



General Event Information

The Name

Yeperenye – from the traditional Yeperenye caterpillar dreaming of the MacDonnell ranges.

Yaw – to deviate temporarily from a straight line.

The Site

This area in the Eastern MacDonnell Ranges was chosen for its typically Centralian, rugged beauty, its diverse, variable terrain and the superb, desert fringe roganing weather at that time of year. Add to that the excellent tourism opportunities for entrants and officials, before and after the event, and this makes for a unique site on which to host an Oz Champs.

The Hash House

The event centre and Hash House will be at the Ross River Resort campground, approximately 85 kms via good bitumen from the Alice Springs town centre.

The campground features a large, well watered lawned area with multi-roomed bunkhouse, powered and unpowered sites. There are roomy male and female toilet/hot shower blocks with ample shower and toilet cubicles in each. Permanent admin and kitchen facilities are already on site.

There are also 29 air conditioned cabins at the resort 400 metres away (they will fill quickly), so early booking is the go !!! 08-89569711.

Add to this a shaded swimming pool, wood fire heated restaurant, bar and AGM room and you have what we believe are the ideal Hash House requirements, with typically friendly NT hospitality from resort hosts, John and Heather.

The Terrain

The course has been set on traditional aboriginal country of some significance, and this feeling is strong as one walks across what is arguably the most ancient landscape on the planet.

Long, steep, rocky ridges feature throughout the map with regular gorges and low saddles which allow connection between associated gullies and valley complexes and offer a sensible argument against taking the direct, steep, and sometimes dangerous, route. Most of the steeper slopes are covered with small to large scree with thick spinifex in some areas.

There are several large, dry, wide sand and rock bottomed rivers/creeks winding across the course, featuring large stands of Centralian River Red and Ghost gums, the latter (*Eucalyptus Papuana*) outstanding against the multicoloured rocky background.

Vegetation is, for the most part, sparse except for patches of varied Acacia, Mallee, Gidgee (*Acacia cambagei*) and of course, Spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

For those with a leaning towards geology, the number of different and varied rock and mineral formations evident in such a small area should test your knowledge.

Smooth desert-like plains will make for very quick leg times in contrast to the spinifexed areas where a carefully selected route is the go. In contrast to previous ARC's, tracks are few, except for those used by the organisers for safety runs and water drops.

The Map

The official map is still a work in progress, 50% of which had to be drawn from scratch as there was zero data available for the Eastern side. The final item will be the result of photogrammetry from Chris Wilmott, with Eric Andrews responsible for cartography.

At this stage the plan is for 1:40000 with 10 metre contours but this may change to 1:33333 once we see the map in it's completed form. More in final competitor notes.

Fauna

Wildlife likely to be encountered include kangaroos, rock wallabies (keep a keen eye on the top of high, rocky ridges as you walk the gullies between), dingoes, eagles, whistling kites, thieving Noisy Miners, crows, Port Lincoln parrots, garbage disposal units (disguised as the odd draught horse or two), a multitude of large, un-pretty camels of questionable appearance and similarly, the occasional safety car driver.

Snakes are not an issue at that time of year in the Red Centre, being deep in their nooks and crannies stacking ZZZ's.

Apparel

Central Australian weather in July can vary from -5⁰C at night to 25⁰C in the day so warm clothing is probably a half reasonable idea.

To combat the areas of spinifex and rocky ground, strong walking shoes with no open webbing, good knee-length gaiters and long daks are strongly recommended.

Buses

There will be a bus service from Alice Springs Airport and Alice Springs Civic Centre twice on Friday, 27th July, 2007 and once, early Saturday 28th July from the same departure points.

These services will run from the Hash House to The Alice at the same drop off points once on Sunday afternoon 29th July and once on Monday morning 30th July.

Details and any final changes (depending on flight arrival and departure times) will be published in competitor notes issued on receipt of entries.

The Weather

Bloody brilliant.

Clear skies day and night; stars the size of floodlights. Cool breezes.

Astronomical

Sunrise: 06:39

Sunset: 17:38

Moonrise: 15:48

Moonset: 05:58 (99% of moon visible)

Begin civil twilight: 06:15

End of civil twilight: 18:02

Hire Cars

Thrifty Alice Springs will supply discounted hire cars to all accredited ARC competitors and officials. ID cards will be issued on entry.

The Veters said:-

The event site is most impressive central Australian landscape. Magnificent coloured rock escarpments of mountain ridges cut across the flat plains, providing gorges and mountain plateaus to traverse. The expectation that one might come upon some ancient aboriginal rock art is always there. Many padded paths of the camels, stock and native animals wend their way through the dry creek beds, giving a welcome respite to the often rocky terrain. The howl of the dingo, and solitary cry of the crow reminds one of just how remote and expansive the area is. The misty multi coloured landscape viewed from high ridges is indeed a privilege to experience.

For more information:

Phone : 08-89411059 Email : spartacus@internode.on.net