



M*A*S*H Backyard Ultra, 23 January 2027

FIELD MANUAL

Welcome to the Battlefield

This Field Manual contains everything you need to know before arriving at M*A*S*H Backyard Ultra. Please read it carefully before race weekend and share it with your support crew. Understanding these procedures will help everything run smoothly, allowing you to focus on the only mission that matters—one more Yard.

1. Mission Overview

Definitions

Throughout this event you'll encounter a few military terms.

M*A*S*H Term	Meaning
Event	M*A*S*H Backyard Ultra
Soldier	Registered participant
Private (Pte)	First year participant
Corporal (Cpl)	Second year participant
Sergeant (Sgt)	Third year participant
Officer	Event organiser or volunteer
Yard	One 6.71km lap
Base Camp	Event village
HQ	Event headquarters

Command & Contact

Event Command: FTS Events

Command General: Fiona Hayvice

Radio Check: 021 419929

Email: mashbackyardultra@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mashbackyardultra/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mashbackyardultra/>

2. Mission Timeline

Friday 22 January

1500–2100 Base Camp opens for setup.

Note the Mackays Crossing entrance gate closes promptly at 2100.

Saturday 23 January

0600 Gate opens for setup.

0700–0830 Check-in at Ramaroa Centre. *Race bib + timing chip issued.*

0830 Mandatory race briefing at starting corral. *Crew are encouraged to attend.*

0857 Three-minute warning whistle.

0858 Two-minute warning whistle.

0859 One-minute warning whistle. *All soldiers must now be inside the starting corral.*

0900 Horn sounds. Mission begins.

The whistle sequence and horn repeat every hour thereafter.

Finish: Unknown.

3. Deployment

Location

Paddock adjacent to the  Ramaroa Centre , Whareroa Road, Queen Elizabeth Park, Mackays Crossing Entrance, SH1, Paekākāriki 5034.



Parking

Ample parking is available within the paddock.

Please follow Officer directions and park only within your designated area.

Separate areas are available for:

- General vehicles
- Campervans



Gate Hours

Vehicle access is available:

- Friday 1500-2100
- Saturday onwards 0600-2100 daily

Outside these hours, access is available only with assistance from an Officer for emergencies or competitors leaving after withdrawing.

Spectators

Family and friends are warmly encouraged.

To minimise disturbance, spectator vehicle movements should occur only during standard gate opening hours.

Public Transport

There is no direct public transport to the venue.

The closest rail station is Paekākāriki. From there the venue is approximately 4km by taxi.

4. Base Camp

Base Camp is your home throughout the battle.

Soldiers may set up camp from Friday afternoon or before check-in on Saturday morning.

Each Soldier is welcome to bring a gazebo or tent. Allow approximately **3m × 3m** per Soldier, although sharing with fellow Soldiers is encouraged where practical.

Need logistical support? Hire a **KITZ** package through [His & Hers Events](#) and arrive at a fully prepared camp. Numbers are limited, so secure your booking early.

Self-Seeding

Please choose your camp location thoughtfully.

Soldiers expecting to continue beyond 24 hours should position themselves closest to the starting corral.

Overnight Camping

Overnight camping is permitted on-site from Friday night. Soldiers and their support crew are welcome to stay in a tent, caravan, campervan or motorhome.

If you intend to stay overnight on Friday, please let Event Command know in advance.

Please respect this privilege.

- No parties.
- Quiet conversations, shared meals and pre-battle nerves are encouraged.

Pack In • Pack Out

Everything you bring into Base Camp leaves with you.

Please recycle wherever possible and help us leave Queen Elizabeth Park exactly as we found it.

5. Logistics

The event is largely self-supported. Please arrive prepared.

Bring

- Shelter
- Food + Hydration
- Power banks
- Headlamp + Mobile phone (carry during hours of darkness)
- Clothing for all conditions
- Any personal medical supplies

On-site Facilities

- Toilets: portaloos + permanent blocks (Ramaroa Centre)
- Water: limited source (Ramaroa Centre)
- Hot water: Zip unit (Ramaroa Centre)
- Charging outlets: limited source (Ramaroa Centre) – bring power banks
- BBQ & Microwave (Ramaroa Centre)
- First aid onsite
- Food/coffee vendors (selected times)
- Ice creams & cold drinks nearby

6. Battle Operations

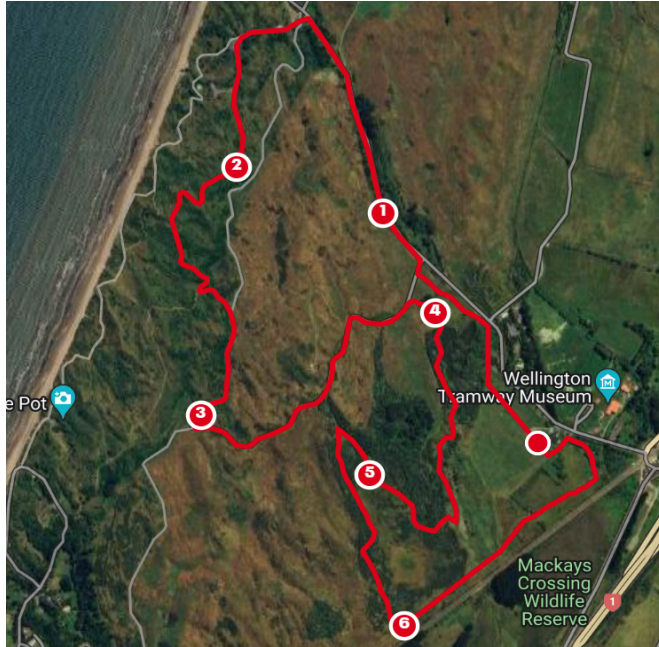
Check-In

Check-in operates from 0700 until 0830 Saturday in the Ramaroa Centre. You'll receive your race bib and any pre-ordered merchandise.

Course Map & Marking

Course map:

<https://api.coros.com/coros/data/share-track?regionId=1&id=463504438007660544>



Clear visibility will be ensured using arrow boards, reflective ribbons, safety cones, and bumblebee bars.

- Arrow boards are mounted securely on stakes to guide participants.
- Reflective ribbon is tied to existing features and vegetation approximately every 50 metres to provide consistent visual cues.
- Safety cones and bumblebee bars highlight key direction changes and potential hazards.

If you notice damaged or missing course markings, please report this to an Officer at the completion of your Yard.

Timing

Your race bib contains your electronic timing chip.

Wear it on the front of your body below your ribcage throughout the event.

All Yards are electronically timed.

A live leaderboard will be available online - *link TBA*.

Master Clock

The large digital clock above the starting corral is the official event time.

Warning whistles will sound at 3 minutes, 2 minutes, and 1 minute before the start of each Yard.

Soldiers remain responsible for being inside the starting corral before the horn.

In the event of any variation in the whistle sequence, the Master Clock remains the official timekeeper.

Withdrawal

When your battle ends, report immediately to the Timing Officer.

You'll be recorded as DNF, collect your DNF taonga, have your photo taken, then we encourage you to stay and support your fellow Soldiers.

Victory Conditions

The final Soldier to successfully complete a Yard alone is declared the winner.

If nobody completes one additional Yard beyond every other competitor, there is no winner.

7. Squads

Fight your own battle. Deploy together.

M*A*S*H follows the official Backyard Ultra format, so every Soldier competes as an **individual**.

For those wanting a little extra camaraderie (and a healthy dose of friendly rivalry), Soldiers may also enlist as part of a **Squad**.

Squad Orders

- Squads may consist of **up to four Soldiers**.
- Every lap completed by each Squad member contributes to the Squad's cumulative total.
- This is **not** a relay. Every Soldier runs every Yard until they are eliminated.
- Once a Soldier's battle ends, their completed laps remain part of the Squad's total while the remaining Squad members continue the mission.

Squad Commendations

🏆 Highest cumulative lap total

🏆 Best Dressed Squad

Squad Registration

One Squad representative should report to HQ (mashbackyardultra@gmail.com) by **Saturday 16 January 2027** with:

- Squad Name
- Squad Members

8. Leave, Recreation & Family

Base Camp is located at [Queen Elizabeth Park](#) with access to walking, cycling and horse riding tracks, historic [US Marine exhibitions and memorials](#), the [Wellington Tramway Museum](#), and a swimming beach.

Within a 5–10 minute drive, you'll find:

- [Coastland Shopping Centre](#)
- [Paraparaumu Team Medical](#) [open daily 8am-8pm]
- Cafés and bakeries
- Pizzerias, restaurants and pubs
- Supermarkets
- [The Warehouse](#)
- [Coastland Aquatic Centre](#)
- Kids playgrounds

Kids Frontyard

While the Soldiers continue their mission, the young Recruits have one of their own.

The Kids Frontyard is a free, family-friendly event for children aged **12 years and under**, held **after the 1400 hrs Yard on Saturday**.

Mission Details

- Approx. 800m grass loop
- Choose to complete **1, 2 or 3 laps**
- Laps depart approximately **every 10 minutes**
- Participation, not pace, is the mission
- Parents and caregivers are welcome to accompany younger recruits

Every Recruit who completes a lap will receive a small reward, with additional prizes drawn at the conclusion of the event.

Registration is free and takes place on the day. A parent or guardian must complete the registration and consent form before deployment.

9. Allies

Back the brands backing the battlefield.

Without our sponsors, partners and community supporters, M*A*S*H simply wouldn't exist.

Please support the businesses and organisations supporting this event.

- Greater Wellington Regional Council - <https://www.gw.govt.nz/>
- Kāpiti District Council - <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/>
- Kāpiti U.S. Marines Trust - <https://marinesnz.com/>
- Lactic Turkey Events - <https://www.lacticturkey.co.nz/>
- Faultline Ultra - <https://faultlineultra.co.nz/>
- His and Hers Events Ltd - <https://hisandhersevents.co.nz/>
- Wellington Tramway Museum - <https://www.wellingtontrams.org.nz/>
- Wellington Scottish Athletics Club - <https://scottishathletics.org.nz/>
- Run Pōneke - <https://runponeke.nz/>
- That's It - <https://thatsit.nz/>
- CurraNZ - <https://curranz.co.nz/>
- Creepers Socks - <https://creeperssocks.co.nz/>
- Kereru Brewing - <https://www.kererubrewing.co.nz/>
- Dark Horse Coffee - <https://darkhorsecoffee.co.nz/>
- YOYO Design by Kiwis - <https://yoyo.co.nz/>
- Real Health Sports Nutrition - <https://www.rhsn.co.nz/> [use discount code: MASH20]
- CMF Running - <https://www.cmfrunning.nz/products/mashbackyardultra>

10. Deployment Administration

Entries are non-transferable unless managed by Event Command.

All withdrawal or transfer requests must be submitted by email prior to the following cut-off dates:

- Before midnight 31 December 2026 – Credit or transfer eligible (admin fee applies)
- Before midnight 15 January 2027 – Transfer only (admin fee applies)

Full refund, transfer and deferral policies are detailed in the Participant Terms & Conditions accepted at registration.

11. Rules of Engagement

Know them. Follow them.

Official Backyard Ultra Rules

M*A*S*H is an affiliated Backyard Ultra. All Soldiers are bound by the [Official Backyard Ultra Rules](#).

The following are **M*A*S*H site-specific rules** and apply in addition to the Official Backyard Ultra Rules. Where there is any discrepancy, the Official Backyard Ultra Rules take precedence.

Starting Orders

- Every Yard begins precisely on the hour.
- Soldiers must be inside the starting corral before the horn.
- No late starts.
- Every Yard must be completed within 60 minutes.

Equipment Orders

- Race bib must be worn and visible throughout every Yard.
- During darkness Soldiers must carry a headlamp and mobile phone.
- Artificial aids, including trekking poles, are prohibited.

Aid Orders

- No aid may be given or received inside the starting corral .
- No aid is permitted once a Yard has begun.
- Aid is permitted only between Yards.
- No receiving or dropping food, drink or equipment during a Yard.
- No pacing, accompanying or cycling alongside competitors.

Course Orders

- Remain on the marked course, except for restroom breaks.
- Stay off Whareroa Road.
- Faster Soldiers must be allowed to pass.
- Respect all other park users.
- The course remains open to the public.

Conduct Orders

- Be self-sufficient.
- No littering.
- No fires (gas cookers permitted).
- No domesticated animals.
- Nature breaks must be discreet and leave no trace.
- Follow all Officer instructions.

Failure to comply with these Rules of Engagement may result in disqualification at the Command General's discretion.

12. Final Orders

Rest well.

Arrive prepared.

Trust your training.

When the horn sounds, there is only one mission:

One more Yard.