

GRANITE GRIT



TRAIL CHALLENGE

GRANITE BELT, QUEENSLAND · **LAST ONE STANDING**

SAT 22 – SUN 23 AUGUST 2026

Ballandean · 10:00 AM Start

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

EVENT INFORMATION

Q When and where is the event?

A It starts at 10:00 am on Saturday 22 August 2026 on a rural property accessed from Eukey Road, Ballandean.

Q What is the event schedule?

A Gates, setup and check-in open at 6:00 am. Check-in closes at 9 am and the compulsory briefing begins at 9:30 am; the first loop starts at 10:00 am.

Q When must runners check in?

A Check in between 6:00 am and 9:00 am Saturday.

Q Is the pre-race briefing compulsory?

A Yes. All runners and support crew must attend at the starting corral at 9:30 am.

Q What weather should participants expect?

A Prepare for cold, rain and darkness: about 16°C by day, 2°C overnight and possibly -5°C.

Q Will mobile reception be available?

A Coverage may be patchy. Officials will have phones – approach an official or volunteer if you cannot make an emergency call.

RACE FORMAT & RULES

Q How does the challenge work?

A Runners complete one 5 km loop every hour. To continue, finish within the hour, return to the corral and start the next loop at the bell. Missing the deadline or bell means elimination.

Q What happens before each loop?

A Warnings are given at 3, 2 and 1 minute, then 30 seconds and a 10-second countdown. Runners must be in the corral at the bell; late starts are not allowed.

Q Can runners leave the course or receive help?

A No personal assistance is allowed on course. Support crew, spectators, pacers and eliminated runners must remain off the course.

Q Are trekking poles or other aids allowed?

A No. Artificial aids, including trekking poles, are not permitted.

Q Are pacers allowed?

A No. Only registered, active competitors may be on the course.

Q How are runners and loops tracked?

A Each runner receives a bib at check-in. After each loop they are marked off by race directors.

Q How is the winner decided?

A The winner completes one more loop than every other runner. If several runners reach the 24th-hour final loop, the first finisher wins. If nobody completes an extra loop, there is no winner.

Q Can a runner be disqualified?

A Yes. The Race Director may disqualify runners for rule or safety breaches, including breaches by their support crew.

EQUIPMENT, NUTRITION & SETUP

Q What equipment is mandatory?

A A headtorch is required from the 5 pm loop until 7 am.

Q How much space does each runner receive?

A Each runner has a 3 m × 3 m area. All equipment – gazebos, chairs, food and sleeping gear – must fit safely inside it.

Q Must runners bring food and water?

A Yes. Bring enough food, water and nutrition for your event, and carry a drink each loop. Water is available at the aid station.

Q Will toilets be available?

A Four portable toilets will be near the starting corral and prioritised for runners. Use only the toilets provided.

Q Will first aid be available?

A Yes. A first aid tent and defibrillator will be onsite. Contact a volunteer, First Aid Officer, Race Director or marshal for help.

Granite Belt winter: nights are genuinely cold at 750m elevation and frosts are common. Layering, nutrition and sleep-deprivation management are as much a part of this event as trail fitness.

SUPPORT CREW, FAMILIES & LOGISTICS

Q Is a support crew compulsory?

A No, but it is recommended. Runners without crew will use a designated area so officials can monitor and assist them where possible.

Q Can families and spectators attend?

A Yes. They must follow event directions, stay out of restricted areas and not enter the course.

Q What are the rubbish requirements?

A Take all rubbish with you. Nothing can be left in the participant precinct, on the private property or course.

Q How does equipment drop-off work?

A Drop-off opens at 6:00 am, with no earlier access. Vehicles have 15 minutes to unload, then can park at Ballandean State School. No vehicles are allowed in the race precinct or on course during the event.

Q Where is parking?

A Parking is available at Ballandean State School. A donation supports the school P&C. There is no parking on Eukey Road or in the course precinct.

Q Is accommodation available onsite?

A No. Participants, support crew and spectators must arrange their own accommodation.