

SAFETY

There are at least two important aspects about safety in orienteering – safety for course planners and fieldworkers, and safety for competitors. The following can be read in conjunction with more detailed advice on safety from the [ONSW Event Organiser Documents](#) and the safety sections of the [ONSW Organisers Rules for All Orienteering Events](#).

Safety for Course Planners and Fieldworkers

1. Leave a map and details about where you're working, and an estimated time of return, with others.
2. Have a GPS location application on your mobile phone (e.g. Emergency Plus, Coordinates, My GPS Coordinates). The first application provides GPS coordinates of your location to emergency services. The other two require you to send a screen shot of your location to others or to emergency services.
3. Carry one of the club's Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB) if you're working in remote locations. Check with the club's gear steward, currently Geoff Peel, to access one.

Safety for Competitors

Competitors check a disclaimer box about accepting personal risk when entering orienteering events. However, this doesn't prevent us from using the following non-exhaustive list of safety checks before events:

1. avoid placement of control sites that may lead to injury (e.g. cliff and embankment tops)
2. dangerous features (e.g. deep subsidence pits) are indicated in the field with hazard tape and competitors are warned in event information
3. set course legs that avoid potentially dangerous locations (e.g. busy roads)
4. ensure a safety bearing, event phone and course close information appears on maps
5. *Runners on road* and *Wrong way go back* signs are used when needed
6. setting courses within clear map boundaries so competitors may not run off the map
7. ensure that competitors are checked in at registration, start and at finish