



# 16th European Rogaining Championships

## 14th Latvian Rogaining Championships

### Qualifying Event for the World Rogaining Championships

#### Bulletin 4

This document duplicates the information presented in Bulletin 3. **Any changes and additions thereto are in red font.**

**Date** 22-23 August 2020

**Organisers** Latvian Orienteering Federation (LOF) in partnership with Travel and Orienteering Club “SILVA”

#### **Rules**

European Rogaining Championships 2020 (ERC2020) is a 24 hour rogaine, held as an IRF event according to the IRF Rules of Rogaining.

<http://www.rogaining.com/attachments/article/331/IRF%20Rules%20of%20Rogaining%202017.pdf>

Concurrently, participants registered in the Latvian ODB are competing for the Latvian Rogaining Championships 2020 titles.

**Competitors should follow the safety measures introduced by the organisers with the purpose to prevent and limit the spread of COVID-19. This is a mandatory requirement!**

To allow the tracking of a team's course, each team entered for the 24 h rogaine shall be issued a GPS device as an item of mandatory equipment. One team member shall carry the GPS tracking device at all times, attached to the upper arm. The team shall receive its GPS device before entering the start area.

The ERC2020 is complemented by a 6 hour satellite event Milzukaļns Rogaine. The Milzukaļns 6 hour Rogaine is held according to the IRF Rules of Rogaining.

While planning the route, it is forbidden to use any kind of technologies (laptops, software etc.) for route optimisation purposes, to transfer the location of checkpoints from paper-based map to electronic devices, or to perform any other actions that may have an effect on the result.

During the competition the competitors must not use watches and other GPS capable devices, mobile phones, step counters or any other devices with features that may help to navigate through terrain, calculate the distance, communicate with other persons, or may influence the result in any other manner. The competitors are allowed to use a mobile phone or a device with equal functionality only in emergency situations when assisting another team. It is allowed to carry the devices along on the course provided they give no audible feedback and are sealed in a non-transparent pouch provided by the organisers.

Using the prohibited devices for own purposes will lead to disqualification of the team.

While on course, the competitors are prohibited to travel by any type of vehicle or accept assistance from third parties if this can have an effect on the result.

The competitors shall be guided by a sense of fair play.

### **Mandatory equipment**

Mandatory equipment items for each participant competing in the 24 hour event:

- SI card with a non-removable wristband;
- visibly attached competition number bib;
- whistle;
- GPS tracking device (one for the team, to be provided by the organiser).

Mandatory equipment items for each participant competing in the 6 hour event:

- SI card with a non-removable wristband;
- visibly attached competition number bib.

The presence of mandatory equipment will be checked at the entrance to the start area.

### **Event Centre**

Recreation facility "Milzkalns",

"Dižkalni", Smārde civil parish,  
Engure municipality, Latvia, LV-3148  
GPS coordinates: N57.00146 E23.20794

Website of the Event Centre host: <https://milzkalns.lv/>

The Event Centre is part of the event site. Hash-house is in the Event Centre.

It is forbidden to drop empty gel tubes, food wrapping or any other waste while on the course! These can be disposed of only in the event centre and in the waste containers next to water drops.

Dogs are NOT allowed in the Event Centre and the event site!

### **Event site**

The competition terrain (~ 250 km<sup>2</sup>) is located centrally in Latvia, in the Engure and Tukums municipalities, and lies between the Gulf of Riga in the North, Ķemeri National Park in the East, motorway A10 (E22) Riga-Ventspils in the South and regional roads in the West. 25% of the proposed event site has never been used for rogaining and orienteering events. Part of the event site is the Ķemeri National Park, famous for its wild nature. The rest of the event site features strings of small hills (113-165 m a.s.l.), swamps, a small river and lakes, forests, cuttings and young growths, meadows and fields, small settlements. There will be nature protection areas that are out-of-bounds. The Event Centre, including the Hash House, is part of the event site. Logging may be in progress in the terrain, please look out!

The competition terrain comprises a number of motorways with medium traffic intensity. There will not be any traffic restrictions during the competition, therefore the competitors are responsible for own safety on the road and should follow the road safety rules.

The participants will have an opportunity to try out a model course outside the embargoed area in a terrain similar to that of the event site. More about the Model: <https://erc2020.lv/model>

Embargoed area:



from 11.30 entry in the start area, distribution of GPS devices, check-up of mandatory equipment and devices to be carried on the course

12.00 Mass start for all classes in 24 hour rogaine

12.05 Map handout for 6h rogaine

13.00 Mass start for all classes in 6 hour rogaine

19.00 Finish for 6 hour rogaine

19.30 Finish closes for 6 hour rogaine

20.00 Prize-giving for the 6 hour rogaine

from 20.00 Hash House is open

Sunset: 20.49

23.08, Sunday

Sunrise: 06.11

10.00- Hash House closes

from 11.00 After-finish catering,

12.00 Finish

12.30 Finish closes

13.15 Deadline for submitting protests

14.00 Prize-giving

18.00 Event Centre closes

### **Distribution of maps**

A team may receive its maps for planning the route only after registration and collection of the team's number bibs. Only one team member shall appear for map collection. A detailed procedure for map collection will be described in pre-start information.

### **Start**

All 24h competitors shall enter the start area by 11:30 am the latest. Whole team shall arrive and enter the start area together. Attached SI cards will be checked by the organisers at the start area gates. Each competitor must be sure his/her attached SI card is checked when entering the start area. The start is given 12:00 on Saturday, August 22 with a well audible sound.

Start for 6h rogaining will be given at 13.00

### **Finish**

The control time for 24h competitors is 12:00 on Sunday, August 23.

The control time for 6h competitors is 19:00 on Saturday, August 22.

After finishing the course (by punching the SI station 'Finish') only organisers will be allowed to remove the wristband and download the reading of the SI card. Participants who carried prohibited devices on the course will be requested by the organisers to present unopened sealed bag right after their finish.

A representative of a team shall turn in the GPS device to the finish referee.

### **Results**

After the finish, each competitor gets a printout of the SI card data. The individual SI printouts shall be considered as a preliminary and not a final result. Preliminary team results will be displayed at the Event Centre. Final results will be published on the ERC2020 website and posted/displayed at the Event Centre.

### **Protests**

Within 45 minutes of the nominated finish time, a team may submit a protest about any team allegedly having breached the rules, about the preliminary results of the team or about any actions of the organisers that they believe to compromise the fairness of the competition. Protests shall be submitted to the organisers in writing in English.

### **Jury**

Any protests are reviewed and decision taken by a three person jury

The composition of the jury shall be announced in pre-start information.

## **Punching**

SPORTident (SI) Air+ punching system will be used. Punching works in contactless mode up to a distance of 0.3 metres from the SI station (except for the first puncher). If the station does not function in SIAC mode, the competitor should punch in contact mode. SIAC cards for participants entered for 24h rogaine are to be provided by the organiser. SIAC cards will be available for rent (EUR 2) to the participants of 6h rogaine.

Each competitor shall receive a disposable untearable wristband, to be found in the envelope received at registration.

For 24h rogainers the SIAC card, already cleared, will be delivered attached to the wristband. Before departing for the start area a competitor shall himself/herself attach the wristband with SIAC to the wrist.

Each single competitor shall punch in checkpoint with his/her SI card. All team members shall punch in checkpoint within a 60 second interval, or else the checkpoint will not score points. The SI card wristband may be removed exclusively by the staff. In case a team member's wristband is damaged (torn), the team shall be disqualified. In proof of a visit to a checkpoint, SI AIR+ card will give light and sound feedback.

In case of a malfunctioning or missing SI station in the checkpoint, competitors shall use a needle punch to punch the boxes on the margin of the map. After finishing, the fact and the previous checkpoint should be reported to the finish referee.

A team shall score points from a checkpoint only provided that:

- 1) all team members have recorded their visit of the checkpoint with their SIAC cards within 60 seconds;
- 2) all team members have punched the checkpoint manually (with a needle punch) and referees, after having checked the checkpoint on the terrain, find it malfunctioning or misplaced.

**Map** The map is drawn specifically for rogaing purposes in 2018-2020 and based on LIDAR and Forest Service data.

Scale: 1:27 000; H 4m

Course setter: Zigfrīds Freimanis

Mapper: Raimonds Lapiņš

The map is waterproof, printed on **Tyvek synthetic** paper. No extra waterproofing is needed.

The planning map will be printed on regular paper and is not suitable for carrying on the course.

The size of the map sheet is 74x69 cm. There will be altogether 83 checkpoints with values ranging from 2 to 10. 483 points is maximum that can be scored. The size of the mapped area is 210 sq. km. Control descriptions will be printed on the competition map; also, a separate sheet with control descriptions will be available. Control descriptions in text format will be in English only.

Model map is of the same scale as competition map. The size of the model map sheet is 15x20 cm.

The same approach of presenting of control descriptions will be used in model map.

Both competition and model maps will be printed on waterproof and tear resistant Polyart synthetic paper. It is recommended to use permanent marker for drawing and route planning on the map.

One separate map of the same size and scale as the competition map, except printed on regular paper, will be provided for each team for planning purposes. There is no requirement to submit this map to the organisers.

! Please note: There will be a special tag on planning map indicating that it is not water resistant, in order to prevent from taking it out to the course!

## **Course**

Controls will be equipped with a SI station, control flag and needle punch ("crocodile"). A small reflector will be attached as well. Control flag will be placed about 1.5 meters above the ground (a bit higher than in the second picture). Approaching a checkpoint within a distance shown in the second picture, SI Air control card will record the visit by giving a beep and a flash. If this happens, you can proceed further. If there is no beep

and flash, insert your card into station. If no signs of registering, punch the map with needle punch in an empty designated square.

There will be 9 self-service water drops in the race area. Water drops will be marked on the map with a symbol of tumbler and letter W with identification number 1-9. The description of the location of water drops will be on the map. Pre-start information will have a description of type of the water drop, e.g. a well, plastic water tank or spring.

One may encounter a variety of typical Latvian fauna in the race area, such as doe, deer, elk, wild boar, brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) (very seldom – May this year was the last time when a mother bear with 2 baby bears was spotted in the seaside part of the race area), wolf (seldom). There may be snakes: in Latvia, there is just one species of poisonous snakes, it is viper. Its colour may range from brown to grey to black. The grey and brown ones will have a black zigzag on the back, while you will see none on the black ones. If a black snake has yellowish „ears”, it is a grass-snake and not a viper. Grass-snakes are not poisonous.

There are ticks in meadows and woods. We recommend vaccination against tick-borne infections.

Some not too big areas or some stand-alone plants of Sosnowsky's hogweed may be encountered in the terrain. The juice of the plant is toxic and all parts of the plant have it. The juice causes chemical burns. Do not touch plants and do not tear the leaves if you are not sure they are not toxic. The potential course is planned in a way allowing circumventing hogweed groves and even not getting close to them. Forests abound in berries and mushrooms; however, do not eat them unless you are sure they are edible.

Part of the race terrain is in nature protection area Ķemeri National Park.

It is forbidden to cross areas marked in red on the map (out-of-bounds areas). The prohibition to cross is stipulated by Latvian law for nature conservation purposes. A team shall be disqualified for crossing an out-of-bounds area.

It is forbidden to cross populated areas (olive-green on the map) unless the map shows a road crossing it.

It is forbidden to cross areas planted with orchards, tilled fields, vegetable gardens, fenced or electric-fenced areas irrespective of their representation on the map.

Areas marked as cultivated areas may be crossed only when harvested and not fenced.

It is forbidden to drop and dispose of empty gel and other product packages, empty bottles or vessels and household waste in the terrain, except for designated places. There will be a trash bag at each water drop.

## **Scoring**

Scoring is according to the IRF Rules for Rogaining.

A team's score shall be the value of the checkpoints visited by the nominated finish time or within 30 minutes thereafter, less penal points. In the event of a tie the team that finished earlier shall be awarded the higher placing. Teams finishing late will be penalised at the rate one point per any full minute or part thereof. Teams finishing more than thirty minutes late will score 0 points. All members of a team should punch the checkpoint within 60 seconds.

## **Entries**

**Registration is open from 1 December 2019.**

Entries (ERC 24 h) until **23.59 on 09 August 2020** – by completing the registration form [www.erc2020.lv](http://www.erc2020.lv)

Entries (6 h) until **23.59 on 09 August 2020** – by completing the registration form [www.erc2020.lv](http://www.erc2020.lv)

**Entry Fee** (per participant) (EUR)

Entry date/entry fee 24h

01.12.2019- 14.01.2020

55,-

15.01-30.06	70,-
01.07-09.08	90,-

Entry date/entry fee 6h

01.12.19- 14.01.2020	20,-
15.01- 30.06	25,-
01.07-09.08	35,-

The entry fee level for the specified entry period is valid when settled within a week (7days) after the last day of the relevant entry period.

In case of failure to settle the entry fee within the said 7-day period, the next level entry fee will be applied. The last period entry fee shall be settled by the last entry date. In case of failure to settle it by the last entry date the team will not be entered for the competition.

The entry fee and any other payments have to be paid via a bank transfer to:

***Biedriba Celojumu un orientesanas klubs SILVA,***

*Registration No. 40008061499,*

*Registered address: "Sveikuli", Tume civil parish, Tukums municipality, LV-3139,*

*Bank: AS Swedbank*

*Account: LV63HABA0551005150747*

*BIC/S.W.I.F.T.: HABALV22*

**Please specify the name and number of the team in the notes field of the transfer order.**

If you need to negotiate an alternative payment method, please specify it in the notes or write to [info@rogaining.lv](mailto:info@rogaining.lv).

Any expenses related to the settlement of the entry fee should be met by the payer. In case any commissions or other charges are withdrawn from the amount to be paid, they should be compensated to the organiser by the participant.

**The entry fee covers the following services:**

For 24h rogainers - SIAC card rent, race material (map, number bibs etc.), result service, catering (breakfast on 22 August, Hash House, after-finish catering with traditional as well as vegetarian and gluten-free food), prize pool, water drops on the course, souvenirs and other organising expenses, first aid during the race, parking in the Event Centre and tent space (2 nights) as well as other costs.

For 6h rogainers - race material (map, number bibs etc.), result service, catering (breakfast, after-finish catering), prize pool, water drops on the course, souvenirs and other organising expenses, first aid during the race, short-term parking in the Event Centre as well as other costs.

**Entry fee reimbursement policies:**

If a team or a participant (in case of a 3 member team) cancels the participation after the entry fee has been settled, the fee is reimbursed as follows:

Cancelled by 15 June 2020 - 50%,

Cancelled by 12 July 2020 - 25%,

Any cancellations made after 12 July are not entitled to a reimbursement.

If a team wants to cancel its participation in the ERC2020 and it has paid the entry fee, the team should write a Cancellation Statement addressed to organisers' e-mail [info@rogaining.lv](mailto:info@rogaining.lv). To enable the transfer of the eligible spectator's fee paid by the team as well as the entry fee in the proportion specified in the Bulletin, the following information should be provided in the Statement: team number, team name, bank name, SWIFT code, account number.

If a team has ordered and paid for the ERC2020 branded merchandise, it should complement the Statement with the delivery manner (regular mail, courier mail), delivery address, recipient's name, surname, e-mail address and phone number. The mailing expenses will be withheld from the reimbursable amount. Another option is to fill out the merchandise delivery form here! In case the information required for the delivery of the merchandise has not been supplied simultaneously with the submission of the Cancellation Statement, the delivery will take place only after a prepayment of mailing expenses. If the information required for delivery is missing, the team or its representative (by producing a written authorisation) will be able to collect the merchandise during the competition, on 23 August 2020 the latest.

Competitors shall be liable for returning the organiser's SIAC cards intact. If a competitor, due to any reason, fails to return the items issued to him/her by the organiser (has lost, mislaid etc.), the competitor agrees to compensate their value to the organiser:

SIAC card EUR 65.00 (sixty-five euro),

GPS device EUR 85.00 (eighty-five euro).

### **Registration at Event centre**

After arrival to Event Centre each participant and team shall register with the organisers in order to pick up the team package and other competition-related or pre-ordered materials.

**Additional information on the arrival and registration process will be provided in the Competition Information.**

The organisers will provide sealing bags upon registration at the Event Centre for sealing the prohibited devices as stated by the IRF Rule B7 (i.e. GPS devices, mobile phones, GPS capable watches, computer devices of any type etc.) to be taken on the course. Participants shall arrive to the start area with already sealed bags containing such devices and present them to the organisers upon their request when entering the start area. Records will be taken by the organisers. Additional information regarding the sealing procedure will be provided in pre-start information.

**! Please note:** During registration each competitor shall provide to the organisers a valid personal ID with birthdate and photo. Competitors not able to provide such document will not be allowed to start in other age groups except Open, and teams comprising such members will be automatically moved to Open classes due to lack of clear evidence of the members' age.

Participants under 18 years shall provide a written permission (from their legal guardian) for taking part in the competition.

All competitors shall sign an indemnity form that they participate in the competition at their own risk. The indemnity form shall be signed before receiving of competition materials from the organisers.

### **Route planning**

Having received the maps, competitors may use the Event Centre area for planning their route. There will not be a special closed area other than the competition Event Centre, or additional rules for planning process. Competitors shall not leave the Event Centre area starting from the moment of distribution of maps till the start signal. The organisers will be checking the compliance with the IRF Rules during the planning stage by occasional inspections. All competitors are asked to use fair play attitude while planning their ERC2020 route!

### **Prize-giving**

Top three teams in all competition classes will be awarded competition medals and prizes according to the IRF Rules for Rogaining.

The prize pool is comprised from prizes provided by the organiser and sponsors.

## **Transportation and accommodation details**

Transportation: the Event Centre can be reached by a car (own or rented) from the Riga International Airport (direct flights from over 80 destinations) and ferry terminal, as well as from neighbouring countries. The driving distance from the Riga International Airport is ~ 75 km and it takes about 1.5 hours. The Event Centre (Recreation Facility "Milzkalns" N57.00146; E23.20794) is ~ 15 km away from the regional city Tukums, and it takes about 20 minutes to get there by a car or bus.

There are several options how to reach Tukums by public transport. Commuter train Riga-Tukums travels 14 times per day between 5.30 and 23.30. A one-way ticket costs less than 3 EUR. There is also a bus connection Riga-Tukums several times per day. Depending on the chosen vehicle, it takes about 1.5 hours to reach Tukums from Riga.

For the sake of competitors' and accompanying persons' convenience, chartered bus routes will be organised from Tukums to the Event Centre in case of demand. Bus running schedules and booking possibilities to be provided on the 16th ERC2020 website and Bulletins.

More about transport: <https://erc2020.lv/travel-info>

Car, bus, bicycle, motorcycles and caravan parking will be arranged in the Event Centre.

Accommodation: a hotel at the Event Centre <https://milzkalns.lv/>

Other accommodation: the local Tourist Information Office (<http://visittukums.lv/en>) offers a wide range of accommodations at various cost categories: holiday cottages, farmsteads, hotels and budget accommodations within less than a 30 km distance from the Event Centre. There are 3 hotels in the regional city Tukums with total room capacity for more than 100 guests. Area for camping in tents will be arranged right in the Event Centre. The event entry fee includes tent space for 2 nights (Friday-Sunday).

Renting a tent space before and after the official event dates is possible; the cost is EUR 7 per tent, please contact: <https://milzkalns.lv/> or [info@milzkalns.lv](mailto:info@milzkalns.lv)

## **Weather and climate at the proposed term of the race**

According to long-term observations, in the second half of August, average daily temperature in Latvia is +16°C. In August there are only 1-2 sunless days. On sunny days the sun shines 8-9 hours on average. In August, at night the temperature may fall as low as +5°C. At the same time, days can be hot, even above +30 °C. According to long-term observations, August is among the most abundant months in terms of precipitation. With 13-16 precipitation days on average, the aggregate monthly precipitation amount is 78 mm. On precipitation days the average amount is 5-6 mm. Due to the proximity of the Riga Gulf, weather can be very unsettled, and the changes are rapid. The probability of thunderstorms is 20%.

## **Accompanying persons and spectators**

Accompanying persons and spectators (over 6 years of age) staying at the Event Centre shall pay spectator fee of EUR 25: 2-day camping and parking, catering at the Hash House during the race and after the finish, event map (to be delivered after the finish). Participants entered for the 6h rogaine and staying in the Event Centre throughout the 24h event shall pay a fee of EUR 20, which covers 2-day camping and parking, catering at the Hash House during the race and after the finish.

## **Services**

The facilities made available to the participants and spectators in the Event Centre include Information Desk, First Aid Post, mobile device charging sockets, toilets, outdoor showers, cafeteria (starting the evening of 20 August), sale of sporting goods and sports food on 21 August, children's playgrounds, tent area, car parking

lot (short-term and long-term). Entry to the long-term parking is open till the end of registration, while exit is possible only after the competition or a special permission from the organiser. Entry to the short-term parking is from 20:00 on 22 August and on 23 August; the ticket costs EUR 2.

**Accompanying persons and spectators (other than children of pre-school age) staying at the Event Centre after 20.00 on 22 August shall pay spectator fee of EUR 25, or EUR 20 if they are participants of the 6 hour rogaine.** Breakfast will be served to the participants and eligible spectators from 8.00 till 11.00 on 22 August for no extra charge. In addition, there will be drinking water, luggage storage, and car key storage – 24h made available to the participants. The service of luggage storage and car key storage facility is available when producing the number bib.

Hash-house operating hours: from 20.00 on 22 August till 10.00 on 23 August. To receive catering in the Hash-house, the competitors need to produce a SIAC card attached to a wristband and the 24 hour number bib or the spectator's wristband.

After-finish catering for the 6 hour rogainers is from 18.30 till 20.00 on 22 August in exchange of coupon; for 24 hour rogainers after-finish catering is from 11.00 on 23 August.

The menu for the Hash-house and after-finish catering as well as the menu and prices for the cafeteria will be published by 15 August on the website under Competition info.

### **Training possibilities:**

In the period preceding the ERC2020 a large number of rogaining and orienteering events are held in Latvia. If you would like to do some additional training, you are welcome to learn more: <https://erc2020.lv/trainings>

### **Sightseeing and landmarks in the vicinity of the competition area:**

When you come to Latvia for ERC2020, you have an opportunity to see the best and most beautiful sights close to the competition area, or to enjoy cultural events. More information: <http://visittukums.lv/en>

### **ERC2020 branded merchandise now available!**

Available: racing shirt (parade or orienteering (running) version), mug, headband 5 cm. View on team profile page or on <https://erc2020.lv/merchandise>.

The offer for ERC2020 items is valid until 1 July (payment due by 8 July). Applying for goods is possible:

- 1) Team application profile,
- 2) outside the application form on <https://erc2020.lv/merchandise>

### **Visas**

International travellers may be required to hold a Latvian visa prior to travel to Latvia, depending on your country of residence. For more information, please see the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia](#). If you require further assistance, please send us an email.

### **Insurance**

The organiser holds a [General Third party liability insurance \(TPL\)](#) for an organiser of a public event. Nevertheless, competitors participate in the event at their own risk and are responsible for their own health and safety. As to participants under 18 years of age, legal guardians or coaches are responsible for their health and safety. Participants under 18 shall be entered for the competition by their legal guardians or coaches. Teams will be registered as full team at the Event Centre, will receive participant accessories, will give their signature for themselves, for children – parents or guardians, which indicates, that participant is responsible for their state of health, possible accidents or injuries during the race, **and is not COVID-19-infected**. It is possible to take routes on distance in order to keep away the health and life hazards. Application form will be published together with pre-start information. **Competitors should have a health / travel insurance policy.**

### **Personal data**

When entering for the competition, a participant agrees that his/her personal data are processed and used for the organisation of the competition, for publishing the list of registered participants and results on the website and social media as well as public media. A participant's e-mail address will be used exclusively for the organiser's communication with the participant.

**Contacts: [info@rogaining.lv](mailto:info@rogaining.lv)**

Evita, phone +371 29267142 (Latvian, Russian)

Inese, phone +371 29751855 (English, Russian)

### **Organising team:**

Evita Freimane- Director of the 16th ERC2020

Raimonds Lapiņš – Mapper

Zigfrids Freimanis- Course Setter

Uldis Pekuss- Course Vetter

Ģirts Freimanis- Head of the Team, Timing un Result Service (*SevO*)

Inese Purgaile – Event Secretary

Andris Leja – Web Service and design

GPS tracking: Sportrec/ <http://www.sportrec.eu/>

Official photographer: Ģirts Freijs, Mareks Galinovskis, Andris Jermuts

Design: Anna Eleonora Freimane

Volunteers: members of TOC Silva <https://coksilva.lv/> and other supporters.

**More detailed information about the event will be provided in the next Bulletins, to be posted on the Internet website [www.erc2020.lv](http://www.erc2020.lv) as well as in Facebook@erc2020**

**Welcome to the 16th ERC 2020!**