On terrain, map and course

After a short break, the TAOK rogaine is back! For the second time the event is held in Pärnu county. The terrain has some similarities with the 2018 Kurgja event, but there are also significant differences. What is similar – the event center is in the middle part of the terrain and you have to choose either to proceed first to the northern or southern part of the map. Also, similar to the 2018 event, the Oadu-Ikla long hiking trail passes through the terrain, marked with green signs.

Kilingi-Nõmme town effectively divides the terrain in two parts. There are three rivers on the terrain. Those with faster legs have the chance to see Reiu river in the south-western part of the map. Near Kilingi-Nõmme town, there is Humalaste river, which should be rather easy to cross. However, Alva river in the eastern part of the terrain is impassable on long sections as the river is flooded by beaver activity. Please use either the roads or the few feaver dams marked on the map to cross Alva river.

North from Kilingi-Nõmme town, the Uulu-Valga road passes through the terrain. There is significant traffic on this road even on week-ends. As the road is rather close to the event center, please be extra careful when crossing this road either after the start or when hurrying to the finish. The course has been planned with the consideration that competitors shall not run along the road, but just cross it at locations with good visibility.

Up until 1996 it was possible to travel to Kilingi-Nõmme with Tallinn-Riga train. The rail road has been abolished, however there is a gravel road now on the former location of the rail road. The State Forest Administration has also built several other good gravel roads in the forest. Additionally, there is a forest ride network. The runnability of those rides significantly varies though. Some are wide are well runnable, others are disappearing and overgrown.

The forest passability varies as well. There are large areas of open pine forest, but there are also large areas of mixed forest with reduced passability. Generally speaking, the 'contour islands' tend to have rather good runnability, whereas the flatter areas tend to have thicker forests, but there are exceptions to this rule in both directions. More recent clear cut forest areas are marked on the map with the symbol of the semi-open area, whereas older and overgrown former clearcut areas are marked using the raster with green dots. However, there contrast between such areas may not always be so sharp on the terrain as it may appear on the map.

Apart from Kilingi-Nõmme town area there are only few private homesteads in other sections of the terrain. When passing through the town, read the map carefully, stay on streets and trails and avoid private yards.

There are several out-of-bounds areas marked on the map. There are four larger areas with cattle, surrounded by electric fences – not only prohibited to enter, but also a risk of

the electric shock! There are also a couple of protected nature habitats. These areas may be passed staying on roads and rides. Additionally, some agri- and horticultural areas, cemeteries, quarries and a motocross circuit area are marked as out-of-bounds.

The map scale is 1:30000, the contour interval is 2,5 meters. The size of the map sheet is ca 45x45 cm. NB! The magnetic north grid (marked with green lines) is not parallel to the map sheet side, but with declination of 6 degrees.

There are 45 controls on the terrain with values ranging from 2 to 6.

There are 2 water stations on the terrain, but it is also possible to get somethink to drink at the event center during the race. Whereas in previous years the event instructions have included a clause that during the race it is permitted to use only food and drinks that you have taken along in your backpack, this year there is an exception from this rule. If you wish to visit a shop or cafe in Kilingi-Nõmme town during the control time – this is allowed, provided of course you have with you the mask and Covid certificate which the service provider may require, as well as some money ...