

2023 Jumbo Holdsworth, Holdsworth Jumbo and Hooper Loop Race Pack

Contained in this document is all you should need to get to the start line, across the finish line and have a fantastic day while doing it, without any hassles.

There is some important information in this, and some of it is different from previous years, so please make sure you read carefully, even if you've done this race before.

If you still have any questions, please feel free to contact me via race@jumbo-holdsworth.co.nz or message via the [Jumbo-Holdsworth Facebook page](#). Note: I won't be available for questions/contacting much on Friday the 27th or at all on Saturday the 28th due to coverage at Holdsworth campsite.

Race Start and Registration

Registration for the main race (both directions) opens at 6.30am.

Registration for the Hooper Loop opens at 7.45am

Note this year we have split the race registration to ease congestion

Registration and gear check is in the campsite shelter to the right of the gate, up the hill.

Make sure to bring your compulsory gear to registration.

Briefings and race start are at the gate, which is the entrance to the Tararua Forest Park by main car park.

Black bibs are Hooper Loop, Red bibs are Jumbo Holdsworth, Green bibs are Holdsworth Jumbo

⚠ **Due to sell-out fields, there will be no on the day entries and you will not be able to change races on the day.** ⚠

Jumbo-Holdsworth 24km & Holdsworth-Jumbo 24km

Compulsory Race Briefing **7.45am**

Race Start **8.00am**

Hooper Loop 12km

Compulsory Race Briefing **8.45am**

Race Start **9.00am**

All races start from the gate at the end of the Mt Holdsworth DOC campsite. [Google Maps](#)

All races finish at the Holdsworth lodge - 500 meters up the road from the gate.

Compulsory Gear Requirements

All the below equipment is **MANDATORY, must be checked and is to be carried with you at all times during the race.** This is a mountain environment and you need to be able to keep yourself warm should you get injured and need to wait for help to come.

Jumbo-Holdsworth 24km & Holdsworth-Jumbo 24km

- A map of the course or GPS unit with topo map installed.*
- Survival Blanket or Survival Bag
- Waterproof over trousers OR polyprop/wool long johns
- Polyprop/wool top
- Wool Hat or appropriate buff
- Decent warm gloves
- Jacket with a hood that is seam sealed to be both rain and wind proof
- Cup or Bottle for water - there are no cups at huts on the course**

Hooper Loop 12km

- A map of the course or GPS unit with topo map installed.*
- Polyprop/wool top
- Wool Hat or appropriate buff
- Decent warm gloves
- Jacket with a hood that is seam sealed to be both rain and wind proof

Race referees will exercise the right to refuse entry to or disqualify competitors who do not carry the correct gear and comply with safety requirements. Before carrying on over the tops and it is cold, Marshalls may ask you to put more gear on before allowing you to proceed.

If you are seen to be light while running or at the finish, you may have your gear spot checked.

* It is up to the discretion of the gear checker whether the unit is acceptable or not. We will have *some* spare copies of maps available if required. First in first served.

** Reusable squashy cups are available for purchase at registration for \$2.

Additional Recommended Equipment

We recommend you also have sunscreen, sunhat, good trail shoes and if you plan to take some time, your own water and food.

Poles are permitted but should not be used along the Atiwhakatu valley floor when the pack is bunched up.

Drinks, food, gels etc. are your concern. The availability of water will be advised at race briefing as seasonal conditions can affect supply at the huts enroute.

Bring a picnic rug or chair to sit on afterwards. Togs and Towel for a swim. Insect repellent is a good idea as a few sandflies can hang about the river. Bring cash for coffee, shirts and massages.

On the Hooper Loop - You pass no huts or streams on this course, so taking your own water is advised.

Course Description and Maps

This course is not marked as you may find in trail races around more local races. You are following the tracks put in the forest park by DOC. While many of the tracks are benched/graded and easy to follow, there are some sections where it may not be so clear.

It is important you familiarise yourself with the course and what turns and tracks you will be taking. It is for this reason you are also asked to carry a map with you. If you get somewhere and are not clear where you are going, take out your map, and get your bearings.

Jumbo-Holdsworth and Holdsworth Jumbo 24km Courses

[Download the map and profile here](#)

The Jumbo-Holdsworth Trail Race starts at 8am from the Mt Holdsworth H.Q. carpark, Tararua Forest Park. The race proceeds through Donnelly's Flat to join the undulating Atiwhakatu Track to Atiwhakatu Hut (7.5km). From here a steep ascent commences via the Rain Gauge Track to reach Jumbo Hut (10km [1105m]) before continuing on to reach the Jumbo summit - 1405m. At the summit runners make a left turn at the marshaled sign to head south along the undulating main range to Mt Holdsworth Trig (14km [1470m]). From the Trig runners turn left again to commence the descent via Powell Hut (15.7km) 1160m to Holdsworth Lodge and finish line via the well graded Gentle Annie Track.

The Holdsworth-Jumbo Trail Race is the exact opposite with both events getting divided at the Gentle Annie Turnoff. **Holdsworth-Jumbo competitors will turn left** and Jumbo-Holdsworth will **turn right**.

The Hooper Loop 12km Course

[Download the map and profile here](#)

The Hooper Loop Trail Race starts at 9am from Mt Holdsworth Headquarters carpark. This race proceeds through Donnelly Flat - along the Atiwhakatu Track for 4km and then, a left turn onto the River Ridge Track (marshaled) to ascend to the Gentle Annie Track junction (650m). Runners will then descend to the Holdsworth Lodge and finish line via the Gentle Annie Track.

The courses are tough and unrelenting in many parts, you will have your work cut out for you, but you will enjoy yourself, trust me.

Facilities, Services and Lunch

Parking is available near the start. Please be aware that this is a popular area for campers, trampers and walkers, so the car park can fill up. Please park considerately, look out for fellow runners and their families, and drive slowly.

The race finish area at the Holdsworth Lodge is a great place to wait for runners to finish - there is a swimming hole and all the other race facilities are up there.

Camping is available overnight at the DOC campsite, DOC camp fees apply. [See the DOC website for more info](#)

There are various toilet blocks (flush or long drop) located throughout the campsite, with toilets and portaloos available by the registration for the start, and more situated by the Holdsworth Lodge at the finish. (see map)

Coffee along with some snacks the cart offers will be available to purchase at the start and finish, cash only. Proceeds from this go to LandSAR.

Post race massage is available at the finish from [Origin Manual Therapy](#). \$20 for fifteen minutes. Cash or you can transfer by bank later on.

There will be a free light lunch (bbq, salad, fruit) offered to competitors from 11.30am, catered by the [Olympic Harriers Club](#), at the finish. [The Clareville Bakery](#) are generously supplying some tasty fruit buns also.

There will be water, lollies and [R-Line](#) electrolyte drink available at the finish, and some shade available also.

Prizegiving will be held as soon as possible after the last competitor has finished. Should there be a delay causing this to extend past a reasonable time, prizegiving will **go ahead from 1.15 at the latest.**



Aid on the course

Marshals are situated around the course at various junctions, summits, and at the huts along the way. Jumbo Hut, Powell Hut and Atiwhakatu Hut are marshaled with radios, and here the marshals will take your split times. Make sure your number is visible please.

If you are heading onto the tops you may be forced to put more gear on.

At these three huts there is water in the hut taps to fill your bottles/flasks/cups and lollies available for you to consume/take with you. *

We will have two first aiders available to roam around (based at Powell and Jumbo). Each course has a Tail End Charlie, and Marshals from the huts will also walk out behind the runners.

There are also marshals situated at the peaks of Jumbo and Holdsworth.

We have first responders from Wellington Free Ambulance located at the finish.

On the Hooper Loop, there are marshals at the turn off to the River Ridge track and at Mountain House.

***Note:** The availability of water will be advised at race briefing as seasonal conditions can affect supply at the huts enroute. This has never been a problem however. You are also required to use your own cup or bottle, we will not be providing disposable cups. This water is untreated, but has never been a problem before and I have drunk from each hut multiple times in the last 2 months and not had an issue. However, drink it at your own risk.

Race Rules - please read

- Competitors must carry their mandatory gear requirements - as listed above.
- Race referees reserve the right to withdraw any competitors deemed to be at risk.
- The Jumbo-Holdsworth Trail Race will have a strict cut-off time of **2 hrs 15 minutes** enforced at Jumbo Hut, any competitor taking longer will not be allowed to continue. However, if a competitor fails to reach the Atiwhakatu hut in **1hr 10 minutes** they will be withdrawn at that point also.
- The Holdsworth-Jumbo Trail Race will have a strict cut-off time of **1 hr 45 minutes** enforced at Powell Hut. Any competitor taking longer will not be allowed to continue.
- Competitors must be responsible for the safety of other competitors. Anyone encountering another in difficulty must offer assistance, and then notify the nearest race official so that help can be actioned. A time adjustment will be offered for your assistance - this applies to all races.
- Competitors on the Jumbo-Holdsworth Trail Race may encounter a wait at the 1st swing bridge at Holdsworth Creek, as there is a limit of 1 person at a time to cross. Marshals

will help move people across as fast as possible. Welcome to go through the creek, you might get half a foot wet.

- All runners are to remain on established tracks and not damage vegetation by setting your own course.
- All competitors are to display race numbers clearly at all times, especially at checkpoints and the finish - it makes splits/timing quite difficult if you do not do this.
- All food and wrappings are to be carried on a "pack in - pack out" basis. Any runner reported discarding rubbish purposefully will be disqualified.
- Any competitor pulling out of either event for any reason after registering, MUST report to the base radio controller at race control before leaving the park so their absence can be accounted for.
- The Tararua Forest Park will be open and operating, so please be careful and considerate of other track users.
- If the weather and conditions puts competitors at serious risk on the original course, then an alternative course will be put in place, it may not be the same length or distance and waves may be required, but the start/finish is the same area. Competitors will be notified if this will be a likelihood as soon as possible.
- We reserve the right to cancel the race should there be conditions that arise which will place competitors into serious risk.

⚠ Important information about bridges ⚠

You are welcome to go through the river instead of the bridge by Holdsworth Lodge (400m from start). DOC has asked that you walk over the bridge instead of running when starting due to the number of people on the bridge at once.

We are going to have marshals in place to enforce the limit on the swing bridges.

The first of these bridges is 3.5km into the course when running the Jumbo Holdsworth direction, and this will inevitably create queues for a lot of runners.

If the stream is not swollen, you can pass any queue that has formed by scrambling down and up the other side.

The second bridge with a limit is the 'five minute bridge' - only a few minutes away from Atiwhakatu Hut in the Jumbo->Holdsworth direction. This bridge is a lot quicker to cross and you'll be more spread out here.

Sportsmanship for the faster runners is expected at the swing bridges. If two of you arrive within sight of each other, wait on the other side for each other and start off again together.

⚠ Important information about Track Conditions ⚠

The course is generally in the same state it has always been, lots of rocks, roots and mud, and it is still as steep - but it's worth pointing out some exceptions.

The Gentle Annie track (between Donnelly Flat and Mountain House) is usually a fast runnable downhill for those on the Jumbo-Holdsworth direction and Hooper Loop. However, the recent amounts of rain in the ranges has left many of this track quite rutted with large loose rocks. As competitors who are running down hill here are in the last stanza of their race, they are often tired and as such, are more prone to falling. And the extra speed of running downhill does no favours if you lose it here. PLEASE be very careful in this section if you are feeling tired. A few moments to take it easy will save you more time than picking yourself off the ground.

There was a walkway that was damaged close to the Atiwhakatu hut, about 400m away on the valley floor track. I was told this might be fixed by the race. If not, please be careful navigating around it. It's not that difficult though.

⚠ Important information about cut offs ⚠

The race has cut off times in place for the safety of you and the marshals on the tops. These times are not that generous, you will need to be fit to make them and finish the course.

Jumbo Holdsworth Direction has two cut off times

Atiwhakatu Hut in **1hr 10mins**

Jumbo Hut in **2 hours 15 minutes**

Holdsworth Jumbo Direction has one cut off time

Powell Hut in **1 hour 45 minutes**

If you do not make it to the marshals at those huts in the cut off time, you will be withdrawn from the race. You will need to hand your number to the marshals, and walk back to the finish. Once back at the finish, you will need to inform the base radio controller you have arrived. Please do not argue with the marshals over this.

Make sure your number is clear when crossing the finish line.

Places and Prizes

Prize giving is expected to go ahead at 1.15pm.

There are the following place categories

Championship race (Only the clockwise direction)

- 1st/2nd/3rd Junior Men (under 20)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Junior Women (under 20)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Senior Men (20 to 39)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Senior Women (20 to 39)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Vet Men (40 to 49)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Vet Women (40 to 49)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Super Vet Men (50 plus)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Super Vet Women (50 plus)

Hooper Loop

- 1st/2nd/3rd Junior Men (under 20)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Junior Women (under 20)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Senior Men (20 to 39)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Senior Women (20 to 39)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Vet Men (40 to 49)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Vet Women (40 to 49)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Super Vet Men (50 plus)
- 1st/2nd/3rd Super Vet Women (50 plus)

Every place getter gets a prize. Only first place gets a trophy.

King and Queen of the Mountains

There is a prize for the men and women who reach the summits of Jumbo and Holdsworth first.

Spot Prizes

There are approx 20 spot prizes from all of our sponsors. These will be drawn at prizegiving.

Powell Sub 1 Hour

Those that reach sub 1 to powell hut get into the 'Sub 1 Club' - where you claim an exclusive hat for doing so. Any subsequent times gains you a badge for that year.

Mid Packer Prize

There is a prize for the man and woman in either the Jumbo Holdsworth or Holdsworth Jumbo that gets closest to the time in the middle of the slowest and fastest time run that day.

Volunteers and Marshals

We rely on a large number of volunteers to help out on the day, through registration, gear check, timing, course set up and marshaling. Please respect all of their wishes and give them a smile and thank you if you're not too puffed.

Sponsors

This event is not possible without the support of our sponsors, supplying various prizes, spot prizes and consumables. Please make sure to support them, they are listed below.



We also have the support of Olympic Harriers, Origin Manual Therapy, Paws for a Break Coffee, New World Carteron, Holdsworth Restoration Trust, LandSAR Wellington and the Department of Conservation

