

	<p>Scouts Australia Queensland Branch Brisbane North Region</p> <p>ANNUAL MAY EXPEDITIONS VENTURE</p>	<p>REGION OFFICE: Cnr Sicklefield Rd & Shand Street ALDERLEY Qld P.O. Box 430 ALDERLEY Qld 4051 Tel: (07) 3354-3532</p>
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INFORMATION CIRCULAR No.3

MVI3

THE COMPETITION POINTS SYSTEM

Rev
Apr04

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this circular is to explain, to Leaders and Venturers, the basis of assessment of the overall performance of patrols in the competitive section of the Venture.

1.2 The points system has been developed to allot an appropriate proportion of the total points to each assessment category or activity, commensurate with:

- (a) The importance, from the point of view of safety or of Venturers' health and well being, of complying with specific requirements, and
- (b) The time and effort necessary for a patrol of well trained Venturers to satisfactorily complete that activity.

1.3 The system as outlined below may be varied slightly, from year to year, depending on specific circumstances of each year's route and tasks, but it can certainly be used as a guide for training and determination of priorities, as variation will be relatively minor.

2. MAJOR CATEGORIES OF THE POINTS SYSTEM

2.1 The overall points are allocated in FIVE major categories as follows:-

- Prescribed Equipment	50 points
- Average Pack Weight within limits	50
- Route and Time	400 ± speed points
- Expedition Report	265
- Special Tasks	235

Total 1000 points ± speed bonus

The basis of allotment of points and the criteria for assessment within each of the above major categories is detailed in Section 3.0 below.

2.2 It can be seen from the above that a good performance in the Venture means more than just getting from point A to point B to point C, etc, in the shortest possible time. The successful patrol is the one which prepares properly, can navigate properly, is fit enough, can observe and appreciate the countryside, has a good grasp of general bush craft and emergency procedures, can report fully and lucidly on their expedition, can operate as a team and, above all, has enough initiative and common sense to get on with the job.

3. CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

3.1 PRESCRIBED EQUIPMENT (50 points)

The required equipment is listed in Information Circular No.1 - "General- Information", Section 8.0 This is a gift - 50 points just for taking the trouble to prepare and bring the right equipment for the job. All Venturers should have the specified equipment, but those in the competition will lose points for any item that they do not have.

Typical examples are:-

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| - Each of the two compasses | 3 pts |
| - Each item of the first aid kit - | 1/2 pt. |
| - Adequate tentage - | 4 pts |

3.2 AVERAGE PACK WEIGHT (50 points)

Refer to Information Circular No.1, Section 14 (c).

Again, this is a gift - 50 points for taking the trouble to sort out and select the right gear before the venture.

One (1) point will be lost for each kilogram (or part thereof) by which the total weight of the patrol's equipment (including water and equipment worn on belts) exceeds 12kg multiplied by the number of patrol members.

3.3 ROUTE AND TIME (400 points)

There are 200 points for completing the whole of the set route, within the allowed time, on each of the two days of the competition. Where, for any reason, any section of the set route can not be completed by a patrol, proportional credit will be given for, all sections (from checkpoint to checkpoint) successfully completed.

One (1) point will be lost for each five (5) minutes (or part thereof, rounded to nearest ½pt.) taken over the allowed time, eg. 7 minutes over would be 1.5 points lost.

One (1) bonus point will be gained for each five (5) minutes (or part thereof, rounded to the nearest 1/2 pt) under the allowed time, eg. 8 minutes under would be 1.5 points gained.

Allowed time, for the route on each day of the competition, will differ for each Venture, depending on the actual route and the Special Tasks set, but is usually planned to be in the order of 7½ to 8 hours per day.

Allowed times are calculated on the basis of: -

- Time for measured map distance in rough country at - 1.6km/hr.
- plus - Time for measured map distance in open country at - 3.2km/hr.
- plus - One (1) hour for each 450 metres rise in elevation.
- plus - One (1) hour for each 900 metres fall in elevation.
- plus - One (1) x 5 minute rest break every hour.
- plus - An extra 5 minute rest break (ie. 10 minutes) every 2nd hour.
- plus - A 30 minute lunch break on each day.
- plus - Allowance for each Special Task to be undertaken during the hike.

3.4 EXPEDITION REPORT

(265 Points)

Refer: Inform. Circular No.4 - "Rules for Participants".

Guidelines No.1 - "Production of an Expedition Report".

Guidelines No.2 - "Production of a Strip Map & Updates".

Guidelines No.3 - "Field Notes".

Break up of Expedition Report Assessment: -

- Presentation & Format	9 pts
- Preamble	21
- Hiking Log	90
- Report on Field Specimens	15
- Report on Special Tasks	5
- Illustration of Report	40
- Strip Map	70
- Field Notes	15
Sub-total	265 pts

In the following sections, all references (eg. Refer 6.3) refer to Guidelines No.1-"Production of an Expedition Report", unless otherwise stated.

NOTE: - A small number of points are allocated to various written submissions for neatness and legibility, but loss of any of these points would not be the only penalty of sloppy work, as assessors who have been on the go all day and are working under imperfect, lighting, will not, despite their best intentions, be able to extract the full value from badly presented work.

3.4.1 PRESENTATION and FORMAT

(9 points)

- Patrol number on outside	1 pts
- Margin for times (in hiking log section)	2
- Pages viewed from same direction	3
- Sections in correct order and clearly identified	1
- All components of report - book, field notes, special tasks, field specimens, etc all presented in a secure, labelled plastic bag.	2
Sub-total	9 pts

3.4.2 PREAMBLE. (Refer 5.1 & 6.2)

(21 points)

- Title of Expedition Report	1 pts
- Contents list with page numbers	3
- Purpose of expedition, where, when, who, why, etc. (refer Info. Circ. No.1)	2
- Patrol details - competition number eg. 1B, members - numbers and/or first names, hiking experience, fitness, pack weights, special skills, etc.	2pts
- Safety & lost procedures (refer Gen. Hike Instruction No.2 - Safety & Lost Procedures)	1
- Menu	2
- Ration list	2
- Patrol equipment list	2
- Separate listing of emergency kit contents	0.5
- Separate listing of first aid kit contents	0.5
- Weather maps for preceding 4-5 days	2
- Forecast for weekend	2
- Transport arrangement's	1
Sub-total	21 pts

3.4.3 HIKING LOG (Refer 5.2 & 6.3)

(90 points)

- Narrative content and detail (the mental picture)		
Friday night & Saturday - to start of hike	4 pts	
Covering the hike	20 pts / day	40
- Times & grid references	6 pts / day	12
- Descriptions of nav. Fixes	5 pts / day	10
- References to: -		
illustrations	2 pts / day	4
field specimens	2 pts / day	4
other significant events	1 pt / day	2
- Conclusion & Summary		4
- Neatness & legibility		10
Sub-total		90 pts

3.4.4 REPORT ON FIELD SPECIMENS (Refer 5.2.4 & 6.4)

(15 points)

Also refer Guidelines No.3 - "Field Notes".

This covers the collection and presentation of field specimens (other than those for Special Tasks) and also the summary (as in ref.6.4) of ALL field specimens.

- Completeness & presentation of summary		3 pts
- Quality & relevance of specimens	2 pts / day	4
- Presentation of specimens	4 pts / day	8
Sub-total		15 pts

3.4.5 REPORT ON SPECIAL TASKS (Refer 6.5)

- Completeness of Summary		5 pts
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3.4.6 ILLUSTRATION OF REPORT (Refer 5.2.5 & 5.2.6)

(40 points)

Also refer, Guidelines No.2 - "Production of a Strip Map & Map Updates"

Also refer Guidelines No.3 - "Field Notes".

This covers the illustration of the Hiking Log or other sections of the report by the use of Thumbnail Sketches, Panorama Sketches and Map Updates (other than as Special Tasks).

- Relevance of illustrations	5 pts/ day	10 pts
- Quality of illustrations	15 pts / day	30
Sub-total		40 pts

3.4.7 STRIP MAP (Refer 6.6)

(70 points)

Also refer Guidelines No.2 - "Production of a Strip Map & Map Updates"

- Sensible cut & fold of base map	0.5 pt / day	1 pts
- Both base map & overlay secure in log book	0.5 pt / day	1
- Convenient viewing relative to Hiking Log	1 pt / day	2
- Accurate alignment of overlay by grid lines & numbers	2 pts / day	4
- True & Magnetic North on overlay	2 pts / day	4
- Legend for all symbols used on overlay	2 pts / day	4
- Title of overlay (fully descriptive)	1 pt / day	2
- Details of Ref. Map (Name, Scale, Sheet No.)	1 pt / day	2
- Author & date	1 pt / day	2
- C.P. locations & identification	2 pts / day	4
- Biv. Site locations & identification	2 pts / day	4

- Notations relating to events or features reported in hiking log: -		
Navigational fixes	6 pts / day	12
Task locations	3 pts / day	6
Map updates	3 pts / day	6
- Relevance of actual route taken to most logical route	4 pts / day	8
- Neatness & legibility	5 pts / day	10
	Sub-total	70 pts

3.4.8 FIELD NOTES (Refer 6.7) (15 points)

Also refer Guidelines No.3 "Field Notes"

- Logical / suitable format		4 pts
- Correlation to main body of report (Times, locations, events, distances, etc.)		10
- Neat & tidy presentation		1
	Sub-total	15 pts

3.5 SPECIAL TASKS (235 points)

Special Tasks can cover a wide range of activities and it is difficult to generalise the assessment criteria and points allocation. However, there are some types of tasks that pop up fairly regularly on May Ventures. The following are typical criteria and points for such.

3.5.1 FIELD SPECIMENS (Typically 8 - 10 points)

- Name of Subject (tree etc.)		2 pts
- Sample (leaves, seeds, bark, etc.)		1.5
- Sketch (showing size, shape of tree etc.)		1.5
- Location (map & grid ref.)		1
- Collector and date		1
- Other information (reason for collection, (usefulness, etc.))		2
- Presentation		1
	Sub-total	10 pts

Total points gained to be multiplied by a factor (0% to 100%) for correctness of identification.

3.5.2 THUMBNAIL SKETCH (Typically 6 - 8 points)

- Name / Title		0.5 pts
- Location (map & grid ref.)		1
- Reason for sketching or purpose of subject		1
- Sketch detail with notations, size, scale, direction of viewing, etc.		3
- Author & date		0.5
	Sub-total	6 pts

3.5.3 MAP UPDATE SKETCH (Typically 20 points)

- Size of paper (log book sheet size)		0.5 pts
- Scale selected to show required detail		0.5
- Grid lines and numbers correspond to reference map		1
- Approx scale shown		1
- Grid & magnetic north shown		1
- Legend for any symbols used		1
- Details of reference map shown (name, scale sheet etc.)		1

- Title of map update	1
- Author and date	1
- Detail and accuracy	12
Sub-total	20 pts

3.5.4 PANORAMA SKETCH (Typically 25 points)

- Title	1 pts
- Author and date	1
- Point of origin (map & grid ref.)	1
- Centre bearing	1
- Edge bearings	2
- Distances into sketch	2
- Names of features	5
- Content / detail	9
- Presentation / neatness	3
Sub-total	25 pts

3.5.5 BUSH EMERGENCIES (Typically 25 - 30 points)

These usually take the form of a requirement for a written submission describing how the patrol would deal with a hypothetical situation arising during their hike. (Question & answer at same check point, therefore speed important).

- Situation analysis	2 pts
- Immediate action to prevent situation worsening.	6
- Reasoned approach to subsequent action	5
- Knowledge of first, aid procedures	6
- Knowledge of search & rescue procedures	5
- Neat, & logical submission	1
Sub-total	25 pts

3.5.6 ESTIMATION OR FIELD MEASUREMENT (Typically 10 points)

- Method (adequately explained)	5 pts
- Result (progressively less marks for less accurate answers)	3
- Presentation (neat, easy to understand)	2
Sub-total	10 pts

3.5.7 CAMPFIRE ITEM (Typically 25 points)

- Introduction (patrol- name, title of sketch)	3 pts
- Presentation (players facing audience, clearly heard, props, etc.)	4
- Participation (all members participating, approximately equally- not one or two dominating)	4
- Topicality / Originality (May Venture or scout theme old or new sketch)	8
- General audience reaction	3
- Time (1 point / minute)	3
Sub-total	25 pts

3.5.8 COOKING (Dinner Saturday Night) (Typically 15 points)

Required that the patrol should prepare, cook and present individually to a nominated panel, for assessment, a substantial, nourishing hot meal. (Individual points then averaged)

- Genuinely substantial	5 pts
- Genuinely, nourishing	5
- Variety of ingredients	3
- Hot when presented by individuals	2
Sub-total	15 pts

4. LOSS OF POINTS

The above sets out the basis for awarding points, and in some cases reasons for losing points are stated. The following section sets out reasons for deducting points from those already gained, i.e. demerit points.

4.1 INCORRECT NAVIGATION

4.1.1 Missing a Check Point but completing the route

- Each C.P. missed - Lose 50 pts

4.1.2 Occasionally, a check point operator will set up in the wrong place. If any C.P. is not at the nominated location (within 100 metres) this fact must be reported to the Bivouac Site C.P. operator and must be clearly recorded in the "Hiking Log".

Written acknowledgment of the reporting must be obtained from the Biv. Site C.P. Operator.

- Each failure to carry out the above Lose 50 pts.

4.2 INCONSIDERATE ACTIONS

4.2.1 Not complying with any "Special Note" in the Route Instructions.

- Each infringement - Lose 20 pts

4.2.2 Not complying with any item of Information Circular No.4 "Rules for Participants".

- Each infringement - Lose 10 pts

4.2.3 Not complying with any item of General Hike Instructions No.1 - "Etiquette & Courtesy" (Litter, fences, fire pits, gates, etc.)

- Each infringement - Lose 10 pts

4.2.4 Not checking into each checkpoint as a complete patrol.

- Each occurrence Lose 10 pts

4.2.5 Not showing, identification tag at each check point (every member of patrol).

- Each infringement - Lose 5 pts

4.2.6 Not supplying or using a waterproof plastic bag for sleeping gear.

- Each Venturer - Lose 10 pts

4.3 LATE OR INCORRECT SUBMISSIONS

4.3.1 Late submission of Special Tasks.

- Each 5 mins. late - Lose 10% of allocated points.

4.3.2 Late submission of Expedition Report.

- Each 5 mins. late - Lose 5 pts

4.3.3 Not submitting Day 1 special tasks in notebook by 7:30 pm on Day 2.

- Each task (except field specimens) - Lose 5 pts

4.3.4 Using other than patrol number, individual Venture number or first name in any submission (Expedition Report, Special Task, etc.)

- One or more errors - Lose 5 pts

4.3.5 Incorrect notebook for Expedition Report- Lose 5 pts

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