

CONTROL DESCRIPTIONS FOR ORIENTEERING

Control description sheet format

Event Example							
M45, M50, W21							
5		7.6 km		210 m			
1	212						
2	178						

- Event title
- Classes (optional line)
- Course code, course length in km to nearest 0.1 km, climb in metres to nearest 5m.
- Distance to the start triangle from the point of the timed start.
- Start location (first line of descriptions)
- Descriptions of individual controls
- Special instructions (e.g. follow taped route to control)
- Nature of route from last control to the Finish

Conforms to IOF specifications (2017) with Australian usage

For more information refer to the publications section of the IOF website (<http://www.orienteering.org/>)

Descriptions of individual controls (guide to columns)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
2	225				8 x 4		

- A Control number
- B Control code
- C Which of any similar feature
- D Control feature
- E Appearance
- F Dimensions/combinations
- G Location of the control flag
- H Other information

Column C

Which of any similar feature

	Northern ¹
	South eastern ¹
	Upper
	Lower
	Middle

Landforms

	Terrace
	Spur
	Gully
	Earth bank
	Quarry
	Earth wall
	Erosion gully
	Ditch, man-made
	Hill, large knoll
	High point, mound
	Saddle
	Depression
	Small depression
	Pit
	Broken ground
	Termite mound, ant hill

Column D The control feature

Rock and boulders

	Cliff, rock face
	Rock pillar
	Cave
	Boulder
	Boulder field
	Boulder cluster
	Rocky/stony ground
	Bare rock
	Narrow passage

Water and marsh

	Lake
	Pond
	Waterhole
	River, watercourse
	Minor water course
	Narrow marsh
	Marsh
	Firm ground in marsh
	Well
	Spring
	Water tank, water trough

Vegetation

	Open land
	Semi-open land
	Forest corner
	Clearing
	Thicket
	Linear thicket
	Vegetation boundary
	Copse
	Distinctive tree
	Tree stump, root stock

Man made features

	Road
	Track
	Fire break, ride
	Bridge
	Power line
	Power line pylon
	Tunnel
	Stone wall
	Fence
	Crossing point

Man made features (cont.)

	Building
	Paved area
	Ruin
	Pipeline
	Tower
	Shooting platform
	Boundary stone, cairn
	Fodder rack ⁴
	Charcoal ⁴ burning ground
	Monument or stone
	Building pass through
	Stairway
	Trench
	Out of Bounds Area

Column E Appearance

	Low ²
	Shallow ²
	Deep ²
	Overgrown ²
	Open ²
	Rocky, stony ²
	Marshy ²
	Sandy ²
	Needle leaved ⁴
	Broad leaved ⁴
	Ruined

Note: Special items must be defined for competitors in pre-event information

Column H Other information

	Refreshment point
	First aid post
	Control check

Column F Dimensions/combinations

8 x 4	Size (horizontal dimensions)	2.0	Heights of two features with control between		Junction
2.5	Height or depth	3.0			Bend
		0.5/3.0	Height of feature on slope		Crossing

If either the crossing or junction symbols are used in Column F, the two features that cross or meet must be shown in D and E. e.g.

			Road/track junction
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Nature of route from the last control to the Finish

	400m from last control to Finish. Follow taped route.
	150m from last control to Finish. Navigate to finish funnel, then follow tapes
	380m from last control to Finish. Navigate to finish. No tapes.

¹ 8 points of compass possible
² Use if appearance not indicated on map
³ Can be used in combination
⁴ Not commonly used in Australia
⁵ Heights over 3 m usually to nearest metre