

19th European Rogaining Championship 2023

Turku/Pöytyä, Finland

Bulletin III

Date September 9-10, 2023

Organizer Turun Metsänkävijät (TuMe) Orienteering Club and Rogaining Finland

www <https://www.tume.fi/erc2023/>

Format European Rogaining Championship 2023 (ERC 2023) is held as a 24 hour Rogaining competition.

Rules In accordance with IRF council, ERC2023 will follow the rules of the International Rogaining Federation, while reserving the right to include some deviations based on local circumstances.

Competition classes

MO, WO, XO (open class – men, women, and mixed teams)

MJ, WJ, XJ (youth, under 23 years of age – men, women, and mixed teams)

MV, WV, XV (veterans, at least 40 years of age – men, women, and mixed teams)

MSV, WSV, XSV (super veterans, at least 55 years of age – men, women, and mixed teams)

MUV, WUV, XUV (ultra veterans, at least 65 years of age – men, women, and mixed teams)

The age requirements specified for the given classes should be satisfied on the first day of competition, 9th September 2023. Any team that has a member under 14 years of age shall also have a

member 18 years of age or over. All participants under 18 years entered for a 24-hour rogaine should present written permission from parents or legal guardians upon registration. A team shall consist of 2-5 members.

Non-European participants are eligible to compete for the championship titles (discussions with IRF and ERF representatives, November 2022). People carrying Russian and Belarussian passports are not eligible to take part in ERC (IRF decision from July 2022). If there is concern about any competitor's nationality, they will be able to compete if they can show they hold a passport from a country other than Russia or Belarus.

Please see further comments below in Section **Identification of the competitors**.

Location

Southwest Finland, Pöytyä. Distance from Helsinki-Vantaa Airport about 180 km and from the Port of Turku about 50 km. Two event centers with a distance of 17 km, driving time between the centers is 20 min:

Riihi - pre-start floor accommodation, showers after the competition, catering and prize-giving ceremony.

Address: Yläneentie 66, Pöytyä

60.722, 22.593 (60°43'19.2"N 22°35'34.8"E)

Competition Center Raasi – camping before the competition, start and finish, hash-house. Note that there are no showers in Raasi.

Address: Raasintie 500, Pöytyä.

60.785, 22.360 (60°47'06.0"N 22°21'36.0"E)

Entry fees

Entry date	Entry fee
before 31.1.2023	80€
1.2.2023 – 30.4.2023	95€
1.5.2023 – 30.6.2023	105€
1.7.2023 – 31.8.2023	125€

The registration system will open on January 1st 2023.

The entry fee can be paid with Smartum, Epassi and Edenred vouchers issued in Finland.

Cancellation policy

In case of a cancellation, the organizers refund the team as follows:
Cancellation done by 30.6.2023, 50 % is refunded.
Cancellation done after 1.7.2023, no refund will be made.

Embargoed area

Open this link to see the embargoed area and location of event centers, pre-competition training map, airports, Turku harbor, and Naantali harbor:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1C7ydlitXB9EgAFupNOXS5uPxeji9kfkT&ll=60.644499460873874%2C23.50527174999997&z=9>

The embargoed area is out of bounds for the competitors, with the following exceptions:

The public roads can be used for travelling through the embargoed area until September 1, 2023. You can also use the public roads in the embargoed area for cycling, walking and running, but leaving the roads is, of course, strictly forbidden.

Kurjenrahka National Park is within the embargoed area. ERC participants can use the circular paths marked on the map at <https://julkaisut.metsa.fi/assets/pdf/lp/Esitteet/kurjenrahkafinsveeng.pdf> (second page) until 1st of September 2023. It is strictly forbidden to leave the paths.

All the embargoed area (including the paths in Kurjenrahka and the public roads) is out of bounds **from 1st of September 2023** until the start of the competition. The road to Competition Center Raasi (from Road 204 – see the map below) opens on Friday (8th) at 15.00.

Programme

Friday, 8 September

- 16.00 Tent area opens in **Competition Center Raasi**
- 16.00 Competition office opens in **Riihi**
- 18.00 Hard floor sleepover possibilities open in **Riihi**
- 19.00 Competition office closes in **Riihi**
- 19.30 Competition office opens in **Competition Center Raasi**

21.00 Competition office closes in **Competition Center Raasi**

Saturday, 9 September

08.00 Bus transportations from Riihi to Competition Center Raasi start

08.00 Competition office opens in **Raasi**

10.00 Map handout for ERC 2023 in **Raasi**

13.00 ERC 2023 mass start in **Raasi**

20.11 Sunset

20.56 Twilight ends

Sunday 10 September

06.01 Twilight starts

06.45 Sunrise

13.00 Penalty time starts

13.30 Finish closes

14.30 bus transportation from Competition Center Raasi to Turku bus & train stations (arriving to Turku by 15.30, the latest)

15.30 last bus from Competition Center Raasi to Riihi (arriving to Riihi by 16.00, the latest)

18.00 last bus from Riihi to Turku 18.00 (arriving Turku by 19.00, the latest)

18.00 Riihi closes (showers available until 19.00)

Monday 11 September

12.00 Tent area closes in Raasi. All participants must leave the Raasi competition center by noon.

Map

A Rogaining map will be produced for the ERC. **The scale of the map is 1:30 000** and contour intervals are 5 meters. The map is based on high quality digital cartography data from National Land Survey of Finland.

Terrain

The competition area is next to Finnish Rogaining Championship 2019 (<http://sm2019.turkurogaining.fi/>) terrain, with exceptionally interesting types of terrains from large marsh areas to some of the oldest forests in southern Finland. The terrain is characterized by two specific areas: the Kurjenrahka National Park and the military administrated Raasinkorpi forests. The remaining areas are typical Finnish forests used as a source of timber for the forest industry.

In general, 2/3 of the competition area (the northern part) is surprisingly sparsely inhabited, considering the fact that the area is in Southern Finland and very close to one of main cities in Finland (Turku). For example, the northern half of the terrain only includes houses and farms near the roads delimiting the competition area in West and in East. The contrast to the southern part of the terrain is clear: in the south, competitors will find more fields and permanent habitations. Nevertheless, the whole area in the south is mainly forests, and fields only cover some 15% of the terrain.

Even though the area is covered by roads serving the forest industry, there are also more remote areas where the closest roads are more than 1 kilometer away. The terrain includes all the possible terrain types one can find in Southern Finland: forests of different ages, open forests, logged areas, thickets, large open marshes, forest marshes, lakesides, and open rocky hills very typical of the Southwestern Finland.

Use of GPS devices during the race

On April 25th 2023, Rogaining Finland made a resolution regarding the use of GPS devices and smartwatches in Rogaining races in Finland. ERC 2023 will follow this resolution. The resolution is the following:

According to Rogaining rules, the only navigational aids allowed are the map provided by the competition organizer, a compass, and a watch. The use of any GPS locators or measuring devices to aid in navigation is prohibited. The use of any map not provided by the competition organizer, whether printed or electronic, is also prohibited.

If the watch/wrist computer has GPS functions, they must be turned off during the competition so that the competition organizer can reliably verify this both during and after the competition. Any checks at the start or finish will be announced in each competition's instructions.

There are devices on the market with an "adventure race" or "AR Mode" function that disables the GPS locator and map view during the competition. By using this function and demonstrating its use throughout the entire competition performance, such a device may be

used in Rogaining competitions held in Finland. The competitor is responsible for starting the device before the start, keeping it in the correct mode throughout the competition, and presenting the device to the competition organizer at the finish according to the instructions provided.

It should be noted that since the elevation differences in Finnish terrain are small and elevation information is not of significant benefit in navigation, any elevation data displayed on such a device does not prevent its use. Therefore, the use of other types of altimeters is also allowed in Southern Finland.

A regular GPS device may be carried along, but only if the device is in a sealed, opaque bag or box provided by the organizer, so that it cannot be used for navigation during the competition. The sealing of the device during and after the competition must be verifiable.

Electronic punching devices

Competitors will be carrying SPORTident (SI) electronic punching devices. The organizers will provide the SI devices to competitors. Each competitor will carry an SI device.

Mandatory equipment

The organizers will provide a list of mandatory equipment in Bulletin IV.

Identification of the competitors

In the registration, the organizers need to be able to check the participants' identity to verify that each participant has enrolled in the right competition class. The organizers also need to be able to verify the participants' date of birth, sex and nationality. In the registration, the participants need to present a passport or an official identity card with a photograph. Note that a driving license is **not** an official identity card as it does not necessarily show the participants nationality.

Note also that each participant needs to present his/her identity documentation. Thus, all the team members need to be present in registration for the verification process, otherwise the team materials will not be handed out to competitors.

Climate and typical weather

In September, the average maximum daytime temperature is around 16.0°C. During daytime, the temperature can easily climb above 20 degrees, but days above 25 degrees are rare. During the night, it is possible to have temperatures close to zero. Precipitation is common in September – there are on average 9 rainy days in September.

Accommodation

We will provide hard floor sleepover possibilities with breakfast in Riihi. For those staying overnight (Friday/Saturday) in Riihi, there will also be bus transport to the Competition Center Raasi on Saturday morning.

The Competition Center Raasi will be open for campers (tents & camper vans) starting from Friday (8th) at 16.00. **Campers can stay at the Competition Center Raasi from Sunday to Monday noon.**

If there is a high demand for hard floor accommodation for the night between Sunday (10th) and Monday (11th), we will look for different alternatives. Let us know in the registration form, if you are interested in a hard floor sleepover accommodation for the night after the race.

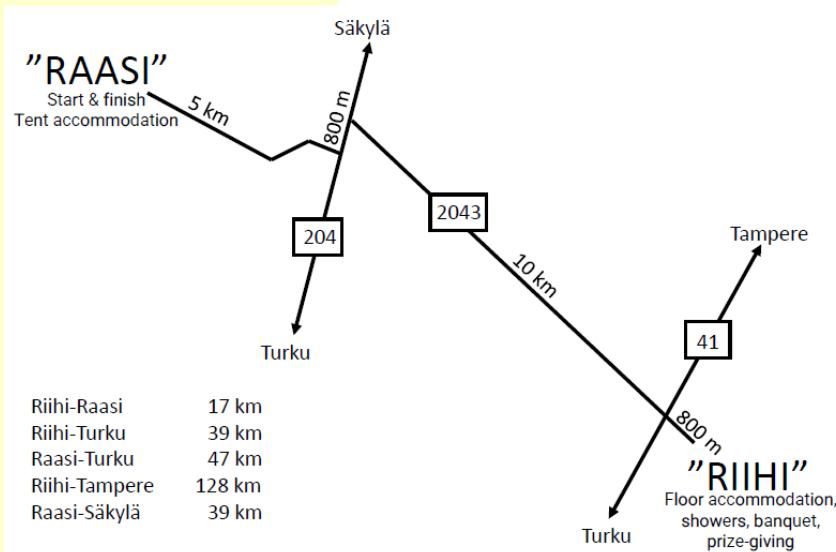
More information on different accommodation providers will be provided in subsequent bulletins and on our web site <https://www.tume.fi/erc2023/>. Turku has plenty of hotels and early September is past the high season for tourism in Finland. At the time of writing Bulletin III, we have no information concerning other large events in Turku during the ERC weekend.

Public transportation

It will be possible to travel to Riihi by public transportation from the city of Turku. Turku has an airport with some international connections; a harbor that has ferry connections from Stockholm in Sweden; railway stations with connections to Helsinki and Tampere; and a bus station with connections to the other main cities in Finland.

We will arrange bus transportation to the competition center on Saturday morning, September 9, 2023 from the following locations in Turku: Turku harbor, the main bus and railway stations, and the city

center. This bus transportation will be provided when the train and ferry schedules for 2023 are available). Those arriving in Turku harbor on Saturday morning and staying overnight in hotels in Turku will be able to arrive to the competition center before the map handout (map handout is at 10.00 and the start at 13.00). Note that we will not arrange bus transportation from Naantali harbor (the ferry company requires that you have your own car onboard).



The cost of the different transport options will be provided in the registration system. The registration will open on the 1st of January 2023.

VISAS

Finland is one of the Schengen area member states. Citizens of the Schengen countries do not need visas to travel to Finland.

Participants who are citizens of countries not belonging to Schengen area, please check what kind of travel documents you need to enter Finland: <https://um.fi/visa-requirement-and-travel-documents-accepted-by-finland>

COVID 19

The Finnish authorities do not require any COVID-19 vaccination certificates from people travelling to Finland.

Organization

Event Director: Tapani Koskenoja

Vetters: Iiro Kakko & Juhani Isaksson

Course Setter: Timo Lainema

Contacts: erc2023@tume.fi

www: www.tume.fi/erc2023

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ERC2023/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/erc2023/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y%3D>

Bulletin IV

...will be published in mid-August 2023.

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