

Navshield 2022

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION PACKAGE

Tarlo River National Park - 16-17 July 2022

Organised by

NSW SES Bush Search and Rescue Unit





AUSTRALIAN EMERGENCY SERVICES NAVIGATION SHIELD - Navshield 2022

Dear Participant,

Thank you for entering **NAVSHIELD 2022!**

Please read this information package carefully.

All teams will receive the information pack by email on Sunday 10 June 2022. The team list will be available on our website (www.bsar.org.au/navshield) from Monday night 11 July 2022.

This is the final information pack, and includes:

- COVID-19 requirements
- Contacts
- General information
- Driving directions
- Description of the event terrain
- *Navlight* electronic scoring system
- Event safety
- Registration procedure
- Program timetable
- Navshield rules
- Special thanks



COVID-19 Requirements

This event is operating under a COVID-19 Safety Plan and everybody at the event (all participants, spectators and event officials) must comply with the Plan.

Anyone entering the Navshield Event Base must meet the requirements below. Any person who doesn't meet the requirements will not be allowed to enter the Navshield Event Base.

- **An attendee must have at least two vaccinations, unless medically exempt or ineligible.**
- **They must have received a negative Rapid Antigen (RAT) test result within 24 hours of planned arrival at Navshield. (Test taken at home and at own expense)**
- **They must have no current COVID-19 symptoms.**
- **They must not be a close contact or currently isolating due to COVID-19 exposure.**
- **They must not be COVID-19 positive.**

Please bring a mask and use it when social distancing isn't possible.

If you have to withdraw from Navshield due to these requirements please email navshield@bsar.org.au and we will give you a 100% refund.

CONTACTS

General enquiries:

Jim Collier, Navshield Event Coordinator.
james.collier@member.ses.nsw.gov.au

Registration and Team Changes:

Brian Stirk, Navshield Registration: navshield@bsar.org.au.

Event Emergency Phone:

0448 093 524

Backup Emergency Phone (Satellite phone):

0147 181 729

These phone numbers are the only ones which will work at the event. The numbers will be monitored for the duration of the event by Navshield Incident Control at Event Base. The Navshield Incident Controller is Glenn Strkalj and the Deputy Incident Controller is Keith Williams.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates:

Navshield will be held on 16-17 July 2022.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners:

Navshield 2022 is being held on the traditional lands of the Gundungurra Aboriginal groups. We acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of the land, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water, and culture. We pay our respects to the elders past, present, and emerging.

Location:

Tarlo River National Park - near Marulan and Goulburn, around a 2.5 hour drive south west of Sydney, and is around 1.5 hours drive north of Canberra.

Event Cancellation or Postponement:

Navshield is a rugged outdoor endurance event which is designed to test the ability of the emergency services to operate in variable conditions. Navshield therefore is normally held regardless of weather. However, in the event of extreme weather, flood, bushfire or other extreme event, Navshield may be cancelled or postponed. In the rare circumstance where we do need to cancel or postpone the event we will email all participants and put a message on the Navshield website.

Base Site:

The Navshield base site will be on private farmland on the property "Amaroo", which is accessed via Long Swamp Road, Greenwich Park.

Location of the base site:

- **Grid Reference:** 55H 767611 6172223
- **Lat / Long:** -34.556943°, 149.916582°

The base site will be open from 12:00 (midday) on Friday 15th July until 17:00 Sunday 17th July.

Access to the base site:

The turn off to base is at 55H 768119 6172070, -34.55826°, 149.92216° from Long Swamp Road. This is the entrance to the property "Amaroo".

From Sydney: Take the Hume Freeway south to Marulan. Exit the freeway at the Marulan Truck Weighing Station exit and zero your tripmeter. The distances below are cumulative.

- 1.2km: Intersection with George Street, go straight ahead onto Brayton Road as you pass through Marulan
- 2.2km: turn right (north) to stay on Brayton Road
- 17.9km: turn left (west) onto Towrang Road
- 22.7km: turn right (north) onto Long Swamp Road
- **Local residents have requested a 50km/h speed limit on Long Swamp Road, and 40km/h in the final 400m before the turnoff. Please respect these limits and avoid the potholes on Long Swamp Road.**
- 26.1km: Entrance to "Amaroo". Google Maps shows this as "Potters Trail". Don't take the turnoff to "Potters South Trail"



If the bridge on Brayton Road is underwater:

- There is a low-level bridge on Brayton Road which may be underwater if it rains heavily before Navshield. Check for road closures here:
<https://www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Services/Roads-Footpath/Road-Closures>
- If the bridge on Brayton Road is underwater, there is an alternative route with a new high-level bridge. Return to the freeway at Marulan and drive towards Goulburn until you reach the Towrang Road turnoff. Turn right on Towrang Road and zero your tripmeter. The distances below are cumulative:
- 25.7km: Turn left (north) onto Long Swamp Road
- ***Local residents have requested a 50km/h speed limit on Long Swamp Road, and 40km/h in the final 400m before the turnoff. Please respect these limits and avoid the potholes on Long Swamp Road.***
- 29.1km: Entrance to “Amaroo”. Google Maps shows this as “Potters Trail”. Don’t take the turnoff to “Potters South Trail”

From Goulburn: Use the north Goulburn access to the Hume Freeway travelling north (towards Sydney) and zero your tripmeter when you get on the Freeway. The distances below are cumulative.

- 4.2km: Turn left (north) onto Towrang Road
- 25.7km: Turn left (north) onto Long Swamp Road
- ***Local residents have requested a 50km/h speed limit on Long Swamp Road, and 40km/h in the final 400m before the turnoff. Please respect these limits and avoid the potholes on Long Swamp Road.***
- 29.1 km: Entrance to “Amaroo”. Google Maps shows this as “Potters Trail”. Don’t take the turnoff to “Potters South Trail”

The base site is accessible by 2wd vehicles. Please drive carefully and slow down for wet or icy conditions or wildlife.

Approved arrival times:

Friday 15 July 2022:

Participants and supporters may arrive at Navshield between 12:00 – 23:00.

Saturday 16 July 2022:

Participants and supporters may arrive at Navshield after 0630.

Please plan your journey so that you arrive within the times mentioned above.

Camping at the base site:

The Event Base site is a private farm which the landholder has kindly allowed us to use for the event. We do not want to damage the property, so all attendees at Event Base must comply with these conditions:

- Self-sufficient camping. Note: toilets will be provided
- Generators can only be run between 07:00 and 21:00, and try to minimise noise. (Event officials may need to run generators outside these hours– we have a silenced generator to minimise noise.)
- All camping is to be in the marked camping areas. Event officials will direct you to the correct areas.
- All boots, socks and clothing are to be clean of dirt, burrs and weed seeds before arriving on site.



- **Fires must be in raised metal fire holders or drums.** No fires on the ground or on rocks. We have permission from the landholder for a single communal campfire near administration – this will be the only fire on the ground.
 - No collecting firewood from the farm or nearby national park.
 - All firewood must be brought in and must not be live timber. No seeds are to be brought in, and nothing which could grow if it falls on the ground.
 - We have one camp site area which is a short walk-in only with no vehicle access. If you want a quieter spot this is the place to head for. A marshal can direct you when you arrive.
 - Please minimise vehicle use on the base site, especially heavy vehicles. We don't want to chop the paddock up.
 - No chainsaws
 - Take all rubbish out with you.
 - Please leave the area as you found it.
 - Car-pooling and light weight camping tents are preferred. Please refrain from bringing large camper trailers, caravans, and campervans.
 - Fuel stoves are recommended as an alternative for cooking at base.
 - The consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted whilst you are not participating in the event. All alcohol must be BYO. However, the organisers of the event will not tolerate you drinking to excess, and putting yourself, your team members, and the community at risk.

Alternative Accommodation:

Alternate accommodation can be found at Marulan and Goulburn, about 30-minute drive from the base site. Taralga might appear closer but is 60-minute drive from the base site.

Toilets at the base site:

Portable toilets will be provided at the Navshield base site. We recommend that you bring your own personal toilet paper because supplies may run low. We will supply hand sanitiser.

Drinking water at the base site:

Please bring your own drinking water for the weekend. There is a drinking water tank on site, from which you may take a modest amount of water if required. Please turn the tap off when finished and don't waste it!

Food and Water:

- Catering will be provided at the base site by Salvation Army Emergency Services Catering.
- Meals need to have been pre-ordered during online registration. A limited number of additional meals will be available for purchase from the administration tent. Please bring cash as there won't be EFTPOS at Event Base
- People entitled to meals will be given meal tickets in the team envelope you collect at administration. The meal ticket will show if you requested a vegetarian option.
- If you have any other special dietary requirements please inform the caterers when you collect your meal. They will prepare a special meal to your requirements. The caterers have been informed of all special dietary requirements entered during registration.
- The nearest shop is a 30-minute drive away (Marulan or Goulburn), so please come prepared.
- All teams should carry their own food during the event, even if you are planning to return to base on the Saturday night.
- If you ordered a ration pack you will be given it when you report to the Registration Tent.



- If you requested a special ration pack (such as vegetarian or gluten free) please tell us at the Registration tent.
- The ration packs which will be provided to the two-day teams contain dehydrated meals. Participants in the two-day event will need to bring their own stove to boil water. The contents of the ration pack can be found here:
<https://strivefood.com.au/collections/ration-packs/products/ration-packs?variant=43245424660>
- The ration packs which will be provided to the one-day teams contain a chemical heating pad which can be used to heat the main meal.
- No food will be served or supplied on the Navshield course.
- **Limited water for participants will be available at radio checkpoints Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. Water in the park should be treated before drinking, so participants should bring water treatment tablets or equipment to ensure they are self-sufficient in water.**
- At the finish we will have a box of fruit available for you to take one or two. You can also take a piece of fruit or two at the start of the event if you ask the Salvos.

Fuel:

The nearest fuel is available at Marulan or Goulburn.

Mobile phones and internet:

There is no phone or internet coverage at Navshield 2022. There is very limited mobile coverage from the ridge tops in the national park. (In case you are wondering: The event emergency phone is running off a satellite internet backhaul on WIFI calling mode, not the mobile phone network)

Prohibited:

- Pets (please contact the event organisers prior to Navshield if you need to bring a disability assistance animal)
- NSW National Parks are no-smoking areas.
- Chainsaws
- Drones

Support Crews:

Support crew or spectators are welcome and must be aware of the following requirements:

- Must meet the COVID-19 requirements on their entry to Event Base – see page 3
- If they wish for their meals to be catered they must have purchased them online before the event or at the Administration tent during the event. Please bring cash as there won't be EFTPOS at Event Base.
- Must stay near base and not enter the National Park

Accessibility:

The base site is not wheelchair accessible this year.

Weather:

Before the event, review the Goulburn weather forecast at:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/forecasts/goulburn.shtml>

It will be cold overnight and in the mornings. Bring lots of warm clothes!



Average Weather Conditions for the Area:

- Average July temperatures are -1°C overnight to 12°C during the day.
- Average monthly rainfall for July is 30 mm. On very rare occasions there are snowfalls.
- Sunrise 6:57am, Sunset 17:04
- Moonrise 18:38 Saturday and moonset 09:43 Sunday.

Commemorative Merchandise:

There is no Navshield merchandise this year.

First Aid:

St John Ambulance Australia volunteers are stationed at base to assist with any incident requiring first aid. They are located next to the Administration tent.

Distinguished guests at opening ceremony

SES Bush Search and Rescue will welcome some distinguished guests to the opening ceremony at 8:30am on Saturday 16 July. The guests are:

- The Hon. (Steph) Stephanie Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience
- Commissioner Carlene York APM, NSW SES
- Chief Superintendent Paul Condon, Hume District, NSW Police Force

We ask that all participants, particularly those from the emergency services, attend the opening at 8:30am on Saturday to welcome our guests.

Catering:

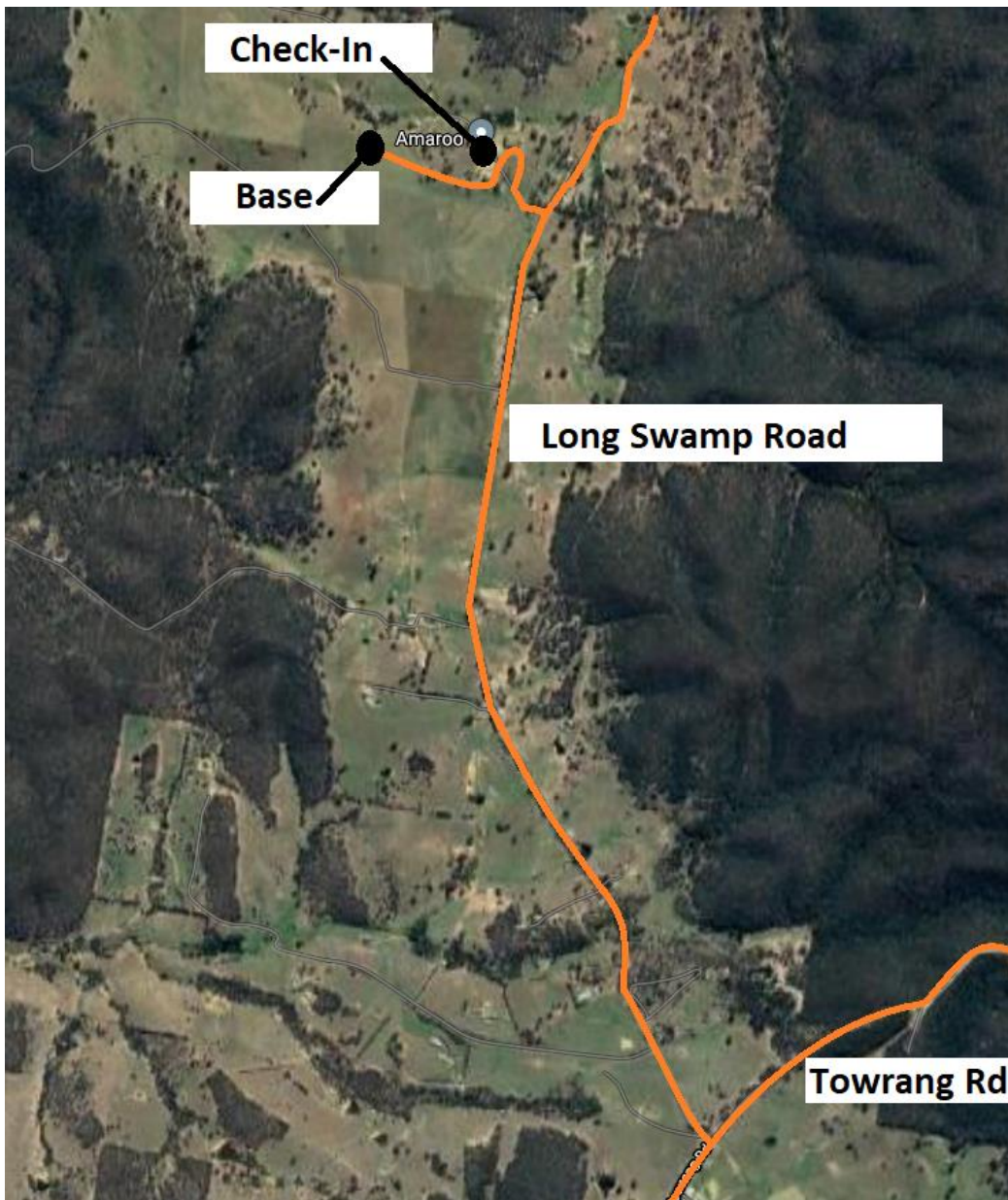
Salvation Army Emergency Services Catering will be catering for Navshield this year. Meals need to be pre-ordered, however, a very limited number of additional meals will be available for purchase from the registration tent. Please bring cash as there won't be EFTPOS or credit cards at Event Base.

Disposable plates, cups and cutlery will be provided. You can bring your own mess kit, including plate, mug, knife, fork, and spoon but it will be up to the caterers as to whether they can accept it.

Meal times and prices are as follows:

Friday	Dinner	18:00 to 20:00	\$17.50
Saturday	Breakfast	06:00 to 08:00	\$12
Saturday	Dinner	18:00 to 20:30	\$17.50
Sunday	Breakfast	07:00 to 09:00	\$12
Sunday	Lunch	12:00 to 14:00	\$15

People entitled to meals will receive their meal vouchers when they register at Event Base. The vouchers can be redeemed at the catering tent.



Access to Navshield Event Base site



REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration will be open on Friday night from 1800 until 2200, and then again from 0630 on Saturday morning. Please register as early as possible. Those planning to arrive on Saturday morning should factor in the possibility of delays due to inclement weather.

A Risk Warning, Waiver and Indemnity (Waiver) form is included as an appendix to this information pack. Please read, print and sign the form before the event and hand in the signed hard copy at the registration desk before 0800 on Saturday morning. Remember to have someone witness your signature.

Participants that have not signed the waiver form will not be allowed to start the event. Your team will not be issued your Navlight tags until all waiver forms for your team are submitted.

Steps to follow:

1. **TEAM LEADER** approaches the registration desk when you arrive at Navshield.
2. **TEAM LEADER** hands over the signed and witnessed waiver forms for all their team members to the Registration desk
3. Remember to bring your team number to speed up registration.
4. Ensure that your team has been registered in the **correct entry division**.
5. Pay any outstanding monies, and notify us of any changes to your team, or spelling corrections relating to your team members' names.
6. Collect your registration packages which contain:
 - A map for each team member
 - Control descriptions and course setters notes
 - Team intentions form
 - A sheet with basic instructions on how to understand a grid reference
 - Meal tickets
 - Field ration packs, if ordered
 - In a separate pack: two wrist tags and straps, if all of your team have provided signed waiver forms.
7. Take your maps and plot the checkpoints onto them. We recommend you plan 1 hour to mark up your maps and work out your route.
8. Return your completed intentions form to the registration desk before you leave base.

THE NAVIGATION COURSE

This year's course is within Tarlo River National Park and a neighbouring private farm.

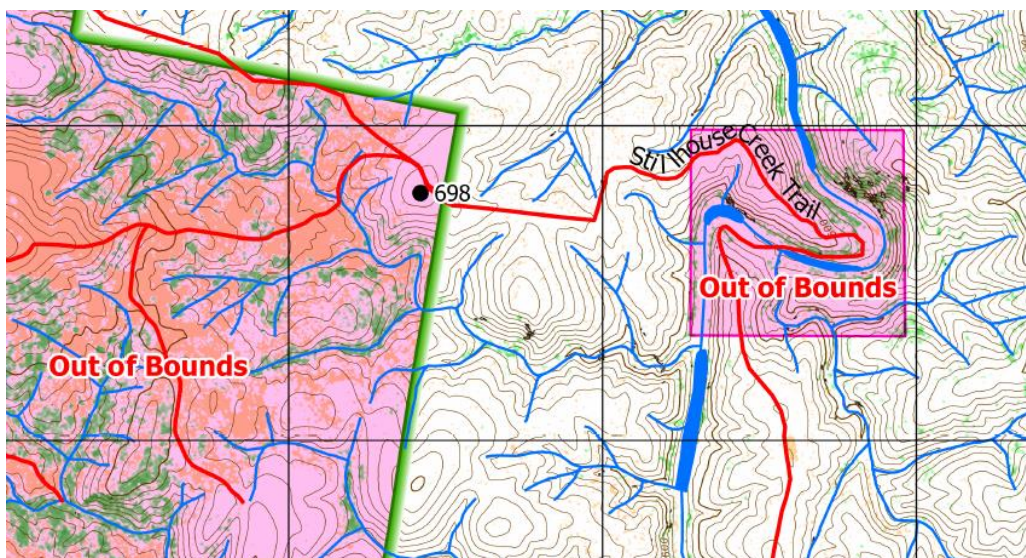
MAP ERRORS

THERE ARE TWO MAP ERRORS WHICH YOU NEED TO BE AWARE OF:

1. THE ROAD SHOWN ON THE MAP WHICH PROCEEDS NORTH-EAST FROM 6726/7686 DOES NOT EXIST
2. THE ROAD SHOWN ON THE MAP WHICH PROCEEDS EAST-NORTH-EAST FROM 6899/7738 DOES NOT EXIST

Out of Bounds:

On the course map there are regions marked Out of Bounds. They are clearly marked on your map in a pink colour (see below). You must not enter these areas. Any team found in these areas will be disqualified. These areas are private property or are areas which National Parks have instructed us to stay away from.



Maps:

The course map uses a scale of 1:25 000 and is a topographic map. The map is not based on standard topographic maps, but has been generated directly from LIDAR data (laser based aerial mapping). This means the map has some fundamental differences to the topographic map you may be used to:

- The contours are much more accurate and show much finer detail
- Vertical faces of 3m and over are marked as a black dot. This means that even individual boulders are marked.

This year's course map will be printed on one A2 size sheet. The course maps that are provided will be printed on Teslin ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teslin_\(material\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teslin_(material))). The map will be very robust and water resistant and can be written on with normal pens and markers. HB pencils do



not work well on it, so if you want to use a pencil it should be a soft one such as 4B or softer. You will not need to use a map case or plastic film as the maps will withstand a weekend's thrashing through the bush unprotected. If you wish to use a map case or cover the map in "Contact" that is your choice, but it is not essential. We will provide one map per participant, with no spare maps provided.

Grid squares on the map are one kilometre in size, and the contour intervals are 10m.

Note that the process of extracting the map from LIDAR data is not perfect and sometimes the algorithms get it wrong. The accuracy of the map depends heavily on the LIDAR data quality – unfortunately this year the northern half of the map has good data quality and produces an excellent map, but the southern half of the map is of poor LIDAR quality and we were unable to get accurate vegetation and rock face information from it. You should consider this in your navigation decisions when on the southern half of the map.

Terrain:

Important information will be provided in the final briefing prior to the event. So please be on time and pay attention during the briefing.

The terrain is relatively steep and rugged, and there are no tracks other than a few fire trails. The ridges have open woodland with little scrub. There is some scrub near the Tarlo River and the immediate side creeks, but it is very walkable.

Tarlo River:

Be very careful if you decide to cross the Tarlo River. If you can't cross safely, try a different location or don't cross. You will get wet feet when crossing the river, so be prepared. It is very dangerous to remove shoes and cross in bare feet. To help you plan, we have marked a few points where we crossed safely during course setting but the river crossings on the map are a guide only – use your own judgement when deciding where to cross.

Fences on base property:

Do not cross fences on the property between base and the national park. The out-of-bounds areas on the map are there to prevent participants from climbing large, new fences. You will be disqualified if you enter an out-of-bounds area.

Hazards:

There is a knife-edge ridge with steep drop-offs south of control 81. Be careful, particularly at night.

Many of the ridges have old fences running along the top. Many of these fences have collapsed and there is wire on the ground, although usually not barbed wire. The collapsed fences can be a trip hazard, particularly at night.

If you are in doubt about your route then take the time to find a better route. It is better to skip a checkpoint than to risk injury. All of your team members should be comfortable with your chosen route. If not, then the team should go around the obstacle, and find an alternative route. In many areas the vegetation is thin, and the soil is rocky and loose. Falling rocks therefore pose a potential hazard in steep areas. Teams should apply a staggered line formation when moving through such areas, in order to avoid the risk of falling rocks hitting somebody.



Radio Checkpoints:

Teams must report to at least one Radio Checkpoint each day and punch the control there. A point penalty equivalent to 25% of your total score will be imposed if you do not visit a radio checkpoint each day. There will be three radio checkpoints on the course called Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie, each scoring 20 points.

The radio checkpoints form an important part of the course safety. Staff will be based at the radio checkpoints for the duration of the event. They will be in communication with Base, and can summon additional help if required. When you pass a radio checkpoint you be asked to complete an intentions form. Take the time to fill this form in. You are not bound to follow these intentions but it will help us find you if you have an incident – it is for your own safety.

Two-day teams:

You can score a radio checkpoint twice by visiting it on Saturday and Sunday. Please note that the control at Radio Checkpoints Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie automatically records the time of your visit (so we know whether you visited Saturday or Sunday).

You may also report to the administration tent at Base between 6am - 9am on Sunday morning which counts for a visit to a radio checkpoint on the Sunday. However, no points will be earned in this case. You just avoid the penalty being applied.

Late Penalty:

The finish time for the one-day event is 18:00 on Saturday; and for the two-day event is 12:00 on Sunday. Any team returning to base after these times will be penalised at 10 points per minute late, or part thereof. Any team more than 1 hour late will be retired from the event and will be scored as "Late". If you are far from Base, and likely to be more than 1 hour late for your finish time, please proceed immediately to the nearest radio checkpoint. Then we will know that you are safe, and we may be able to organise transport back to Base for you.

Water:

- Treat, purify or boil any water from the Tarlo River or side creeks before you use it.
- Drinking water will be provided at Event Base at there will be limited water at radio checkpoints Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. **Participants should bring water purifying equipment or tablets to treat water from the national park.**

Fences and Gates:

Do not climb fences in or bordering private property. Fences are to be crossed at gates which are marked on the event map. Please leave gates as you found them.

Livestock:

On private property you might come across livestock. Please go around them (don't try to herd them out of the way) and keep well clear. Do not scare them.

Master Map:

An event master map will be available for viewing after 09:00 on Saturday. This will allow you to check the accuracy of the checkpoint locations you have marked on your map – but only after the start of the event. One of the course setters will also be there to discuss route choices with you. Inexperienced teams should take the opportunity to talk to a member of the NSW SES Bush Search and Rescue Unit about their intended route. Some route suggestions will be provided to any team which asks.



Minimum Impact Bushwalking:

Minimum Impact Bushwalking means that whilst bushwalking we strive to ensure that our activity results in no damage to the environment. Ideally another party following you should not be able to tell that you have been there.

All participants are asked to practice minimum impact bushwalking whilst at Navshield. This includes:

- Do not feed any animals in the bush.
- Be especially careful when walking near environmentally sensitive areas. Some exposed rocky areas have fragile soil ecosystems. Please minimise your activity in these areas, and tread lightly.
- Take any rubbish out with you, including fruit peels.
- Two-day teams may choose to camp overnight on the course. However, please choose your campsite carefully, and minimise damage to flora and fauna.
- Minimise noise at all times, and be respectful of other participants and other National Park users. Navshield does not have exclusive use of the National Park during the event.
- If you come across a site which may have Aboriginal artefacts please treat them with respect, and avoid any unnecessary disturbance.
- If you need to toilet in the bush you must choose a site which is at least 100m from tracks and watercourses. Dig a hole (at least 10cm deep) and cover the site with soil (including burying used toilet paper).
- Use the toilets provided at base.
- Remember your personal hygiene. Handwashing is recommended.
- Do not use detergents or soaps in any of the creeks.
- Be as self-sufficient as possible.



NavLight electronic scoring

NavLight has two components; the checkpoint punch and the wrist tag. There is also a manual punch attached to the checkpoint flag in case the NavLight checkpoint punch is malfunctioning. Team members wear the tags on their wrists. A punch hangs from a cord near the flag at each checkpoint. When visiting a checkpoint, the tags need to be punched with the electronic punch hanging at the checkpoint – see the diagram below. A red light will flash on the punch to indicate that your visit has been recorded. **If no light flashes please punch your map with the manual toothed punch attached to the flag. Both electronic tags need to be punched or the checkpoint will not count in your team's final score.** Your final team score will be the lowest wristband score from your team.

You will be issued with 2 wrist tags per team and wristbands when you bring your signed waiver forms to the registration tent. Wrist tags will only be issued when we have signed waiver forms for all team members, and it will save you joining the registration queue a second time!

Two members of each team need to attach one tag to their wrist. Please put it on your wrist immediately so you don't lose it!

When you finish the event you need to punch your tags at the finish line. Your wristbands will be cut and the tags taken for your score to be read. If there was a failure of an electronic punch come to the registration tent to show the manual punch on your map.



A Checkpoint Punch



Punching the wrist tag at the checkpoint

Fitting the wristbands

The wristbands are made from a rugged vinyl material and cannot be removed from the wrist without breaking them. Wear them quite loosely. You should be able to fit two fingers comfortably between the band and your wrist. Over a long period a tightly fitted wristband will cause irritation.

Thread the band through your Tag, wrap it around your wrist, then close the clasp through one of the holes in the strap. There is a loose end which you can pull off carefully.

EVENT SAFETY

Comprehensive safety plans have been developed for Navshield and participants are requested for their safety to follow the event rules, including the minimum mandatory equipment rules.



Bushrangers:

Event officials will be patrolling the course - we call them *Bushrangers*. The *Bushrangers* are likely to be your first contact in the event of an accident, incident, or emergency. They will also conduct random checks to make sure that teams are adhering to the event rules.

Radio Checkpoints Alpha, Bravo and Charlie:

The radio checkpoints form an important part of the course safety as they allow us to track your location on the course. There will be three radio checkpoints on the course called Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie.

Medical Assistance and First Aid:

The *Bushranger* teams will have qualified First Aid personnel. St John have a first aid tent at Event Base, and NSW Ambulance will have a Special Operations Team on stand-by.

Injured team member:

If a member of your team incurs an injury on the course you should first attempt to make contact with the *Bushrangers* in your vicinity by calling out or blowing your whistle three times. If there is no response, then attempt to call the emergency contact numbers (they are shown on the event map). If you are unable to contact the event organisers then at least two people should go to the nearest Radio Checkpoint or to Base to request assistance.

Do not leave an injured person in the bush alone.

If you meet another team with an injured participant, or is in difficulty, please assist them if requested. Make sure members going for help write down the name and number of the team in difficulty, the name of the injured person, the nature of the incident and any injuries sustained, the location, and the time the incident occurred. Information should be reported to the nearest radio checkpoint, or to a *Bushranger* team.

Teams which stop to provide assistance to another team which has an injured participant will be rewarded points earned in lieu of time lost.

Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs):

The NSW SES Bush Search and Rescue Unit recommends that participant teams carry a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB). Prior to Navshield you should login to the AMSA website: www.operations.amsa.gov.au/STS/STS/Login

Please update the "My Trips" area of your beacon registration with the following passage:

*I am participating in a NSW SES Bush Search and Rescue Unit exercise 'Navshield' which is being held in Tarlo River National Park NSW. The exercise starts at 0900EST Saturday 16 July 2022 and concludes at 1200EST Sunday 17 July 2022. The Base site for this exercise is located at **Lat / Long:** -34.557 149.917. There is limited mobile phone coverage in the exercise area.*

An Incident Management Team (IMT) is onsite. The following emergency contact numbers for the IMT can be used prior to my listed contacts:

- *Mobile phone: 0448 093 524*
- *Sat phone: 0147 181 729*

Please remember to delete this passage after Navshield.



EVENT TIMETABLE

Friday	12:00	Participants may start to arrive
	18:00	Registration opens
	18:00	.....Dinner available at catering truck
	20:00	.....Dinner closes
	22:00	Registration closes
	23:00	Check-In marshals are stood down
Saturday	06:00	.... Breakfast available at catering truck
	06:30	Check-In marshals on duty
	06:30	Registration re-opens
	08:00	.... Breakfast closed
	08:00	Risk warning and risk waiver forms MUST be returned
	08:30	Assemble at the briefing area for VIP welcome
	08:45	Final briefing for all participants
	09:00	Navshield STARTS
	18:00	One day event FINISHES
	18:00	.... Dinner available at catering truck
	19:00	Presentation of awards for the one-day event
	19:45	One day event presentations complete
20:30	.... Dinner closed	
Sunday	07:00	.... Breakfast available at catering truck
	09:00	.... Breakfast closed
	12:00	Two-day event FINISHES.
	12:00	.... Lunch available at catering truck
	13:00	Presentation of awards for the two-day event.
	13:30	Two-day presentations complete
	14:00	.... Lunch closed
16:00	All participants to depart.	



NAVSHIELD RULES

Minimum Equipment Rules:

The safety of all participants is taken very seriously during the event. Navshield is a winter activity and it can be extremely cold. Therefore the minimum equipment is mandatory, and it must be carried for the duration of the event.

Each participant must carry all of the personal gear listed below. Teams must also carry all of the team gear listed below.

During the event *Bushrangers* will patrol the course and conduct random inspections of participant equipment to ensure that teams are complying with the event rules. Penalties may apply to breaches of the event rules, including a failure to carry the minimum mandatory equipment mentioned below.

Please keep your pack weights to a minimum – a recommended packing list is here:

[<LINK>](#)

Navshield will be more enjoyable, and you will minimise the risk of personal injury, if you have a suitable pack weight for the activity.

We also recommend PPE such as eye protection, gloves, and gaiters.

Two Day Event:

Minimum Mandatory Equipment (Two Day Event)

Personal Gear	Team Gear
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Wet weather jacket (high quality outer layer).2. Cold weather clothing: Inner layer consisting of thermal top and underwear, mid-layer consisting of a warm, dry, jacket (fleece or wool), warm head wear.3. Compass.4. Whistle.5. Fire starting equipment for emergency use (matches, lighter, flint striker, etc)6. Torch.7. Pen or pencil.8. Emergency thermal ("space") blanket.9. Sleeping bag of suitable winter standard; rated for at least - 5°C (comfort) or 3-4 season rating.10. Food for the duration of the event.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Tent or shelter (minimum tent fly).2. Stove and cooking equipment. One-day teams: flameless heater in one-day ration packs is acceptable) Two-day teams: teams will receive Strive Foods dehydrated ration packs. Therefore, all two-day teams must have at least one stove.3. Two map sets covering the entire event course (Each team member is provided one map set during the event registration).4. Adequate first aid kit (including 2 x snake bite compression bandages).



11. Minimum two litre (2L) water bottle (must be full at start of event).	
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One Day Event:

Minimum Mandatory Equipment (One Day Event):

Personal Gear	Team Gear
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Wet weather jacket (high quality outer layer).2. Cold weather clothing: inner layer consisting of thermal top and underwear, mid-layer consisting of a warm, dry, jacket (fleece or wool), warm head wear.3. Compass.4. Whistle.5. Torch.6. Pen or pencil.7. Food for the duration of the event.8. Minimum two litre (2L) water bottle (must be full at start of event).	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Two map sets covering the entire event course (Each team member is provided one map set during the event registration).2. Adequate first aid kit (including 2 x snake bite compression bandages).

The *Bushrangers* will randomly stop teams that they encounter on the course and confirm they have the minimum mandatory equipment.

The penalties for not adhering to the event rules include:

1. **pen / pencil** (all team members) – 5% reduction in team score.
2. **whistle** (all team members) – 5% reduction in team score.
3. **torch** (all team members) – 10% reduction in team score.
4. **compass** (all team members) – 15% reduction in team score.
5. **fuel stove or heating pouch** (2-day teams only / 1 per team) – 15% reduction in team score.
6. **emergency thermal “space” blanket** (all team members) – 15% reduction in team score.
7. **sleeping bag** (2 day all teams only / all team members) – 15% reduction in team score.
8. **first aid kit** (minimum 1 x adequate first aid kit per team) – 20% reduction in team score.
9. **wet weather jacket** (all team members) – 20% reduction in team score.
10. **2 litre water bottle**, or equivalent (all team members) – 25% reduction in team score.
11. **compass** (team without a compass) – 50% reduction in team score.



General Rules:

The primary objective is to navigate using only map and compass to as many checkpoints as possible during the time available. Team points are scored for each checkpoint that you locate. However, the checkpoints are scored differently depending upon difficulty. So good route planning is important. The team with the most points in each division at the end of the event will be awarded the winning trophy in that division.

Competition Rules:

Checkpoints and Scoring:

1. Before the event begins participants will be informed of the location of the checkpoints by 8 figure grid references.
2. This information is provided to you, along with unmarked maps of the course, when you arrive at Navshield and visit the registration tent.
3. It is your team's responsibility to plot the checkpoints onto your map(s).
4. At registration all teams will be given a "**Route Intentions**" sheet and two Navlight tags. The tags will record your visit to checkpoints.
5. The **only** navigational aids allowed are magnetic compasses, watches (with time functions only), pace counters and the official event map as supplied by the organisers.
6. Radios are permitted (for communication only). Radio based tracking and GPS functions are not permitted.
7. Mobile phones are permitted. The use of mobile phone-based navigation aids during the event is not permitted.
8. GPS, altimeters, electronic compasses, non-official maps and other navigational aids are not permitted.
9. Teams record a visit to a checkpoint, or radio checkpoint by punching their electronic tags with the electronic punch at the checkpoint.
10. Each checkpoint and radio checkpoint will have a points value.
11. To score a checkpoint all members of your team must pass within 20 metres of the checkpoint and both tags of the team must be punched.
12. Teams can score normal checkpoints once only.
13. All teams in the **one-day** event must visit a radio checkpoint at least once during the event.
14. All teams in the **two-day** event must visit a radio checkpoint at least once on both Saturday and Sunday.
15. Two-day teams can use base as a radio checkpoint only between 06:00 and 09:00 Sunday. It scores no points, but the team will avoid the penalty for not visiting a radio check point (see rule 1.17) if no other radio check point is visited on Sunday.
16. Two-day teams can score radio checkpoints twice by visiting them on Saturday and Sunday.
17. Any team not reporting to a radio checkpoint each day will incur a penalty equivalent to 25% of the team's score.
18. Points will be deducted for every minute, or part thereof, that a team is overdue after the event finish time. The points value of this penalty will be announced at the start of the event.
19. Any team more than 1 hour late for the finish of their event will be retired from the event and must immediately return to the nearest radio check point or base.
20. If multiple teams have the same point score at the end of the event then they will be ranked according to their finish times.



Banned Actions and Safety Breaches:

1. All members of a team must stay together (within voice contact, about 100m) at all times during the event.
2. A penalty of up to 50% of your team's score will be imposed if your team members are not found together.
3. The minimum personal and team gear must be with the team at all times. Leaving packs at a central point while looking for checkpoints is unacceptable. Not carrying the minimum personal and/or team gear at all times incurs a penalty of up to 50% of the team's score.
4. Participants in the rogaine divisions are exempt from the minimum equipment rules, but must instead carry the minimum equipment specified by the Australian Rogaining Association.
5. Once the event has commenced all support teams, and their vehicles, must remain at the base site until the event has finished.
6. Driving on the course is strictly prohibited for safety reasons.
7. The consumption of alcohol on the course during the event is prohibited. Consumption of modest amounts of alcohol at base is acceptable.
8. Any participant found to be intoxicated as a result of the consumption of alcohol or drugs during the event will be disqualified from the event.

Injuries:

1. If any member of a team is unable to continue, the other team members **must** provide assistance.
2. If possible, the team should attempt to make their way to the nearest radio checkpoint or back to base.
3. The rules committee will then advise if the rest of the team is able to continue Navshield in their entry division.
4. If any team finds an injured person they **must** assist if required.
5. Points can be awarded in lieu of time lost helping an injured person from another team. This does not include assisting injured members from the same team.

General Rules:

1. All teams are to be covered by their own insurances.
2. NSW SES Bush Search and Rescue Unit does not provide insurance to participants.
3. Participants must sign an acceptance of risk statement and a risk waiver before they start the event.
4. All team members are to meet the membership requirements of their organisation.
5. Teams are required to follow minimum impact bushwalking principles.
6. Specific information about the event location is provided in the information pack. You are expected to read this information and to familiarise yourself with the specific hazards which have been identified for the location.

Rules committee:

1. A rules committee will be formed prior to the start of the event.
2. The rules committee will be comprised of a **minimum** of three people.
3. The rules committee shall be comprised of the Safety Officer, Event Coordinator, and Course Setter, plus additional volunteers as required.
4. The rules committee will determine the order of precedence for every team in each division at the completion of both events. This will be based upon team points, finish times, and any penalties imposed.
5. The winners in each division of both the **one-day** event, and the **two-day** event, will be only announced after the rules committee has judged the final team scores.



6. The rules committee shall hear all complaints and claims which are lodged within 24 hours after the completion of Navshield.
7. A decision will be made on all complaints and claims that are lodged within the allotted time, and prior to publishing the final team scores.
8. Decisions made by the rules committee shall be considered final.

Conduct and Behaviour:

All teams, and those attending Navshield in a support capacity, are expected to behave in a responsible manner at all times whilst at Navshield. Please show respect and courtesy towards others at all times, and remember that you are representing your organisation. Volunteers, NPWS staff, local property owners, and members of the public may be present at Navshield and should also be treated with respect.

There is an opportunity for your team to socialise on both the Friday night and Saturday night during Navshield. You are welcome to enjoy yourself at base whilst you are not participating in the event. The event organisers encourage you to network with people from other organisations during Navshield.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted whilst you are not participating in the event. All alcohol must be BYO. However, the organisers of the event will not tolerate you drinking to excess, and putting yourself, your team members and the community at risk.

Please keep noise to a minimum after 10pm.

The organisers may prohibit your participation in the event if you are:

- drunk and disorderly
- quarrelsome
- intoxicated
- violent
- using, or in possession of, prohibited drugs.



SPECIAL THANKS

	Navshield 2022 is funded by NSW State Emergency Service
<p data-bbox="352 651 778 680">WICEN NSW Communications</p> 	WICEN NSW assists with the communications network for Navshield
	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service gave consent for us to use Tarlo River National Park
	St John for providing first aid services at Event Base
 NSW Ambulance	NSW Ambulance Special Operations Team (SOT) for providing a response team for the event