

On terrain, map and course

For the first time, the TAOK rogaine will be held in Jõgeva county. The area at the border of Jõgeva and Tartu counties offers several hilly patches and a mix of forests from nice open pine forests to nasty thickets. Long-time orienteer and rogainer Arvo Kivikas has claimed that this is probably the best rogaining terrain in Estonia. So you will have a chance to test whether this claim is true or false. In the latter case you can argue with Arvo after the race ...

In any case, Estonian orienteering championships have been held on different sections of the terrain in the past. If you have no prior knowledge about these terrains, feel free to check the o-maps of the area in the EOF map database (<http://www.orienteerumine.ee/kaart/kaardid.php>), searching for Kaiu (jõgevamaa), Sõõru, Välg, Selgise, Tuha and Pala maps.

The hilly parts of the terrain are generally better runnable, whereas the flatter areas are often more marshy, hence the passability is reduced. The flatter parts of the terrain have a regular ride network, while there are also more clearings (some forest works ongoing) and thickets with young forest.

There are two (small) rivers: Kääpa river (Kääpa jõgi) and Haavakivi river (Haavakivi jõgi). The foot-bridges are indicated on the map and it is recommended to use them, as elsewhere the rivers may be difficult to cross even though they are not very wide. There are also some wet marshes.

The longest Estonian hiking trail Peraküla–Aegviidu–Ähijärve traverses the rogaining terrain from NW to SE (http://files.voog.com/0000/0030/9870/files/PerAegAh_Kaart6_PapiAhja.pdf). You will certainly notice the signs of this trail as well as see some camping grounds.

It is strictly prohibited to enter the territory of farmsteads and private homes, marked on the map with olive green color. Please respect the privacy of local people.

Be very careful when crossing local roads or running along them.

There are 2 water stations marked on the map.

The shortest beeline distance connecting all 40 controls is less than 60 km. However, it is not very likely that even the best teams can manage to clear the course by visiting all controls. As a special prize, the main organizer will award a bottle of champagne to the team who scores maximum points (140) despite his bet that none will achieve this.

As usual at TAOK rogaines, the map scale is 1:30000, contour interval 5 m. It is a special rogaining map, which is more accurate than the Estonian base map. To be fair, the areas where orienteering maps exist (mainly the hilly parts) are more detailed and accurate than the flatter parts where no previous o-maps exist. Some clearings and weak forest tracks may be missing on the map. There is also some inconsistency in depicting marshy forest areas.

The map is aligned to magnetic north, i.e. the grid lines of magnetic north (indicated with green color) are parallel to the edge of the map.

The size of the map sheet is about 38 x 40 cm.