

# 31<sup>st</sup> Katoa Po      12-13<sup>th</sup> March 2011

## About the Relay

Katoa Po is a Maori translation for “all night” and the event is the annual interclub night relay hosted by the Taupo Orienteering Club. The first relay was held at the end of January 1981 but nowadays is usually in March when dusk is earlier but the weather still generally good.

Teams are made up of seven members, of mixed ages and abilities who contest for the Owl trophy or five members who compete in the first five legs for the Po Kerukeru trophy.

The relay starts about dusk with a mass start for the white course. It progresses to harder and longer courses. The final two legs are mainly for elite runners.

Individuals enter the event and the clubs will be sent a list of competitors from which they will allocate the legs, according to ability and age, according to the criteria below.

## Eligibility

Leg 1	No M14+, No W16+
Leg 2	No M16-65, No W18-55
Leg 3	No M18-55, No W20-35
Leg 4	No M20-45, No W21E
Leg 5	No M21E
Leg 6	Open
Leg 7	Open

The above classes are based on A Grade runners. AS or B Grade runners drop down one leg.

Exemptions to the above rules will be considered on their merits by the controller. The essential essence of the competition is fairness. The controller will use this as the guiding principle for determining if nominally ineligible runners can drop down a leg. Good examples of acceptable reasons for indirectly eligible runners are coming back from injury or night blindness. Runners can drop down one leg without an exemption by having a 15 minute penalty added to their time eg. An M21E running Leg 5. This may be necessary to make up a club team.

## Estimated Winning Times (by the fastest directly eligible runner)

Leg 1	15 minutes, median time 25 minutes
Leg 2	20 minutes, median time 35 minutes
Leg 3	30 minutes
Leg 4	40 minutes
Leg 5	50 minutes
Leg 6	45 minutes
Leg 7	50 minutes

The minimum times for both leg 1 & Leg 2 are the EWTs. This minimum time may be changed to that of the fastest directly eligible runner at the discretion of the controller.

## Special Rules

Every team finishes, so there are no DSQs. Every missed punch incurs a 15 minute penalty. DNF are the slowest time for that leg (when all the penalties are added in) plus a 15 minute penalty. Placing's are determined solely by time, including penalties.

Deliberate manipulation of the rules, eg having an overseas W21E running Leg 3, can incur additional penalties at the discretion of the controller.

## Companion Events

To give you a full weekend of orienteering, there will be two companion events, both at Whakaipo Bay. Tim Anderson is organising them as a fundraiser for the Napier High School Orienteers who are to compete in Italy during May. Please give your full support by entering them.

## Katoa Po Map

The map this year is Puketapu Downs, last used for Katoa Po 2001. Planner for the event, Mark Lawson, Controller Robert Newbrook

It is a farm map with rolling hills with water features.

Scale: 1:10,000. 5m contours.

## Directions to Katoa Po Event Centre and companion events

The supporting events are based at Whakaipo Bay. Take the “old” State Highway 1 going north out of Taupo. After crossing the Waikato River, take the second on the left at the top of the hill (Poihipi Road). It is signposted as the way to Kinloch. Follow Poihipi road for around 7Km and turn left down Mapara road (the second on the left after town). About 6km after the turnoff, there is an unsealed road on a left hand corner, signposted as Whakaipo. Turn right into this road and follow to the event centre. There are toilets along the lake front.

To get from Whakaipo Bay to Katoa Po, on getting back up to Mapara Road, turn left, then left on to Poihipi road and then left again on to Whangamata road, carry along Whangamata road (27K) to the junction at SH32. Turn right on to SH32 and you will find the event centre entrance 1.9 Km from the junction on the right.

Katoa Po from Taupo: Take the “old” State Highway 1 going north out of Taupo. After crossing the Waikato River, take the second on the left at the top of the hill (Poihipi Road). It is signposted as the way to Kinloch. Follow Poihipi road and turn left on to Whangamata road and carry on along Whangamata road (27K) to the junction at SH32. Turn right on to SH32 and you will find the event centre entrance 2 Km from the junction on the right.

The Katoa Po camp site is a paddock on a farm. Camping space is tight please leave the access way free. There will be toilets on site. There will be room for club tents overlooking the finish.

Nearest food is at Tihoi Tavern & cafe (4K) open till 10pm. Takeaways and meals available. Nearest petrol Taupo (45K) or Whakamaru (25K)

## Whakaipo Bay Events

Event 1 – **(Short)** Saturday Afternoon Planner Sarah Anderson, Controller Tim Anderson

A short distance race with an EWT of 20 minutes for all courses. First start 2pm.

Event 2 – **(Middle)** Sunday Morning Planner Sarah Anderson, Controller Tim Anderson

A race with an EWT of 45 minutes, except White / Yellow which are 30 minutes. There will be a chasing start for the red courses from the results of the previous day. First Start 10:30am.

<i>Course</i>	<i>Recommended for</i>
Red 1	M18-39, W20-34
Red 2	M16A, M40-59A, W18A, W35-39
Red 3	M60+, W16A, W40+
Easy	A white/yellow combo

The map is complex gullies and negative terrain features on flat, rolling and steep farmland with small complex conservation block forests and isolated vegetation features.

## **Sport Ident**

All events will be on Sport Ident. This means that competitors need one unit each - they cannot be shared. If you need to hire one, indicate on the entry form.

Also note that according to the rules, you are responsible for ensuring the box beeps when your unit is inserted. No time recorded, automatic 15 minute penalty for the night relay, DSQ for day events. If in doubt, use the clipper provided.

## **Safety Instructions (all events)**

- Watch out for usual farm hazards. Stock are in some paddocks.
- The grass can be slippery. Be careful how you climb fences. Some of the staples and posts are in poor condition. Climb gates at the hinge end.
- Electric fences will be off.
- All streams are shallow. The route to the start triangle includes a stream crossing over natural logs or through the water. We strongly recommend wrist loops for compasses and Sport Ident. They can be near impossible to find if you drop them. Competitors should have a safety whistle and spare torch with them for Katoa Po as night searches aren't easy.

## **Start Times**

Katoa Po event centre will open at 5pm. A briefing for all competitors will be about 7:45pm with the Leg 1 start soon afterwards. Exact timing will be dependent on weather and light.

## **Katoa Po Prize-giving**

This will be about 9am Sunday morning. All competitors should be finished by then. The drive to Whakaipo Bay for the next event takes around 30 minutes.

## **Entry Info**

Entries close on 7<sup>th</sup> March. Send your entries to Lyndon Haugh, Taupo Orienteering club , PO Box 666, Taupo. ([lynchris.haugh@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lynchris.haugh@xtra.co.nz)). Ph 07 376 7373, mobile 0274 456 708

If you are sending the entry electronically, send back as a completed .rtf file, scan the filled in form as a pdf, or send all the information as a text email. If the latter, make sure it is clear exactly what events each person is entering.

The organisers will work with a representative from the club named on your entry form. They will put together the team(s) members and their running order, taking the eligibility into account.

If your club is paying your entry fee for the Katoa Po relay event, please indicate in the box on the entry form.

## **Entry Fees**

For Katoa Po:                   \$15 junior, \$20 senior

For Companion Events:       \$12 one event, \$20 both

Late Entries:   \$5 extra per event, if maps and space is available. Must have own Sport Ident.

Sport Ident hire               \$3 per event