

SOUTH EAST QLD TRAINING ROUTES



AUSTRALIA'S TOUGHEST TEAM ENDURANCE EVENT

MT NIMMEL HALL - POLLY'S CAFE SECTION LENGTH: 17.6KM



ELEVATION PROFILE 3 - CHECKPOINT 2 - CHECKPOINT 3

ELEVATION PROFILE 4 - CHECKPOINT 3 - CHECKPOINT 4



MT NIMMEL HALL - POLLY'S CAFE SECTION LENGTH: 17.6KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 67-A6

GPS Position: (AGD66 DATUM)

56 531155E 6887520N Height 105 metres

Starting point: Outside front gate of Mount

Nimmel Lodge at Lot 271 Austinville Road

IMPORTANT NOTES!

This training route covers the event course from Checkpoint 2 to Checkpoint 4 only. **FOR TRAINING PURPOSES ONLY,** parking at the start point is limited.

There is space located along Austinville Road near Mt Nimmel Hall or near the entry of Mt Nimmel Lodge. Public toilets are adjacent to the Hall.

We ask that you park sensibly and safely and PLEASE DO NOT PARK WITHIN EITHER OF THESE PROPERTIES.

STARTING POINT FOR DAY TRAINING Follow Austinville Road south (downhill) 100m and turn left up Tallowwood Road.

STARTING POINT FOR NIGHT TRAINING Please do not train along Tallowwood Road after dark as it disturbs the residents. Night access is from Bonogin Road. Enter through the National Parks gate and ascend westward along "Northern Fire Break" for 700m until the junction of the daytime training route up Tallowwood Break. Turn left and continue uphill.

An alternative entry point is a further 500 meters along Bonogin Rd (past 7 power poles) to reach a second National Parks Gate on the right. Turn right over the gate and re-enter the bush on the "Southern Fire Break" track. Follow this track for about 1 km as it swings between SW and NW, all the way up to the top of the main ridge, with some very steep parts near the top. At the top, turn left back onto the main ridgeline, heading SW.

DIRECTIONS National parks gate approximately 500m along from the locked council gate at the end of Bonogin Road.

NOTE: NO PHONE RECEPTION HERE!

Start UBD Ref: map 67-F18 **GPS Position:** (AGD66 DATUM) **56 532420E 6884690N:** Height 135m

- Please take care on the narrow uphill section of Tallowwood Road. After about 200m, there is the opportunity to veer slightly left and off the bitumen, following and old track which shadows Tallowwood Road for the next steep part. This then merges again with Tallowwood Road at the top of the hill.
- FOLLOW Tallowwood Road for another 2km south-east (it changes to unsealed) until just before its end, where there is a gate further downhill and directly in front. There is also a National Park gate 50m over to the left, which is the entrance to Mudgeeraba State Forest.
- TURN HERE Veer left and go through the National Park gate, following the track (south-east initially) steeply uphill.

 Near the top, ignore the track heading off downhill on the left. Stay on the main ridgeline in a generally southerly direction, with some minor undulations. After about 700m along the top, pass by/around two metal gates in quick succession and ignore a minor descent track on the right, about 300m past the second gate. About 1.3km further along from the second gate is an obvious intersection of tracks at the top of a small rise before a third gate.
- TURN HERE At this intersection, turn sharp right (west) and descend steeply off the ridgeline, keeping with the main track.

 Near the bottom of the descent the track swings more north, eventually emerging over a National Park gate onto Austinville Road at Moffat Crossing (not sign posted).
- TURN HERE Turn left at Moffat Crossing and follow Austinville Road south for 1.3km. Near the end of Austinville Road you will come to a slightly more open area where cars turn around, with a National Park gate on the right. The track uses this gate. AVOID GOING ANY FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD (further along is a drain crossing, then a second National Park gate on the right and a private property gate in front). Note: It is possible to break this training section up into 2 parts using this position as a mid-point. There is no mobile phone reception here at the end of Austinville Road.
- TURN HERE Go right through the first National Park gate and along the partly overgrown track for a short distance. It then becomes a very steep 4WD track which ascends for over 1km southward up to Fairview Mt.

 On top, follow the main track for about 4km along the ridgeline (initially north-west, then more north). Near the end, continue around a

National Parks gate and onwards for another 300m, taking care not to enter any private driveways. Then tracks then exits the forest through another gate onto the bitumen at the top end of Mt Nimmel Road.

PLEASE BE QUIET AS YOU WALK PAST THE FEW HOUSES BEFORE EXITING ONTO THE BITUMEN. THERE IS OFTEN GUARD DOGS AT HOUSES IN THIS LOCATION SO PLEASE SIMPLY PASS THROUGH THE AREA AS QUICKLY AND QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE. DO NOT TRAIN PAST THESE HOUSES LATE AT NIGHT OR VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING.

- FOLLOW Mt Nimmel Road (all bitumen) downhill. PLEASE WALK IN SINGLE FILE AND WATCH FOR TRAFFIC IN BOTH DIRECTIONS Continue to follow the bitumen all the way downhill to the intersection with Springbrook Road (distance about 4.6km). NOTE: ON THE CHALLENGE WEEKEND, MAJOR CHECKPOINT 4 WITH SUPPORT CREW ACCESS WILL BE LOCATED NEXT TO POLLY'S CREEKSIDE CAFE, WHICH IS NEAR THIS INTERSECTION.
- FINISH UBD REF: MAP 46-M20
 FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 528890E 6889025N HEIGHT: 110 METRES

POLLY'S CAFE-ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE

SECTION LENGTH: 7KM



ELEVATION PROFILE 5 - CHECKPOINT 4 - CHECKPOINT 5



POLLY'S CAFE-ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE SECTION LENGTH: 7KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 46-M20 **GPS Position:** (AGD66 DATUM)

56 528890E 6889025N Height 110 metres **Starting point:** Intersection of Springbrook

Road and Mount Nimmel Road

- HEAD WEST along Springbrook Road past Polly's Creekside Cafe. Upon reaching the Nerang Creek, find a rough footpad on the right side (north) of the bridge, and follow it down to the creek.
- CROSS THE CREEK and ascend up the bank to the verge of Springbrook Road, then follow the verge for 50m until directly opposite the park toilets, and just before the drain crossing under Springbrook Road.
- TURN HERE Locate the rough footpad on the right which goes up the embankment for 10 metres to the metal fence, cross it and continue away from the fence for a short distance before swinging left to cross the gully. It then continues uphill on the other side of the gully for about 60m in a southerly direction before intersecting with the main 4WD track. Alternatively you can park and start the walk at the toilet block at Neranwood Park directly opposite the National Park gate entrance. Please take care crossing the road.
- FOLLOW the main 4WD track steeply uphill in a north-west direction for a distance of over 1km. As it levels out, eventually the track swings to the south. Continue 100m past a 'No Entry' sign on the right to arrive at a junction on the major ridgeline.
- TURN HERE Take the sharp right hand turn and continue northwards along the ridgeline. Where the track divides again, avoid the eroded 'No Entry' track and continue on the other track upwards to the very top (spot height 487m).
- 6 ATTHIS HIGHT POINT, the track swings to the left in a westerly direction, heading downhill.
- CONTINUE DOWNHILL for a total distance for about 2.5km from the high point to where the track forks, at Map Ref 257 908 (WGS84)
- TURN HERE Turn left (the right track has been terminated by the raising of Hinze Dam). Continue donwhill 600m to the T-intersection at the bottom.
- TURN HERE Turn right at the T-intersection, walk for about 30m, then turn left onto the newer track and follow it for 600m (crossing 3 gullies) to another T-intersection.
- TURN HERE Turn left and continue gently uphill in a westerly direction for approximately 200m to arrive at a gate near Pine Creek Road (Map Ref 247 908 WGS84 datum.
- 11 CONTINUE WEST on the rough foot track near the right side of the road. Just before a metal fence is reached, veer left to regain the verge of Pine Creek Road (near the 60kph sign).
- FINISH UBD REF: MAP 46-B19

FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 523530E 6890045N HEIGHT: 110 METRES

FINISH POINT: Intersection of Pine Creek Road and Murwillumbah Road

WATERFALL CREEK CIRCUIT SECTION LENGTH: 13KM



ELEVATION PROFILE 7 - CHECKPOINT 6 - CHECKPOINT 7



WATERFALL CREEK CIRCUIT SECTION LENGTH: 13KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 46-B19 **GPS Position:** (AGD66 DATUM)

56 523530E 6890045N Height 110 metres

Starting point: Intersection of Pine Creek Road

and Nerang-Murwillumbah Road

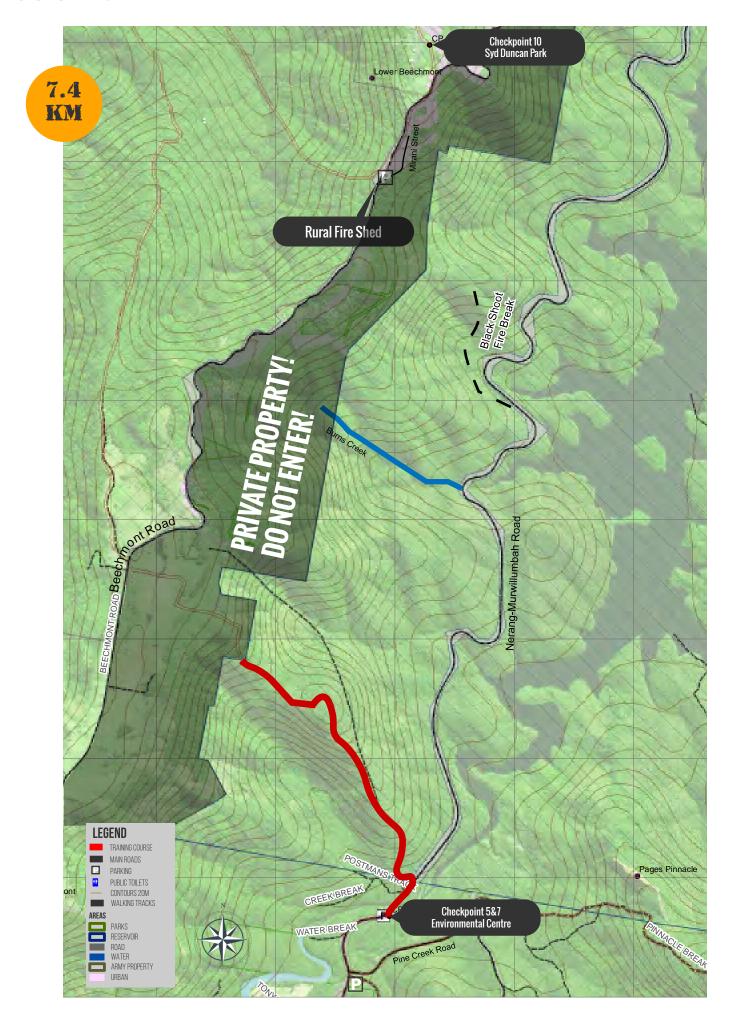
- FROM THE QUARRIED AREA on the south side of the intersection, look for a National Park gate on a 4WD track leading east away from the levelled area.
- GO THROUGH the gate and follow the main 4WD track, which generally follows the course of Waterfall Creek upstream (mostly south to south-east) for over 4km, with eight creek crossings. Follow the main track and ignore all minor offshoots on the left (some signed 'No Entry', others unsigned). Just after the sixth crossing, there are TWO LEFT OFFSHOOTS TO AVOID, especially an obvious one which is signed 'Advanced' on the track post. Just before the seventh crossing also AVOID THE TWO STEEP UPHILL OFFSHOOTS ON THE RIGHT. After the eighth creek crossing, the track climbs gently for about 800m, arriving at a gate.
- **GOTHROUGHTHE GATE** DO NOT TURN RIGHT UPHILL. Continue onwards for about 150m to reach a gravel road. Turn right and follow this road uphill for 800m to reach a Council gate (the middle one of 3 gates) at the top end of Chesters Road. Go through the gate and continue down Chesters Road for about 100m to where there are two National Park gates, one on either side. Take the LEFT National Park gate and descend westwards.
- FOLLOW this track west along the boundary fence, which is on your left.
- THETRACK SOON TURNS TO THE RIGHT, following the fence and heading north. After crossing two small gullies and attaining a minor ridgeline, continue ahead where the Great Walk intersects on the right. Continue north to cross another small gully, then follow the track as it turns left (west) to follow the fence. After another 800m, as you approach the village of Numinbah a foot track, which is part of the Great Walk, veers off to the right.
- TURN HERE Ensure you turn right here, to avoid the nearby houses. Soon Nerang-Murwillumbah Road and the Numinbah Hall come into view at a foot track intersection at the forest edge.
- TURN HERE Take the left turn and exit to Nerang-Murwillumbah Road. Cross the road to Numinbah Hall.

NUMINBAH HALL (UBD MAP 65:P4) is approximately the halfway point of the actual Kokoda Challenge Event and is a major checkpoint with support crew access on the challenge weekend. Some participants may find it more convenient when training to start and finish this 'Waterfall Creek Circuit' section from Numinbah Hall because of the availability of parking and facilities.

- RE-CROSS THE ROAD and turn left up the same track again, this time heading north. Follow it past where the previous track comes in on the right, and continue to head north, keeping Nerang-Murwillumbah Road nearby on your left.
- PASS STRAIGHT THROUGH the Waste Transfer Station. Please avoid damaging any revegetation bordering this Station area. Look for a continuing footpad on the other side near the yellow Council sign. Continue north as before for another 400m. Just after passing an old quarry on your right you arrive at Chesters Road (unsigned and unsealed).
- 10 TURN HERE Turn right and follow Chesters Road east for 800m until a National Park gate is visible about 30m over on the left (if a hairpin bend has been reached on Chesters Road, this gate has been overshot by about 200m).
- TURN HERE Veer left through this gate and follow the track north-east up to the high point (302m on the map). Now stay on the main ridgeline (Tagablum Spur) in a general north-west direction. The ridgeline initially climbs gently for about 600m to the 329m spot height, then generally starts to lose height as it swings more north.
- AFTER ABOUT IKM from the 329m high point, the track then descends off the ridgeline veering west slightly at first. Follow the descent to where the track has largely levelled out and look for a pronounced grader drain on the right. This point is about 300m before a gate on Nerang-Murwillumbah Road. A footpad follows off the end of this grader drain. There may be a star picket marking this point.
- TURN HERE Turn right to follow this footpad, which heads gently downhill through the regrowth for about 300m in a north-east direction to a flatter area. Veer right onto and old vehicle track and continue to the T-intersection with the Waterfall Creek Track (just north of the first creek crossing).
- TURN HERE Turn left and walk 700m back to the corner of Pine Creek Road and the Nerang-Murwillumbah Road.
- FINISH UBD REF: MAP 46-B19
 FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 523530E 6890045N HEIGHT: 110 METRES
 FINISH POINT: Intersection of Pine Creek Road and Murwillumbah Road

NERANG-MURWILLUMBAH ROAD - BEECHMONT

SECTION LENGTH: 7.4KM



NERANG-MURWILLUMBAH ROAD - BEECHMONT SECTION LENGTH: 7.4KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 46B18

GPS Position: (AGD66 DATUM)

56 523930E 6890645N Height 110 metres **Starting point:** 'No Through Road' Sign on

Southern Side of Pine Creek Bridge

IMPORTANT NOTES!

This training section is a round trip walk, where you will return to the same place you started.

- LEAVE FROM the 'No Through Road' beside the Environmental Centre (be mindful not to block the main driveway entrance). Turn right and cross the main bridge.
- FROM THE NORTH END OF THE BRIDGE, continue ahead briefly and cross the road where indicated. From the western side of the road, find the 4WD track on the left, with the National Parks gate.
- TURN HERE Turn left through the National Park gate (#15) and continue on the 4WD track for about 50m to where a track branches off on the right.
- TURN HERE Turn right and head uphill. The track climbs steeply in a north-west direction. After 0.7km, the steepness lessens somewhat, but continues for another 1.3km. Then it levels off temporarily as it turns south-west around the high point of the map
- AFTER PASSING AROUND THE HIGH POINT, the track swings right and descends north-west for about 0.3km down to a saddle (beware of criss-crossing cattle tracks here), then ascends NW again for another 0.5km to exit the forest. This ascent has a 40m steep section that will be slippery and challenging if conditions are wet. At the top, just before the forest edge, the track finishes at afence/gate. You can now turn around and follow your steps back..

PLEASE NOTE: Land on the other side of the gate is private property. These properties must never be accessed outside of the challenge weekend in July.

6 FINISH UBD REF: MAP 46-B18

FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 523930E 6890645N HEIGHT: 110 METRES

FINISHING POINT: 'No Through Road' Sign on Southern Side of Pine Creek Bridge

BEECHMONT - MT NATHAN SECTION LENGTH: 13.5KM



ELEVATION PROFILE 11 - CHECKPOINT 10 - CHECKPOINT 11



BEECHMONT - MT NATHAN SECTION LENGTH: 13.5KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 46-C3

GPS Position: (AGD66 DATUM)

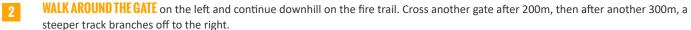
56 524165E 6897800N Height 490 metres **Starting point:** Syd Duncan Park, Outlook

Avenue, Beechmont

EXIT SYD DUNGAN PARK onto Outlook Avenue, following it to the T - intersection with North Road. Turn left and follow North Road for approximately 1km to the intersection with Freemans Road. Turn left and follow Freemans Road for 2.5km, then turn right into Hellfire Pass. Follow Hellfire Pass steeply downhill to the cul de sac at the end of the bitumen.

PLEASE AVOID TRAINING IN THIS AREA AT NIGHT AND KEEP NOISE TO A MINIMUM

NOTE: The ensuing sections (2-6) make up the steepest prolonged descent of the kokoda Challenge course. Please take care to avoid injury!



- TURN HERE Turn right here and continue steeply downhill (if this right turn is not made, you will arrive at a power pole #37025 and you will need to backtrack).
- TAKE CARE TO FOLLOW THE MAIN TRACK as it mostly descends steeply while not straying far from the main ridgeline. The descent eases temporarily part way down, and on a couple of occasions, disused tracks branch off to the left to higher ground, while the main track goes to the right around the high ground before later rejoining the ridgeline on the other side. Further down the steep descent, there is also a disused track on the right to avoid. These disused tracks are generally not obvious, and may not even be noticed.
- FURTHER DOWN, the track generally levels out for about 400 metres (heading NNE), then arrives at a forked intersection (Map Ref. 258 019 WGS84).
- TURN HERE Turn right and descend. After 300m the descent eases and an intersection is reached in a small clearing. Stay on the newer right-hand track here, as the left one is now closed (as signposted). After another 200m, the entire descent finishes at an intersection near Clagiraba Creek.

ALTERNATIVELY you can park and start your walk at belliss road.

- TURN HERE Turn LEFT and follow the gravel road (NORTH-EAST; DOWNSTREAM). After another 200m, cross Clagiraba Creek via a concrete causeway. Continue along the main gravel road. After another 300 metres, pass by a National Parks gate on the right. Continue another 100m to reach a final gate across the road, which marks the bitumen end of Belliss Road.
- **FOLLOW BELLISS ROAD** 300m north to the T-intersection with Clagiraba Road.
- TURN HERE Turn right after carefully crossing Clagiraba Road and follow the verge of Clagiraba Road gently uphill (east) for approximately 300m until it starts to steepen.
- TURN HERE Locate the rough footpad on the left just before the power pole and continue up the rough edge of the road embankment. There is a gate to cross just after the start of this embankment.
- TURN HERE At the top of the embankment hill, turn left (north) and follow the track uphill. Initially it is a footpad, then becomes more eroded as it steepens. At the top of the first hill, the track passes a Gold Coast Council sign before a short downhill section.
- CONTINUE UPHILL all the way to the clearned paddock at the top of Mt Nathan. Just before the top, please avoid the foot track on the left and continue ahead through a few metres of overgrowth to emerge at the top in the south-west corner of the paddock. The property here is a Council Consveration Park it is mown periodically but can at times be a bit overgrown.
- TURN HERE Turn left inside the paddock and follow west along the paddock boundary (an overgrown wire fence) for about 30m to the high point. From here, some large mango trees are now visible about 60m to the north-west, with a grassy laneway just to the left of them. Proceed ahead to the mango trees and onto the laneway there. Ignore the wire gate further over to the left, which a previous route for the Challenge came in through.
- FOLLOW THE GRASSY LANEWAY (also sometimes becomes overgrown) north along the scenic ridgeline for about 1km. After crossing one metal gate, it climbs gently to a second gate at the top of Mt Nathan Valley Road. PLEASE RESPECT THE RESIDENTS LIVING HERE BY KEEPING NOISE TO A MINIMUM AND PASSING THROUGH AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
- 15 **CONTINUE OVER THE GATE** onto Nathan Valley Road and follow it downhill. Please take care on the narrow road shoulder. Continue all the way down (about 1.8km) to the T-intersection with Beaudesert-Nerang Road.
- TURN HERE Turn left, heading in a north direction beside Beaudesert-Nerang Road. For safety, please keep off the road itself. After 700m, finish just before The Oval Drive where there is a clear area near the power pole on the left, directly opposite a gated entry to Nerang National Park.
- FINISH UBD REF: MAP 26-B16
 FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 527470E 6905185N HEIGHT: 70 METRES

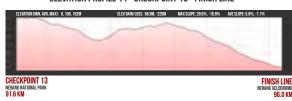
BEECHMONT - MT NATHAN SECTION LENGTH: 14KM



ELEVATION PROFILE 13 - CHECKPOINT 12 - CHECKPOINT 13



ELEVATION PROFILE 14 - CHECKPOINT 13 - FINISH LINE



BEECHMONT - MT NATHAN SECTION LENGTH: 14KM

DIRECTIONS

Start UBD Ref: MAP 26-B16 **GPS Position:** (AGD66 DATUM)

56 527470E 6905185N Height 70 metres **Starting point:** Access Gate to Nerang National Park on Beaudesert-Nerang Road,

About 200m SE of the Oval Drive

IMPORTANT NOTES!

The final part of this walk is long and has no easily described landmarks along the way. However, the notes below make use of the following artificial structures encountered along the way.

BEEHIVE SITES: Each site has a low-set wooden post easily visible from the track. Each is painted a mist green and carries a white marker. These notes assume the number has not been damaged or fallen off the post. Please do not stray too close to the beehives themselves.

POWERLINK HIGH VOLTAGE PYLONS: These also carry an identifying number on a metal plate usually visible from the track. The number is after the prefix '-STR-'.

- ENTER NERANG NATIONAL PARK over the gate and follow the 4WD track which generally heads north. Ignore the minor branch to the right near Beehive site #20. Ensure you stay on the main track, which winds profusely over several dry gullies. Avoid any minor uphill branches to the right (mostly with 'No Entry' signs) and also minor offshoots on the left into housing estates (one of the last of these offshoots on the left uses a National Park gate, off Malwala Street).
- ABOUT 3.5KM FROM THE BEAUDESERT ROAD GATE, and about 1km past the gate off Mulwala Street, the track swings to the east and climbs steeply. Upon reaching the top of this ridge there is an intersection.
- TURN HERE Turn right at the intersection and head south along the ridgeline.
- AT THE NEXT JUNCTION after another 2km, continue ahead southward, avoiding the left option.
- AT THE NEXT JUNCTION, after another 600m, (at Beehive site #12 the #1 may be missing) continue ahead southward, avoiding the left option. At the next junction after another 700m, (Beehive Site #14) avoid the right offshoot and continue ahead as the track descends gently to the south-east. Where the track levels out after a further 600m and starts to turn north-east, avoid a minor offshoot to the right (signed Horses: No Entry). The track now starts to gain height.
- **AT THE TOP OF THE CLIMB**, avoid the right option and continue ahead.

NOTE: The right hand option mentioned above (map ref: 296 051 agd66 - signed as 'advanced' on the nerang national park track sign here) does provide a reasonable exit in case of emergency or even if it was desired to divide the nerang national park section into two pieces. This right branch continues south-east for about 1.3km to exit onto brookfield court (ubd map ref 26-q19). If using this, ensure you veer right over the low bar gate when the houses appear in front, then exit via a second bar gate onto Brookfield Court.

- THE CHALLENGE TRACK CONTINUES north briefly from the high point intersection, then passes Beehive site #13 on the left as it twists to the right, then descends to the north-east. The track generally levels and continues another 600m to a major junction at Beehive site #7. This will be Checkpoint 13 during The Kokoda Challenge event.
- TURN HERE Turn right (sout-east) at Beehive #7. After another 300m, ignore a minor offshoot on the right (which is the very steep 'Roller-coaster' descent) and continue north another 600m to the next intersection.
- TURN HERE Turn sharp right here (the left option is a dead-end which just accesses a beehive site and powerlink pylon) and continue for another 800m to the next intersection. The track swings east, passes Powerlink Pylon #1474 on the left, then uphill along the southern boundary of the quarry, passing another Powerlink Pylon #1475 on the left.
- AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION near the fenced corner boundary of the quarry (also Beehive site #4 on the left) avoid all left options and continue ahead to the east another 400m, passing by Powerlink Pylon #1476 on the left, to the next intersection (at 147 metres spot height on the map).
- TURN HERE Turn right, heading south (if this junction is missed, Powerlink Pylon #1477 will soon appear on the right after a descent, and you will need to backtrack). Follow the main track (the 'Centre Road') south. Initially it is rather flat, then passes an information sign on the left. it then descends gradually for 1.1km until it turns east and a trail sign on the left indicates 'Casuarina Grove 400 metres'. Avoid the right offshoot here and continue ahead towards Casuarina Grove.
- CONTINUE EAST for 400m following a fence on the right until the Nerang National Park entry/exit gate and information sign is reached. Turn right, over the gate onto the biumen road. The Nerang Velodrome is now visible over to the south. Proceed slightly to the left to go around the Scout Hall area, then right to follow the road and exit the Velodrome area onto Hope Street. PLEASE TAKE CARE TO AVOID CYCLISTS USING THESE ROADS NEAR THE VELODROME. On The Kokoda Challenge weekend in July, the finish line will be located between the Scout Hall area and the Velodome building.
- FINISH UBD REF: MAP 27-H20

FINISH GPS POSITION: (AGD66 DATUM) 56 532850E 690412N HEIGHT: 5 METRES

FINISHING POINT: Nerang Velodrome, Hope Street, Nerang