

20th European Rogaining Championships 2024

Bulletin 1

Location: Misso, Võru county, Estonia

Dates: 17–18 August 2024

Organizers: TA Orienteering Club (TAOK) and Estonian Orienteering Federation (EOL)

Event website: <https://erc2024.rogain.ee>

Format: European Rogaining Championships 2024 (20ERC2024) are held as a rogaine with the duration of 24 hours.

A concurrent 6-hour open (non-championship) TAOK rogaine is organized (instructions are published separately).

Rules: The [Rules of Rogaining](#) of the International Rogaining Federation (version as of 1 January 2024) are followed. Any event-specific adjustment of these rules will be outlined in the following bulletins.

EVENT CENTER

The Event Center is located in Misso, which is a small borough in Rõuge parish, Võru county, in South Eastern part of Estonia.

GPS coordinates of the event center: N57.604985, E27.222363

The distance to Misso:

from Tallinn 290 km (3.5 hour drive)

from Tartu 115 km (1.5 hour drive)

from Riga airport 215 km (3 hour drive)



TERRAIN

The competition area covers over 250 km² in the south eastern part of Estonia in Haanja Uplands, 150–250 meters over the sea level. The terrain features several moraine hillocks and esker formations of glacial origin, intercepted with bogs and marshes, as well as several lakes. The relative height of hillocks is typically 10–30 meters.

The terrain has never been used for rogaining, but orienteering events have been held in some parts of the terrain. Links to the existing orienteering maps from this area:

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=2016041>

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=2015012>

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=2014020>

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=2013088>

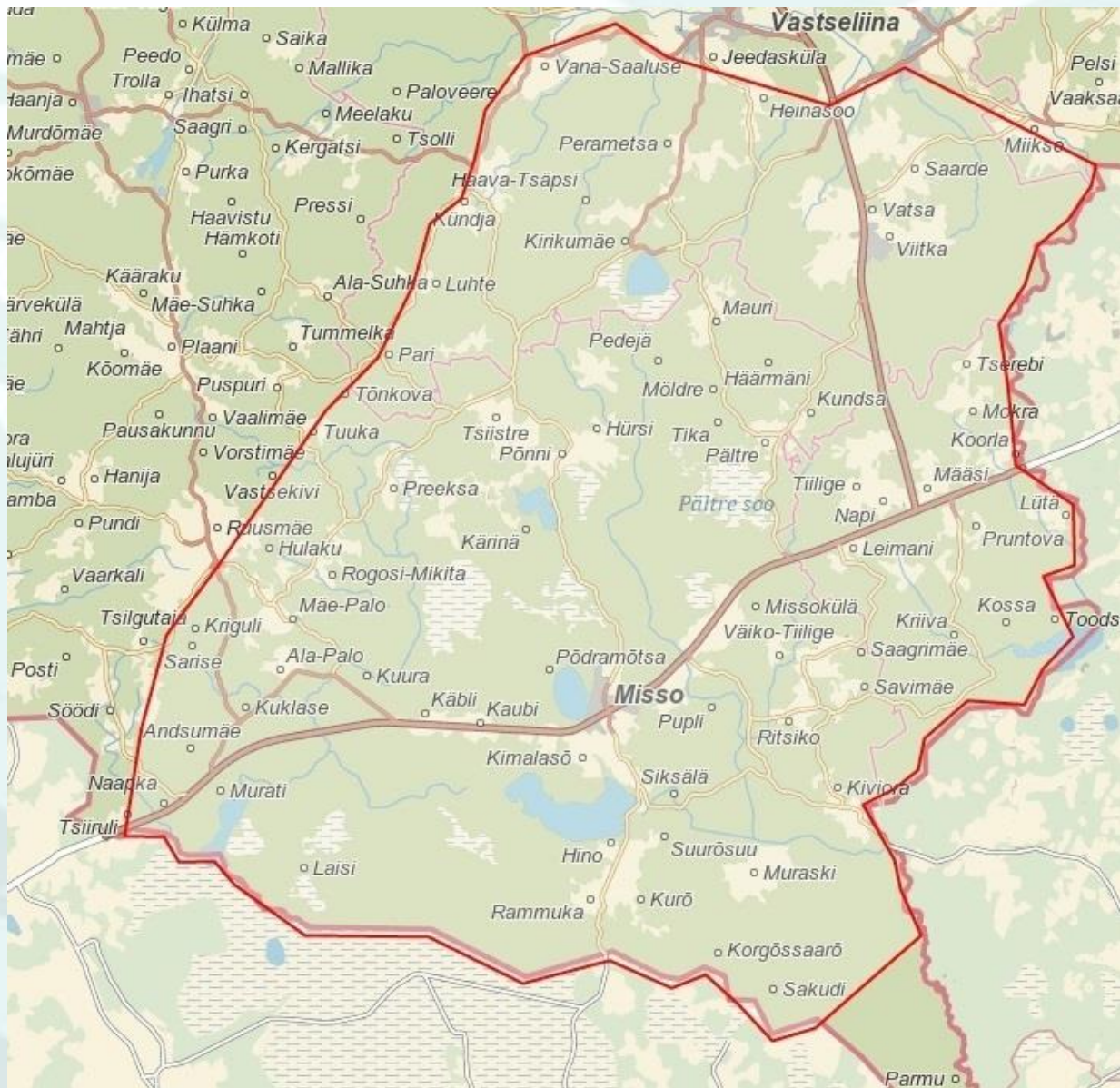
<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=2009022>

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=0138>

<https://orienteerumine.ee/kaart/?eolcode=0137>

EMBARGOED AREA

For prospective ERC participants the area indicated on the map below is closed for training. Under the embargo, independent or team training on the terrain with a map, as well as participation in any rogaining-type or adventure events or similar activities is prohibited from January 2024 until the start of ERC2024.



PARTICIPANTS

A team shall consist of two or three members. A team member/competitor is considered to represent a country of which she/he is a national or a permanent resident.

Participants from non-European countries can participate and compete for the ERC medals. However, according to the decision of the IRF Council from January

2024, competitors from the Russian Federation and Belarus are not eligible to participate in ERC2024.

COMPETITION CLASSES

Men's Open (MO) — men, no age restriction

Women's Open (WO) — women, no age restriction

Mixed Open (XO) — at least one man and one woman, no age restriction

Men's Youth (MY) — men, 23 years of age or younger

Women's Youth (WY) — women, 23 years of age or younger

Mixed Youth (XY) — at least one man and one woman, 23 years of age or younger

Men's Veteran (MV) — men, 45 years of age or over

Women's Veteran (WV) — women, 45 years of age or over

Mixed Veteran (XV) — at least one man and one woman, 45 years of age or over

Men's Super Veteran (MSV) — men, 55 years of age or over

Women's Super Veteran (WSV) — women, 55 years of age or over

Mixed Super Veteran (XSV) — at least one man and one woman, 55 years of age or over

Men's Ultra Veteran (MUV) — men, 65 years of age or over

Women's Ultra Veteran (WUV) — women, 65 years of age or over

Mixed Ultra Veteran (XUV) — at least one man and one woman, 65 years of age or over.

Teams are entered to particular categories based on gender and age of their members. Teams are deemed to compete in every category for which they are eligible.

The age requirements for age categories are based on the year of birth, i.e. the age of team members at the end of the year (as of 31 December 2024) is taken into account.

Any team that has a member under 16 years of age shall also have a member 18 years of age or over. All participants under 18 years of age should present a written permission from parents or legal guardians upon registration.

MODEL EVENT

Model event will be available from Thursday, 15 August 10.00 to Friday, 16 August 21.00. The model event terrain will be near Haanja village, about 25 km from the event center.

EVENT TIME TABLE

Friday 16 August

16.00 Event Center is open

16.00–21.00 Registration and handing out event materials

Saturday 17 August

8.00 Registration and handing out event materials

9.00 Map handout for ERC2024

12.00 ERC2024 mass start

18.00 Catering available at hash house

Sunday 18 August

- 12.00 ERC2024 finish
- 12.30 Late finish cut-off time
- 12.45 Deadline for submitting protests
- 14.00 ERC2024 prize-giving
- 16.00 Event Center closes

SUN AND MOON

Saturday 17 August

- 20.50 Sunset
- 20.55 Moonrise
- 21.40 End of civil twilight

Sunday 18 August

- 02.30 Moonset
- 04.50 Start of civil twilight
- 05.40 Sunrise

The duration of daylight in the event week-end is about 15 hours and with periods of civil twilight over 16 hours. Moon illumination is about 95% as there will be full moon on 19 August. However, the moon will be low, only 6° over the horizon.

WEATHER

The average daytime high temperatures in August are around 20°C, and the average nighttime low about 12°C. The chance of rain is about 30%.

Historical weather data (including temperature and precipitation) on daily and hourly basis for Tartu for the years 2000–2023 can be consulted at the web-site of the Institute of Environmental Physics of the University of Tartu: <http://meteo.physic.ut.ee/?lang=en>

MAP

The competition map is a special rogaining map, prepared for the ERC. The map scale will be 1:30000 with a contour interval of 5 meters. The map will be printed on a water- and tear-resistant material. There will be separate maps for route planning.

COURSE

Checkpoints may be visited in any order. Control markers have reflective stripes. The first digit of the checkpoint number reflects its point value.

There will be some water stations on the terrain with cold drinking water.

There are some out-of-bound areas marked on the map, including some nature reserves. It is strictly prohibited to enter these out-of-bound areas. Violations will lead to disqualification and are punishable by law.

EQUIPMENT

Each team member shall carry at all times during the competition a whistle, a visibly placed number bib and the SI card provided by the organizers, sealed around the competitors' wrist with a non-removable wristband. One of the team members shall carry at all times during the competition the GPS tracking device provided by the organizers.

Recommended gear: compass, regular watch, first aid kit, survival blanket, and a mobile phone, which is turned off and sealed in the bag provided by the organizers.

The only navigational aids allowed are the map provided by the organizers and a compass. The use of any other navigational aids, including any type of GPS or distance measuring devices, is prohibited. The use of any other map (either printed or electronic) not provided by the organizers is prohibited.

Any devices (such as smartphones, tablets, watches, trackers or other) with a GPS or other navigational functions may be carried on the course only if sealed in the bag provided by the organisers. Any audio functions of such devices shall be turned off.

PUNCHING

SPORTident (SI) Air+ contactless punching system will be used. Each competitor will be provided with a SI card by the organisers. Competitors may not use their own SI cards. The rental fee of SI cards is included in the event fee. The SI cards are attached to each competitor with a non-removable wristband. In case of loss of the SI card, a fee of 60 EUR is charged.

In order to gain points for a checkpoint, all members of a team shall punch their SI cards at the SI station of that checkpoint within a time interval of 60 seconds.

GPS TRACKING

Each team will be provided with a GPS tracker and teams are required to carry a GPS tracker at all times when on course during the event. GPS tracking information of the routes and progress of all teams will be available online for spectators during the race, but a time lag will be applied.

RESULTS

After the finish, each competitor gets a printout of the SI card reading, indicating all controls visited, the total time, time of each leg and the sum of points collected. The individual SI printout shall be considered as a preliminary, and not a final result. Preliminary team results are posted at the event center after the control time. Final results are published on the ERC website.

PROTESTS

Within 45 minutes of the nominated finish time, a team may submit a protest about any team thought to have breached the rules, about the preliminary results of the team or about any actions of the organizers that they consider made the competition unfair. Protests shall be submitted in writing in English.

JURY

Any protests are considered and determined by a three-person jury. Members of the jury will be notified in the following bulletins.

AWARDS

The team with the highest score in each class is granted the title of the European Rogaining Champions. The three best teams in each class are awarded medals. The awards ceremony is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 18 August at 14.00.

MEDICAL AID

First aid will be available at the event center. Foreign competitors should have adequate travel health insurance, covering also participation in a competition.

HASH HOUSE CATERING

There will be food and drink available at the hash house from 18.00 on Saturday to 11.00 on Sunday. The menu will be made available in the pre-event information. Vegan options will be also offered. Lunch will be provided at the hash house after the event on Sunday from 11.00 to 13.00.

REGISTRATION

Online registration will open on 1 March 2024. Entries will close on Sunday 11 August 2024.

ENTRY FEES (per competitor)

Early bird registration (up to 30.04.2024)

Competitors born 1960 to 2000 — 80 EUR

Competitors born 1959 or earlier and competitors born 2001 or later — 60 EUR

General registration (01.05 – 31.07.2024)

Competitors born 1960 to 2000 — 100 EUR

Competitors born 1959 or earlier and competitors born 2001 or later — 75 EUR

Last chance registration (01.08 – 11.08.2024)

Competitors born 1960 to 2000 — 120 EUR

Competitors born 1959 or earlier and competitors born 2001 or later — 90 EUR

The entry fee covers participation in the competition, rogaining map, course planning map, rental of SI card, catering during the event, parking at the event center, awards for the best teams, GPS tracking service and the IRF and EOL levies.

The entry fee shall be paid by bank transfer to:

TA Orienteerumisklubi

Bank account No (IBAN): EE242200221037984334

BIC (SWIFT code): HABAE2X

Bank name: Swedbank

Bank address: Liivalaia 8, 15040 Tallinn, Estonia

The early bird registration fee applies only if the entry fee is transferred not later than within one week from the early bird registration deadline, otherwise the registration is cancelled.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In case of withdrawal of participation the organizers will reimburse 50 percent of the paid entry fee (minus bank transaction charges) in case of withdrawals notified by 31 July 2024. In case of withdrawals notified from 1 August 2024 onwards the entry fee will not be reimbursed.

VISAS

Estonia is a member of the Schengen agreement and nationals of other Schengen countries do not need a visa to travel to Estonia. Nationals of other European Union member states, not belonging to the Schengen agreement, as well as nationals of the UK do not require a visa and may enter Estonia using a valid passport.

Nationals of other countries are advised to check the visa requirements and the necessary travel documents they need to enter Estonia. The visa can be obtained from the Estonian embassy or consular office. For more information on visa applications, please see: <https://www.vm.ee/en/consular-visa-and-travel-information/visa-information/application-schengen-visa#lodging-a-visa-appli>

Upon request, organizers will send an invitation (for a fee of 10 EUR). Please contact: mkirsspuu@gmail.com

ORGANIZING TEAM

Event director: Lauri Leppik, l.leppik@online.ee

Course setter: Raivo Pellja

Course vetters: Karli Lambot, Tõnis Erm

Event secretariat: Lea Leppik, Marika Kirsspuu

SI time-keeping and results: Arvo Laanemets, Tarmo Klaar

Catering: Ele Sisas