

Firstly, a big thank-you to all competitors who entered the upside down rogaine and made the final event on the rogaine calendar this year such a successful race. It was great to see a good turnout of close to 100 competitors, including a number of novice teams trying their hand at rogaining for the first time in the dark. Final results are attached for you to pour over.

Thank-you's

There are a number of people whose effort allowed this event run smoothly and they must be thanked. These include:

- Darren Smith, Kirsty Agnew, Sally Staton and Tony Knight for help in various stages of the tapping, hanging and vetting of the course.
- Peter McCallum for assistance with the base map.
- Sally Staton and Emma St Pierre for assistance with administration at registration and results.
- Tony Scott for help with administering teams on the web.
- Richard Robinson and Peggy McQueen for transporting all the equipment out to the event site and helping with setting and packing up
- Roberta Field and her partner for an outstanding job with the catering, buying and preparing all the food and coming out early that morning just to serve it!

Control Collection

A big thank-you must also go to everyone who volunteered to pick up control flags after the event, even though I know most of you had already had a big night without sleep and the last thing you felt like doing was going out to get more flags. With everyone's help we managed to collect every flag by 12:30pm, leaving me only a small loop of 7 flags to collect personally. In particular, I am aware that Brett Stevens & co., Shaun Lauder & co. and Amanda Gaurd & co. were responsible for collecting a significant proportion of the flags. However, many people were of assistance and I am very grateful even if I haven't named you in person.

Results

A big congratulations to Brett Stevens + Stephen Blount and Richard Robinson + Peggy McQueen who took up the challenge and swept the course, meeting their flight plan predictions and taking out the Mens Open and Mixed Open categories respectively. Also a big congratulations and apology to the winning all female team of Naomi Carey, Jane Zimmerman and Sebastia-ann Mitaros who weren't acknowledged at the prize giving ceremony.

A few efforts that should also be mentioned include the women's super veteran team of Julie Lawlor and Penny Hearn who put in a great effort, even though this was one of their team members first rogaine. This event also saw a significant number of novice teams entered with the team of four Ben Caspani, Bridget Anderson, David Gwyther and Stephen Turner taking the prize and placing well overall.

Finally a special mention should go to Erin Penhallurik and Keelan Jones who were out for almost the entire 8 hours, but managed to only collect 4 check points. Great perseverance! A closer look at their split times reveals that they took almost 4 hours to get their first CP, so perhaps their strategy was to bank some early sleep and finish strong? Similarly, another tip of the hat should go to Zac Perry who, at only 10 years of age, was out on the course most of the night collecting a fair swag of points.

Flight Plans

Thanks to everyone for filling out their flight plans and predicted scores. It made for an interesting exercise I thought. Surprisingly, many teams under-predicted their final score. The final prize eventually went to the team of Melinda Buchanan, Fiona Hynd, Luke Goodfellow who correctly guessed that they would score exactly 1770 points. They did, however, finish over 45 minutes early, perhaps this was a strategy of theirs? They just beat a couple of other teams who fell only 10 points short of their prediction. A special mention should also go to the pairing of Luke Keogh and Dan Rosendahl who, somewhat tongue in cheek, suggested they were going to sweep the course, but only managed a little over a third of it 😊

Sponsors

Again, a big thank-you to the sponsors, RACE HQ, for their support of the event. If you are ever in store (perhaps spending your winning vouchers!) make sure you let them know you appreciate their support of rogaining in QLD, and hopefully we can have them on board for future races.

Lost and Found

Returned to the Hash House was a heavy, black flashlight, and a compass borrowed from another team. If these are yours, please contact organisers to arrange a return.

Reports

Finally, if you feel like sharing your story of the night (what order you did the course in, where you had trouble, what you came across, moments of navigational brilliance, how many donuts were left in the water point box when you got there) send it in and we'll publish you on the rogaine website.