Safety Officer Report – Paddy Pallin Rogaine 2012.

Location: - Clandulla State Forest (8 km south of Kandos)

Map: - Rogaining Map and Ilford Topographic Maps

Date: - 17th June 2012 (event: - 6 hour, 9am till 3pm)

Introduction

A big turnout of Rogainers this year with 177 registered teams with between 400 and 500 competitors.

An administration Tent and Hash House were set up on private property belonging to Mr and Mrs Farrugia, surrounded by Clandulla State Forest.

Participants are encouraged to camp overnight to reduce the dangers of driving while tired. To facilitate this, an area suitable for camping is always found and hot food was provided by the "hash house" on Saturday night. Breakfast and Lunch was provided on Sunday.

A very experienced management committee ran the event. All competitors were provided with an accurate map and checkpoint descriptions. The pre-event briefing covered all likely problems such as very steep terrain with many cliff lines, very slippery rocks in wet watercourses, evil scrub in some locations (fortunately well marked on the competitors map), vehicular traffic on roads, out of bounds areas, etc. They were advised of regular vehicular safety sweeps of the main road through the forest and advised to make their way to the road or a water drop if they needed assistance. Four water drops were provided to ensure hydration.

A Safety Plan was prepared by the event administrators and NSW Police and NSW ambulance were notified prior to the event and provided with a copy of the Safety Plan.

A BWRS team of four provided all necessary equipment for safety response: - the troop carrier 4wd vehicle, mobile phones, UHF and HF radios for infield communications to base, ready packs with, gps, maps and compasses for team member to operate in the field as necessary, base tent for protection from the weather, generator and lighting equipment, first aid equipment, incident reporting forms, vertical access equipment.

Event

I am pleased to say that there were no incidents, again this year. The weather was wet on Saturday but cleared during the night to a delightful clear day, but with a cold wind on Sunday for the competition. The BWRS Vehicle and the event organiser made a number of sweeps of the roads through the course but there were no requests for assistance. BWRS radio communications between base and the vehicle, worked well generally.

There were no calls for first aid. All competitors returned before the cut-off time. All of the comments that we heard were very positive regarding the course and running of the event.

Conclusion

A very well run event and no incidents reported to the Safety Team. Congratulations to the event organisers and to the BWRS personnel, a great team effort.

Dug Floyd (Safety Officer Paddy Pallin Rogaine)