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resection \(orientation\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resection_(orientation))
6. **TELFORD (LINCOLN) - First Aid** - This won't be what it seems. Carry field first aid kits and make sure crew members have current knowledge in broad first aid including the mnemonic DRSABC. Practice some scenarios.
7. **MOUNT HUTT HELICOPTERS - Crew Management (SAR)** – Know how to manage hazards, identify strengths and weaknesses within a crew, effective crew briefing. Critical decision making and functional leadership is the key.
8. **TAIT RADIO - Progressive Task** – Hard work, lateral thinking and changing priorities.
9. **RURAL FIRE SOLUTIONS/PACIFIC HELMETS - Retardant** - The Canterbury Regional southern phoscheck kit - the phoscheck manual needs to be known off by heart (will be posted to web mid July).
10. **Site Inspection and Burn Plan Preparation** - Unit standard 20398 'Issue Fire Permits' Check the U/S 20398 NRFA student note for detailed knowledge requirement.
11. **Line Cutting** - Unit standard 3286 'Control vegetation fires using dry fire fighting techniques' and attention to detail!
12. **End Task** –
 - a. Check-in –out form process completed and includes Dydimo decontamination, T-cards, Daily Time Record (DTR) and check-in – out form.
 - b. After Action Review (AAR) with crew (crew debrief)