

REPTILE RIVER ROGAINE COMPETITOR NOTES

How to get to the Rogaine

From Darwin proceed south along the Stuart Highway approximately 100km to Adelaide River. Allow 1 hour to travel from Darwin. The Hash House is located at the **Adelaide River Inn**, located just before the bridge over the river. Look for the Rogaine banner. Please park as requested by the organisers. The grass camping area is available to competitors from Friday night until Sunday evening. Contact Rebecca or Graeme on 89767047 or adelaideriverinn@bigpond.com.au to book accommodation at the Adelaide River Inn at a special price for all RRR entrants.



The view from a ridge towards Adelaide River and the Stuart Highway. There are controls out there!

What to bring

You need to carry while competing: Compass, whistle, wrist watch, high energy food, water containers with a **minimum** combined capacity of 3 litres, pencil, torch, spare batteries and globe, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, some warm clothing, first aid kit (one per team) and toilet paper. Your first aid kit should include at least 1 triangular bandage, 2 roller bandages, blister dressing and scissors, sticking plaster and antiseptic.

Water containers: As mentioned above, each person must while competing carry containers with a minimum combined capacity of 3 litres. There may be random checks of teams before or during the event. **NTRA takes competitors' safety seriously and failure to observe this rule will result in the team's disqualification.**

Bring to the Hash House: Tent and sleeping bag, spare clothing, route planning pens (eg different colour highlighters), waterproof map bag or plastic contact, scissors (to cut contact), Saturday lunch, your own plates, mug and cutlery and money for a beer or soft drink afterwards. The "Hash House" is the base camp, start/finish area, administration centre and catering area.

We strongly recommend that competitors wear boots (not runners) and leg covering (eg gaiters) for protection from rocks, vegetation, and (possible) snakebite. Those with a tad less than strong ankles may consider strapping same. The course covers a mixture of rocky ridges, open forest, with a mixture of burnt and unburnt long grass, seasonally swampy small flood-plain with some scrubby or semi- rainforest gullies, small and larger creeks and occasional water holes.

Safety

Major waterways including the Adelaide River are bordered by thickets of vines, bamboos with steep banks. In the interest in you personal safety and to avoid causing indigestion to our local crocodiles please **avoid** and



Jon Potter negotiating the Adelaide River at one of the crossings. No crocs in sight!

deep, black, evil looking still water with steep banks. There are several crossing points along the Adelaide River marked on the map where the water is ankle deep and banks are shallow. A safe crossing has been with pink tape. Even so, please take a good long look either way before crossing especially at night. Two red spots caught in your torch about 12 inches apart usually means a 5 metre eating machine! **All sections of the Adelaide River other than marked crossing points are considered out of bounds.**

Some areas are very rocky underfoot and some creek surrounds have the most unsociable grass seeds the course setter has ever seen and felt. Watch for hidden rocks and branches in long grass.

Bushfires can be common in the dry season. Avoid fire fronts especially avoid trying to climbing a ridge with a fire behind you. Because of clear skies you should be able to spot fires and navigate around them.

Water

Drinking water is available in the Adelaide River (see above warning), and in varying quality along some of the smaller creeks and at water drops marked with a **W** on the map. Water may be found in creek bends often by digging a small hole.

Traffic

Most traffic will be travelling at 60 to 110 kph along the bitumen roads. Unlimited speed limits apply out of Adelaide river. Take care with crossing either road; drivers will not be expecting walkers.

Administration

Please ensure that all your team members have read the [Rules of Rogaining](#) available from the ARA website.

Rules

The standard rules of Rogaining apply. A copy can be found at the administration desk or can be found on the NTRA website at <http://nt.rogaine.asn.au/> or ARA website at <http://rogaine.asn.au/>

Please feel free to ask questions if you're unfamiliar with them.

- Teams must travel only on foot.
- Team members must stay within voice contact of each other at all times while on the course.
- Each team member must approach within 20 metres and within sight of each control.
- The only navigational aids permitted are a compass and the map issued by the organisers. Street directories, pedometers and GPS's are not permitted.
- Teams may not collaborate with each other or provide assistance to other teams (except in an emergency). Nor may one team deliberately follow another.
- If a team member withdraws from a team during the event, the whole team must return to the Hash House. The remaining members of the team may restart the event but may not count the points previously accumulated.
- Teams which finish late will be penalised 10 points per minute; if a team finishes more than 30 minutes late it will be disqualified.
- Teams returning either temporarily or to finish must hand their control card to the administration desk - this is our way of knowing whether you have returned safely.
- Any protests on the running of the event or the behaviour/actions of other competitors must be lodged with the organiser / course setter, in writing, immediately upon finishing the event; and any protest on the results must be lodged with same immediately after the initial announcement of these results.

Please bring the indemnity form (enclosed with these notes) signed by **all** your team members, plus any money owing to the administration table at the Hash House, which opens at 9.00 am on Saturday.

Course maps, checkpoint lists and course notes will be available from 9.00 am Saturday.

The Map & Controls

The map is provided by NT Maps as two A3 sized topographics with a scale of 1:25,000 with 5 metre contour intervals with control locations identified by a circle. The control will be found generally at the centre of the circle. The Hash House is marked by a triangle.

Two sealed roads pass through the map, the Stuart Highway and the Old Stuart Highway (Dorat Road).

There are numerous tracks of varying condition that may or may not be marked on the map and if they are the accuracy cannot be assured.

Position of rivers and creeks are also approximate. Most creeks will not contain water.

Controls are not hidden from view. Controls are standard orange and white. Please note some deciduous trees have orange leaves.



A Rogaine Control nestling in recently burnt land making an easy transit.

What to watch for

This area of the Top End contains a variety of flora and fauna.

Watch for Darwin Woollybutt that can be recognised by bright orange flowers this time of year. Other plants you may see are the yellow-flowered Kapok bush, red-flowered Kurrajong and purple-flowered Turkey bush. Most open grown is a mix of Eucalyptus, Acacia, Grevillea, Ironwood Terminalia, Cycads and Sand Palms. Burnt areas will be flush with new growth. Rainforest gullies may be full of vines, palms and figs. River courses will be bordered by thick green vegetation such as bamboo, melaleuca and pandanus. Whilst on rocky ridges Gardenia, Eucalypts and Acacias can be seen.

You will probably see more bird than mammals such as galahs, kites, babblers, bee-eaters and a variety of honeyeaters and smaller birds. The most likely reptile would be monitors as snakes usually take off in the other direction, although take care on open rocky areas where brown and Mulga snakes may be basking in the sun. The most common fauna is the industrious termite.

Weather

The weather is expected to typical of the Top End dry season with maximum daytime temperatures of 30 degrees and night being a "chilly" 15 degrees. The sky will be blue and cloud free most of the day. Rain is not expected.

Sunset Saturday will be approximately 6.35 pm with a twilight of 25 minutes. Sunrise will be 7.10 am Sunday. Moonrise will be at 1.58 pm and set at 1.35am. Information from <http://www.ga.gov.au>

The Start

Teams should gather in the start area at 11.40 am for a final briefing before the **start at 12.00 pm**. After that your route, returns to the Hash House and time of final return are your choice. Note that you **must** finish at or before 12.00 pm Sunday, or your team will lose 10 points per minute late, or be disqualified if more than 30 minutes late.



Termite mounds in black soil country

Times

Friday	
Afternoon	Campground open
Saturday	
9.00 am	Administration desk opens, maps and question sheets available
11.45 am	Verbal briefing prior to start
12.00 pm	GO!!!
5.00 pm	Food available
Sunday	
12.00 pm	Finish
12.30 pm	Disqualification
1.30 pm	Provisional results
1.30 pm	Hash house closes
	Cleanup – volunteers wanted!

Roving 12 hour Event

If you enter this event you may spend up to 12 hours total elapsed time out on the course within the 24-hour period. Each time your team returns to the Hash House you must report immediately to the administration area to hand in your team's score card. Your times in and out of the Hash House will be recorded on the scorecard so that we can calculate your elapsed time. If your team exceeds 12 hours on the course or finishes later than 12.00 pm Sunday you will incur a late penalty.

Beginners may wish to stay at the Hash House after the start for a last minute briefing and tips for rogaining. Such 12 hour teams will then start at 12.30 pm, without losing elapsed time.



Rock formations along the course

Catering

Hot food will be available from the Hash House from 5 pm Saturday and throughout the night till 1.30 pm on Sunday. Outside of these hours food and drinks will be available from the Adelaide River Inn. Competitors are encouraged to bring as much of their own water as possible.

Please remember

- No pets are allowed
- Fires are not permitted on the course except in an emergency.
- Familiarise yourselves with the Rules of Rogaining

Control collection after the event

After the event we will need to collect the control markers. This is a perfect opportunity to show your appreciation for the hours put in by the Course Setter and Vetter, and at the same time practice your navigation skills. (*Where was that elusive 1.00 am checkpoint?*).

Collection can take place on Sunday, or at a later date such as the following weekend. We would be happy to collect them from you afterwards if necessary.

Any further questions?

Please contact Jon Potter on (08) 8941 1059 or Mark Raines on (08) 89544491 or rain0021@optusnet.com.au

Sponsors and Thanks to

Adelaide River Inn

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Photos Mark Raines

And finally...

Thank you for your participation. We hope you all have an enjoyable day/night/day.



John Shanahan with Charlie the movie star now well and truly stuffed at the Adelaide River Inn, the Hash House and a major sponsor