



**Spring Classic and Wayne Cretney Memorial
35th Anniversary, October 10th, 2021**



TIGER ROARS



Race Report: Sunny Newtown Park

Maps: Tiger Roars

Weather: Fine

Organiser and Planner: Bryan Teahan

Another classic Classic although with Covid disruptions. I hope you enjoyed the event. Sorry it took me longer this year to get the report finished, as I got distracted by watching the Squid game – addictive but depressing.

With this event, I initially wanted to start at my son's rifle range and also tried to have an extra biathlon course (which would have included shooting). I tried this in Sweden once (orienteering with shooting followed again by orienteering – which was great fun). However, this was not to be as Covid Level 2 reared its ugly head and I couldn't secure the indoor toilets for the event and had to move to the large carpark near the athletic track.

This year's theme ('Tiger Roars') was because many times while mapping the roar of a tiger could be heard. Alternative themes were 'Monkeys Scream' or 'Lions no more' (in memory of the dearly departed lions and the old map of the area). As always, the theme of the event is that we can remember all the good times of the past 35 years and we will never forget our dearly departed friends.

I had a Dad moment once when putting out controls as I went through my check list – ‘Where’s my pen?’ I thought – and finally realised it was between my teeth.

I hope you enjoyed running up the Buckley Reserve track and going past many colourful painted rocks – one had ‘Fairy Land’ written on it.

This map had some great rubbish features and I enjoyed discovering them when I was mapping. One of my philosophies is the quote by Alexander Graham Bell: “Leave the beaten track behind occasionally and dive into the woods. Every time you do, you will be certain to find something you have never seen before.”

It’s almost a superstition or a good omen for me that the event will turn out well as long as I suffer some pain just before the event – in past years it was bruising, toothache or the flu. This year was no exception, and the pain came in twos. Twice I had a covid vaccine jab and thankfully both times only had a sore arm for about two hours. Twice I had a tooth extracted and suffered about two weeks of very painful toothache. And I have an ongoing saga of hobbling around on two sore and painful knees.

Putting out the white course flags by driving nearby by car this year on the day of the event took a long time – it might have been easier to just walk around.

Thanks to my wife for slaving away again for a few days making hand-made curry-puff pastries which most of you enjoyed (and for some the only reason you keep coming back). Sorry about the soup but Covid level 2 put paid to that treat.

Thanks to Alan for coming early, doing most of the set up, and leaving late, and for Paul for coordinating, Jane for getting the permissions, and the die-hards for helping pick up controls. This event was lucky as when I picked up one control in the school area, it had been moved and the sportident was on the ground – shades and shudders for me as I remembered the classic in Seatoun in 2019 where 5 controls were moved. I’m always mindful when I put out controls in urban areas to ensure that the public can’t see the controls easily and have the urge to do something malicious – I’m not really trying to hide the controls – really!

And now onward for me, I can look forward to mapping 10sq km for the NZ nationals in April next year for the Nelson club – a rocky, hole-ly, half bush covered Canaan Downs area near Takaka Hill near Motueka – almost like a holiday for me where I can get to do what I love – mapping and exploring new and never been seen before places by me.

Results

Classic: http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/2021_classic_results.html

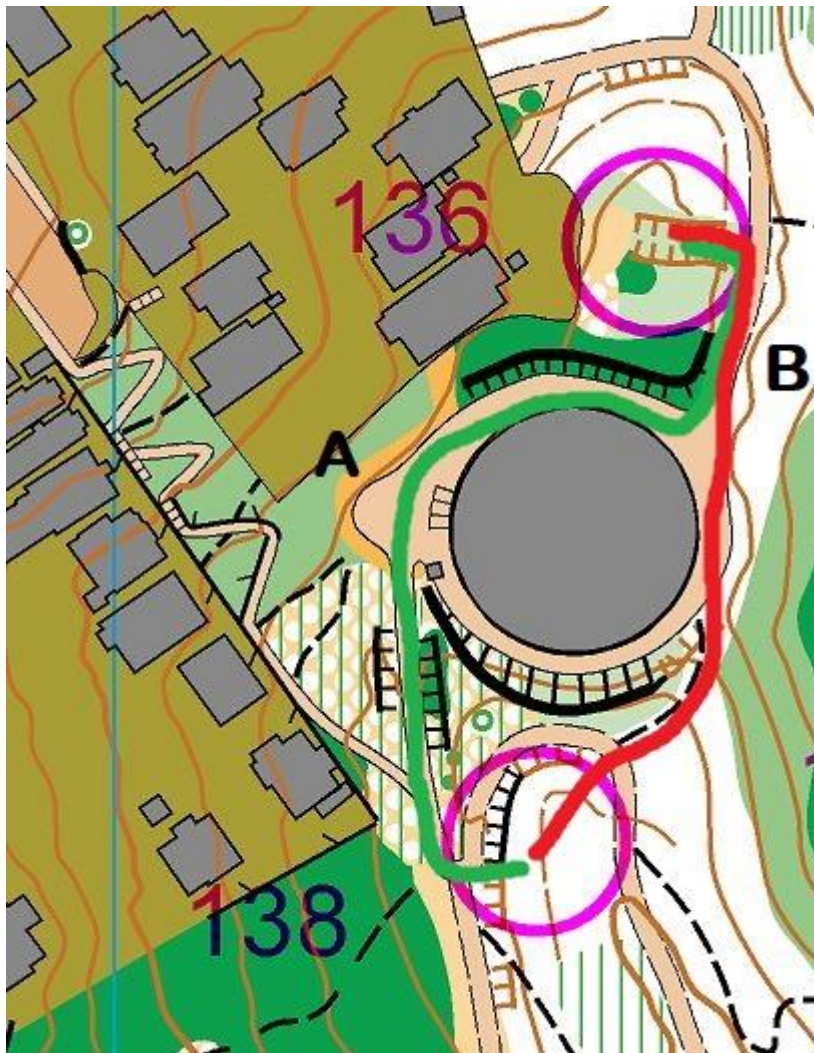
Rogaine Splits: http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/rogaine_2021.htm

Rogaine Points: http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/rogaine_2021_points.htm

Route Choices

Did you choose the right Route Choice?

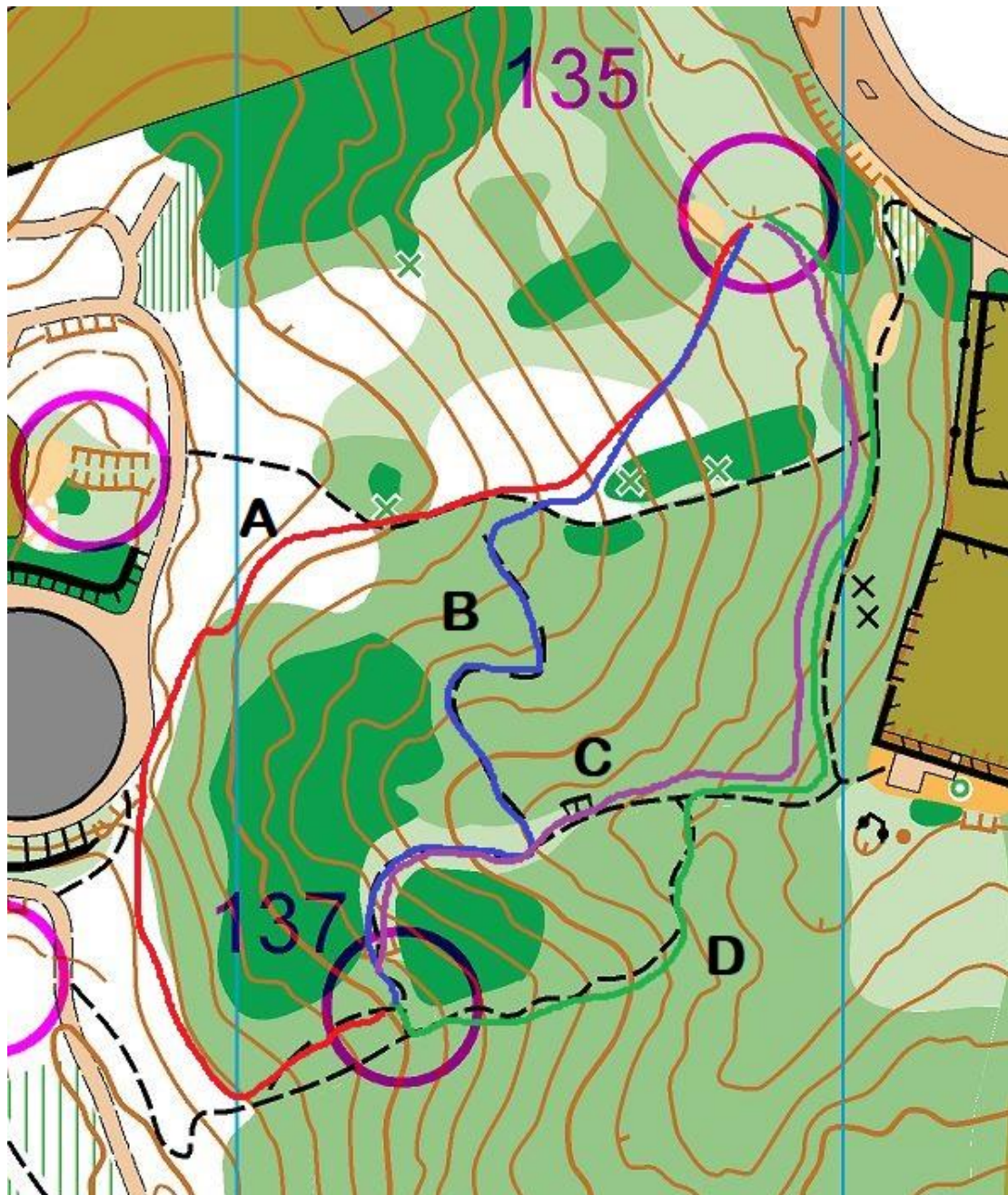
Here are some of the intended route choices. There are many more micro routes not included here.



A: 181m

B: 136m

Planner's Pick: A



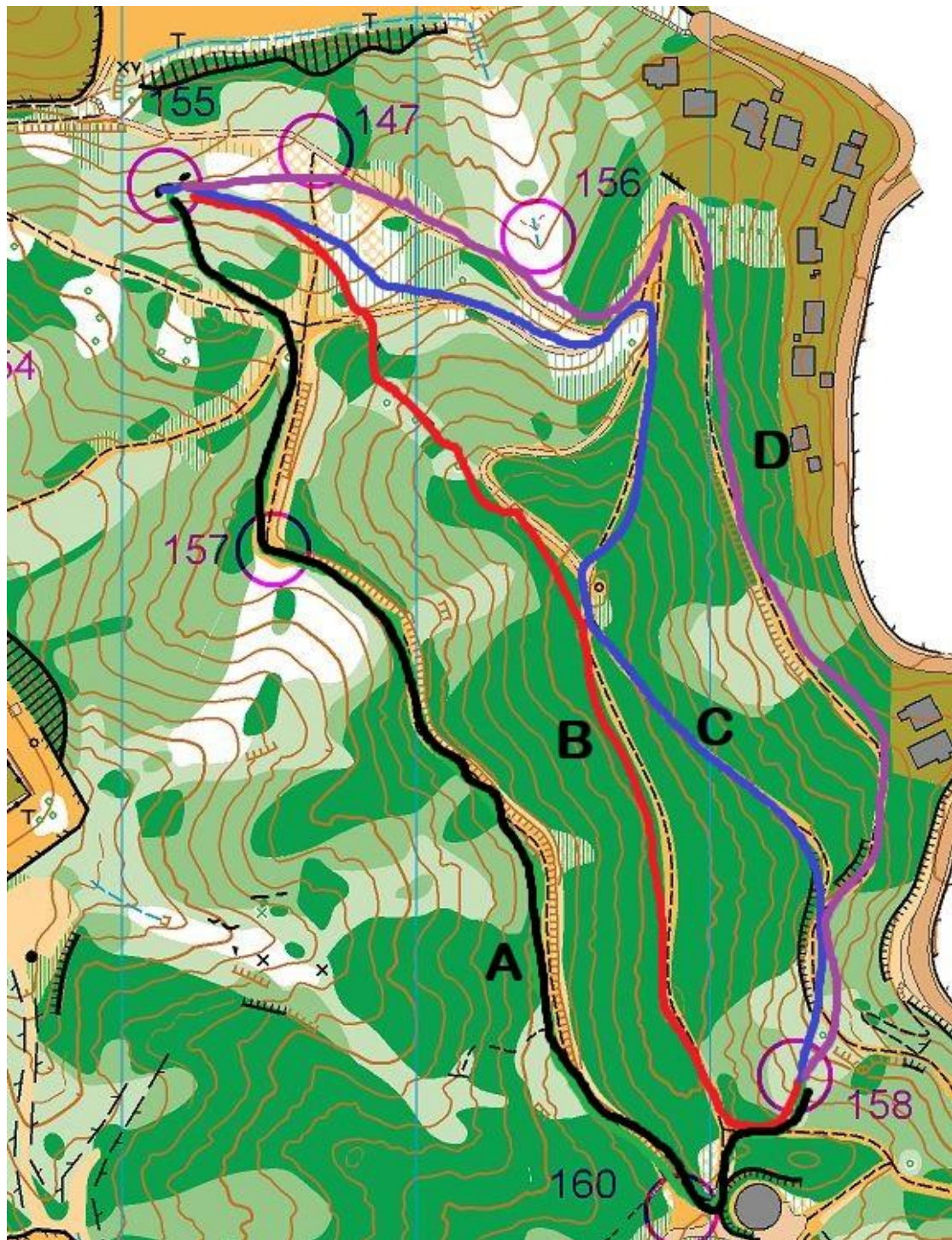
A: 605m

B: 520m

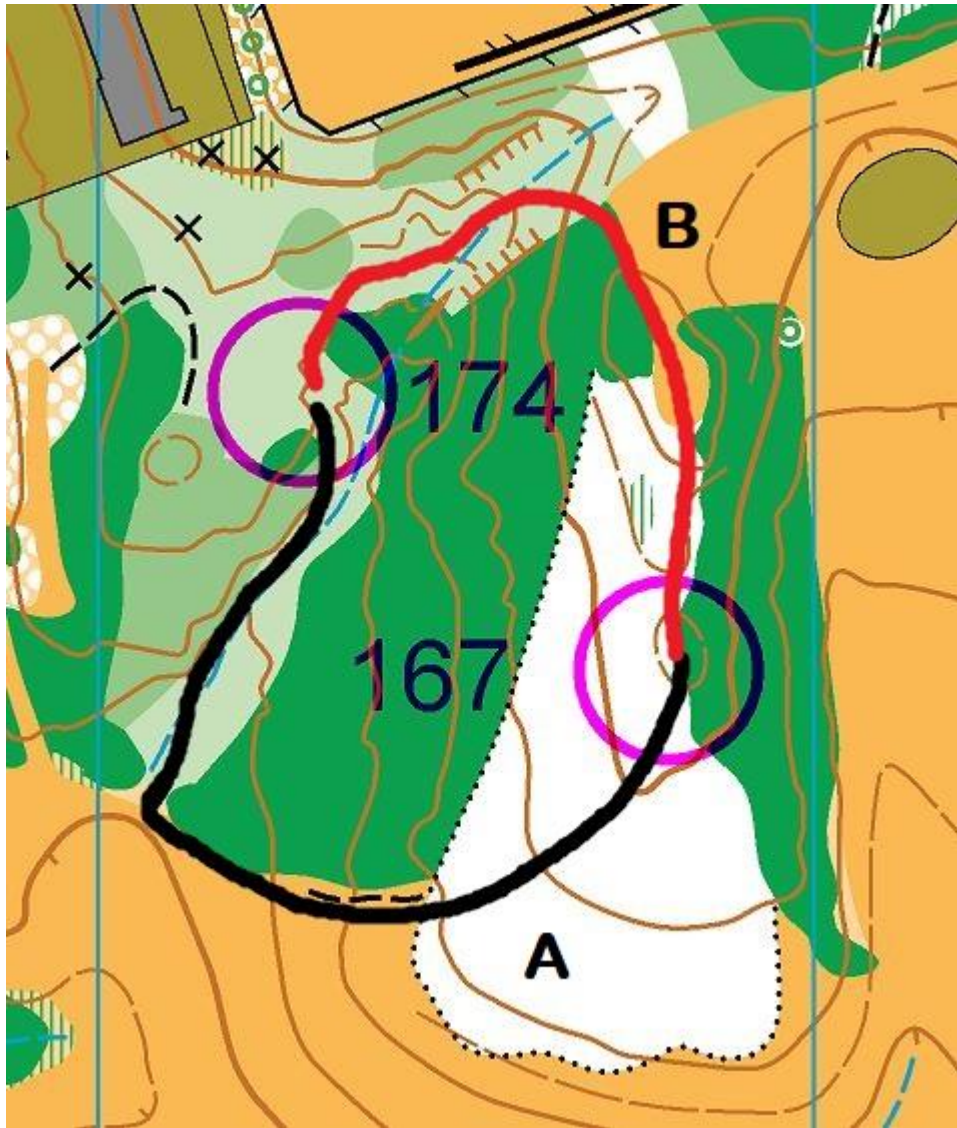
C: 551m

D: 634m

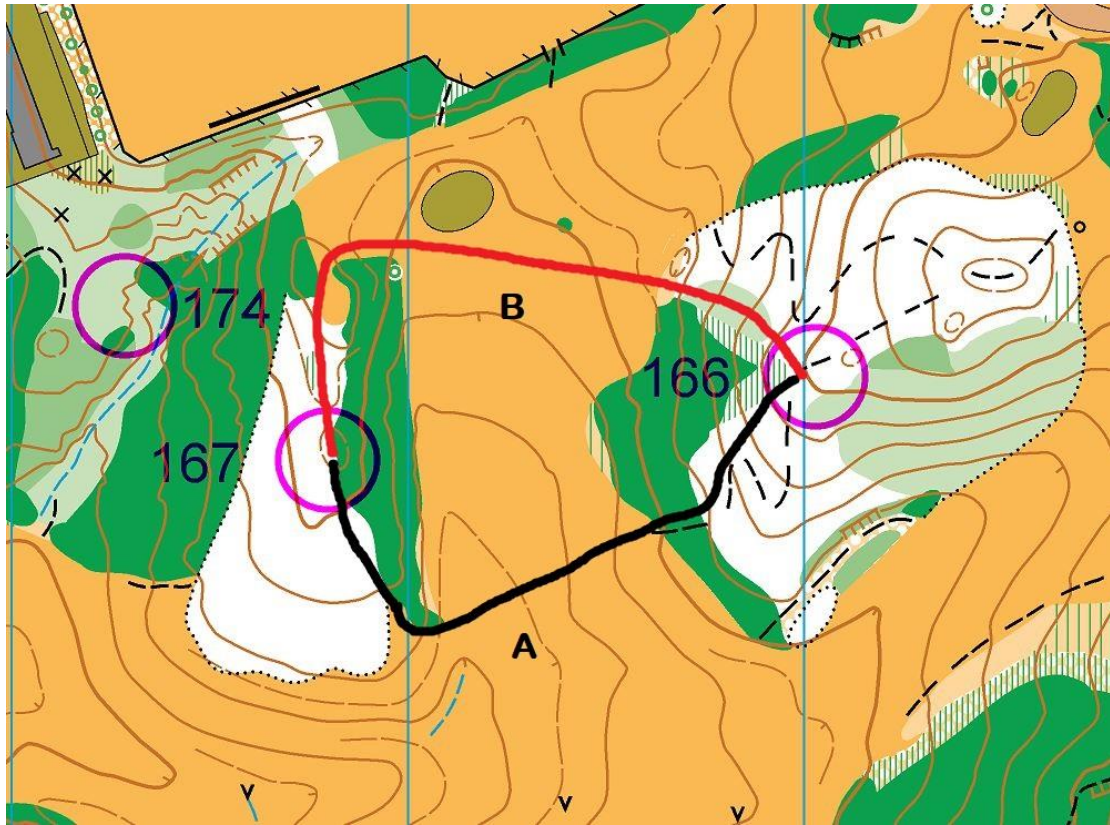
Planner's Pick: D



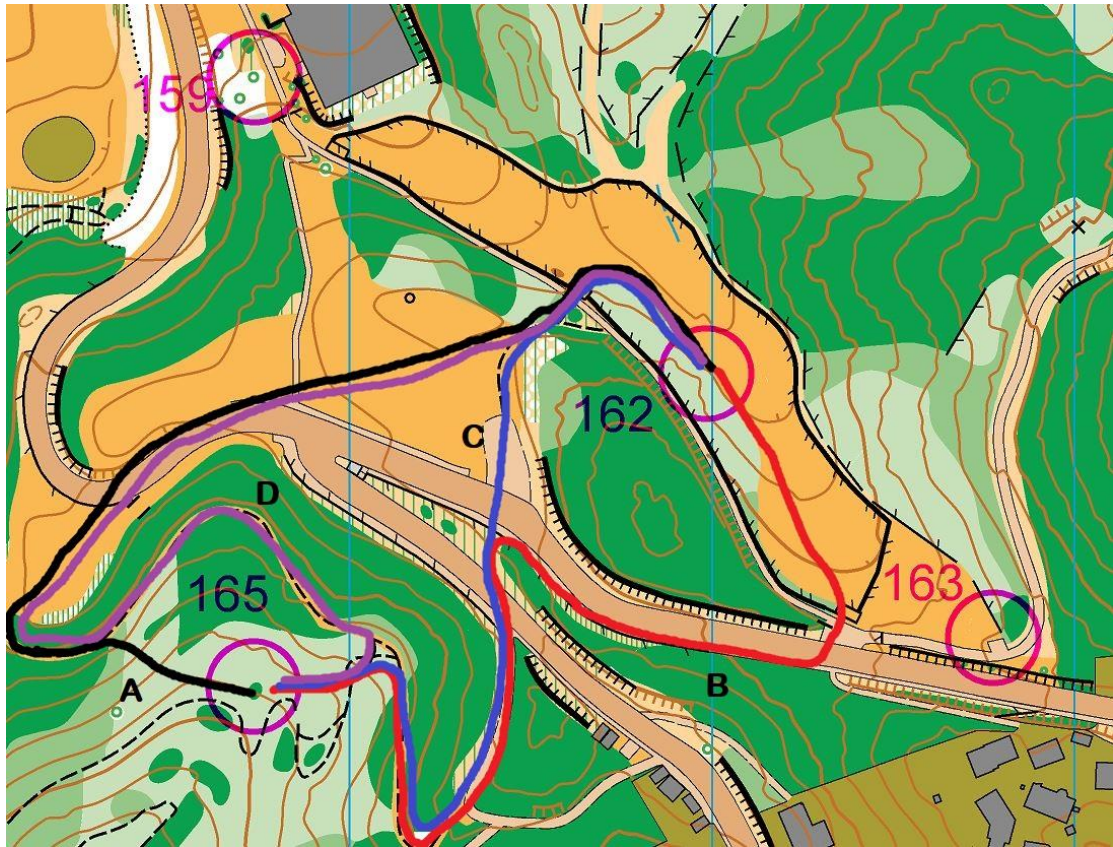
A: 605m
B: 520m
C: 551m
D: 634m
Planner's Pick: B



A: 195m
B: 150m
Planner's Pick: B



A: 214m
B: 209m
Planner's Pick: B



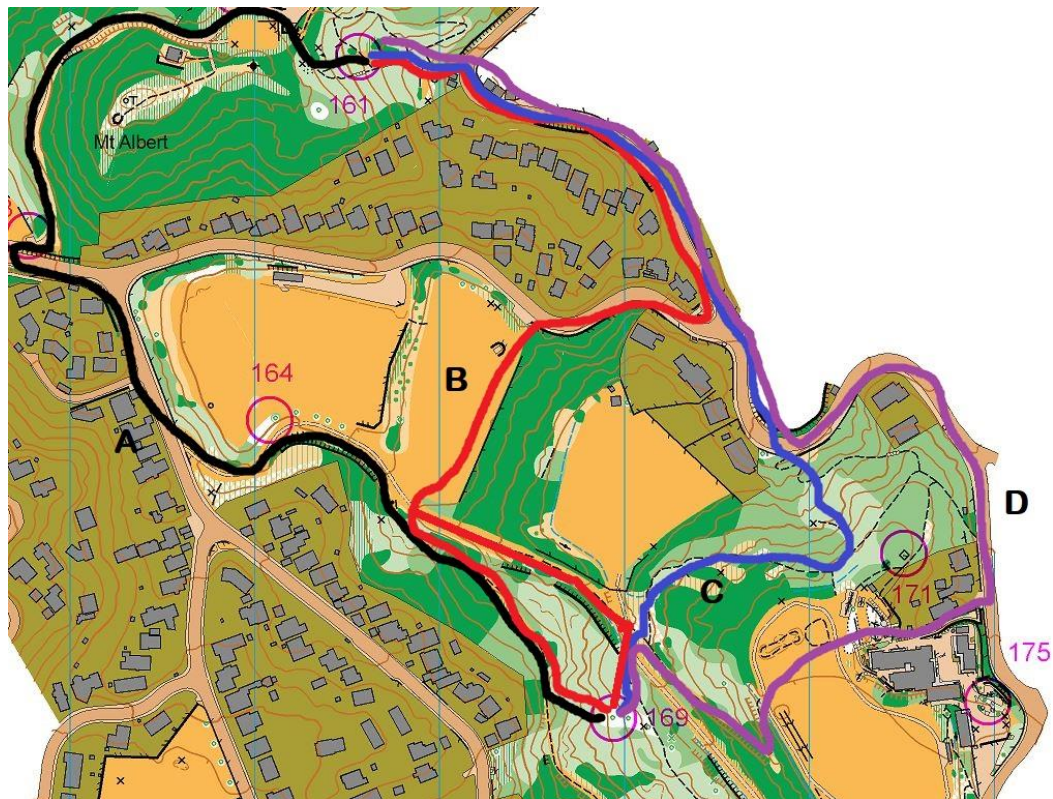
A: 401m

B: 456m

C: 405m

D: 503m

Planner's Pick: C



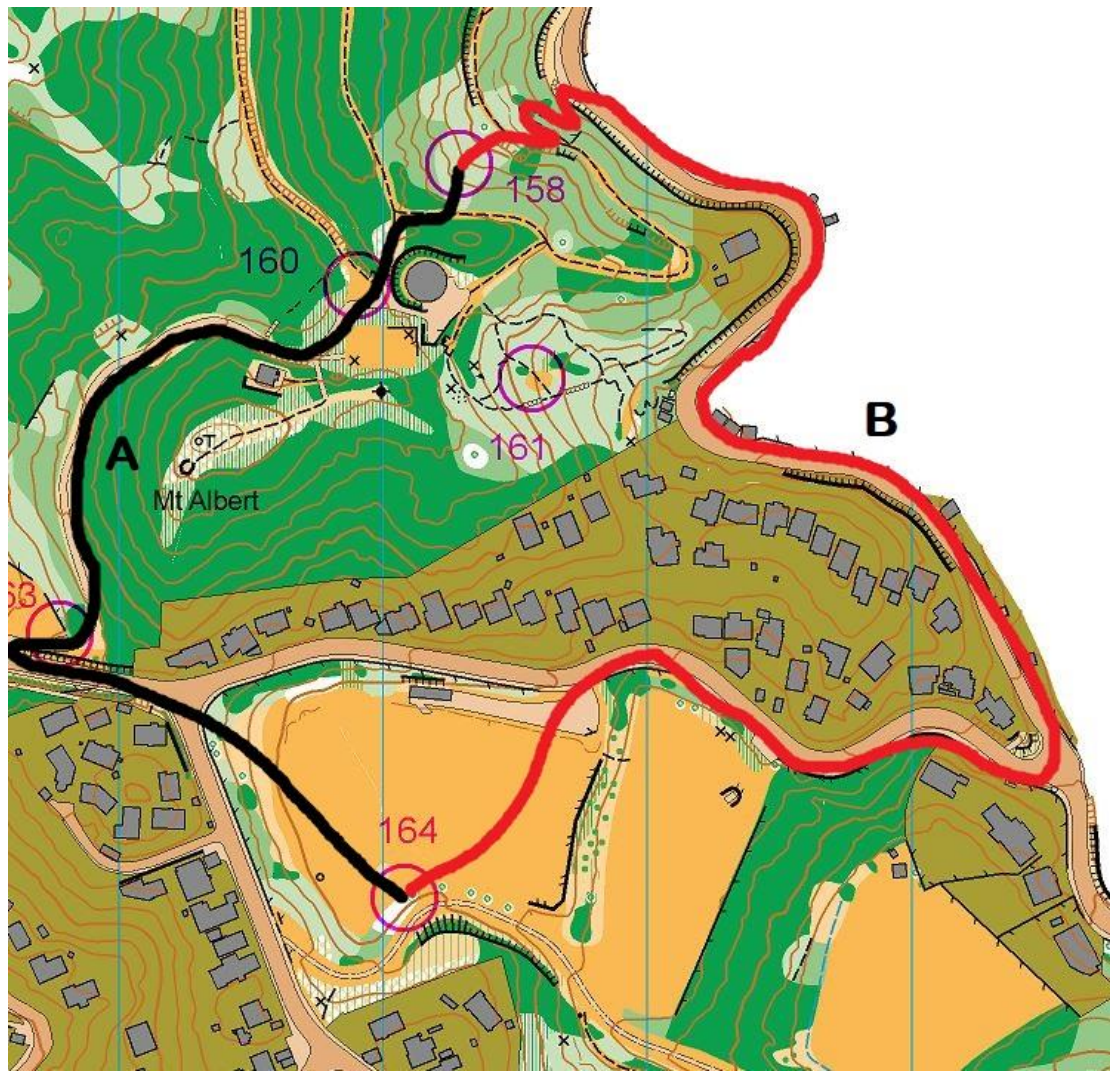
A: 1023m

B: 849m

C: 808m

D: 1080m

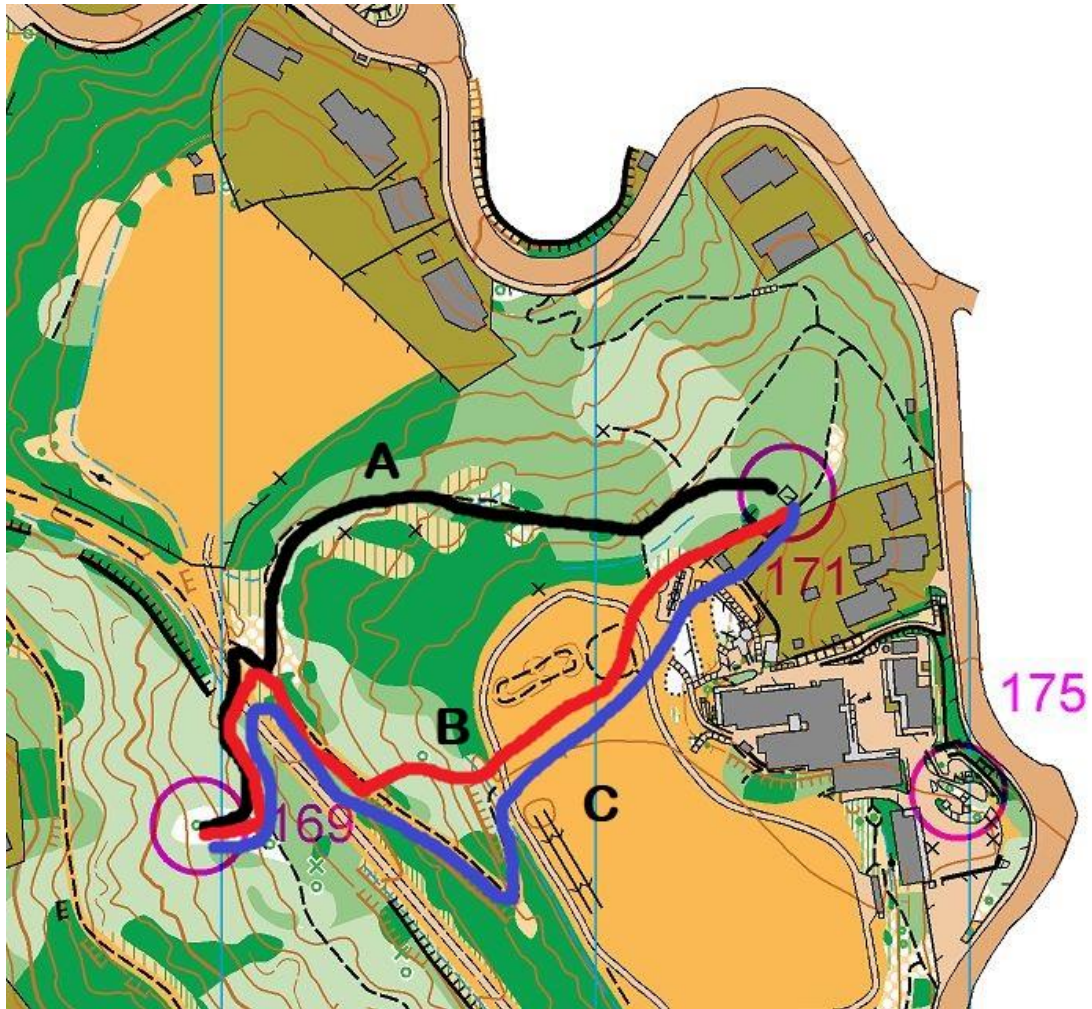
Planner's Pick: B



A: 654m

B: 971m

Planner's Pick: A

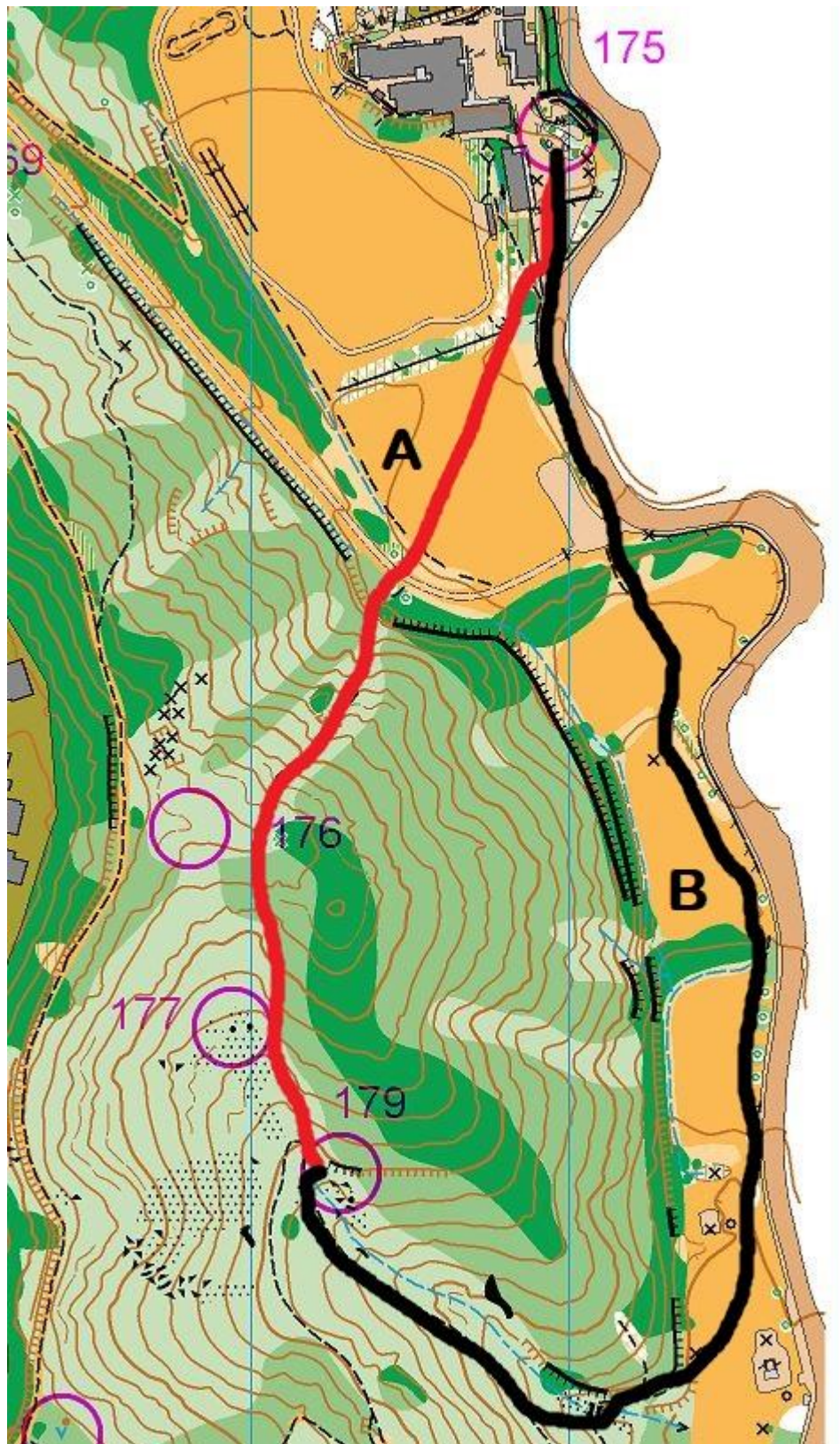


A: 304m

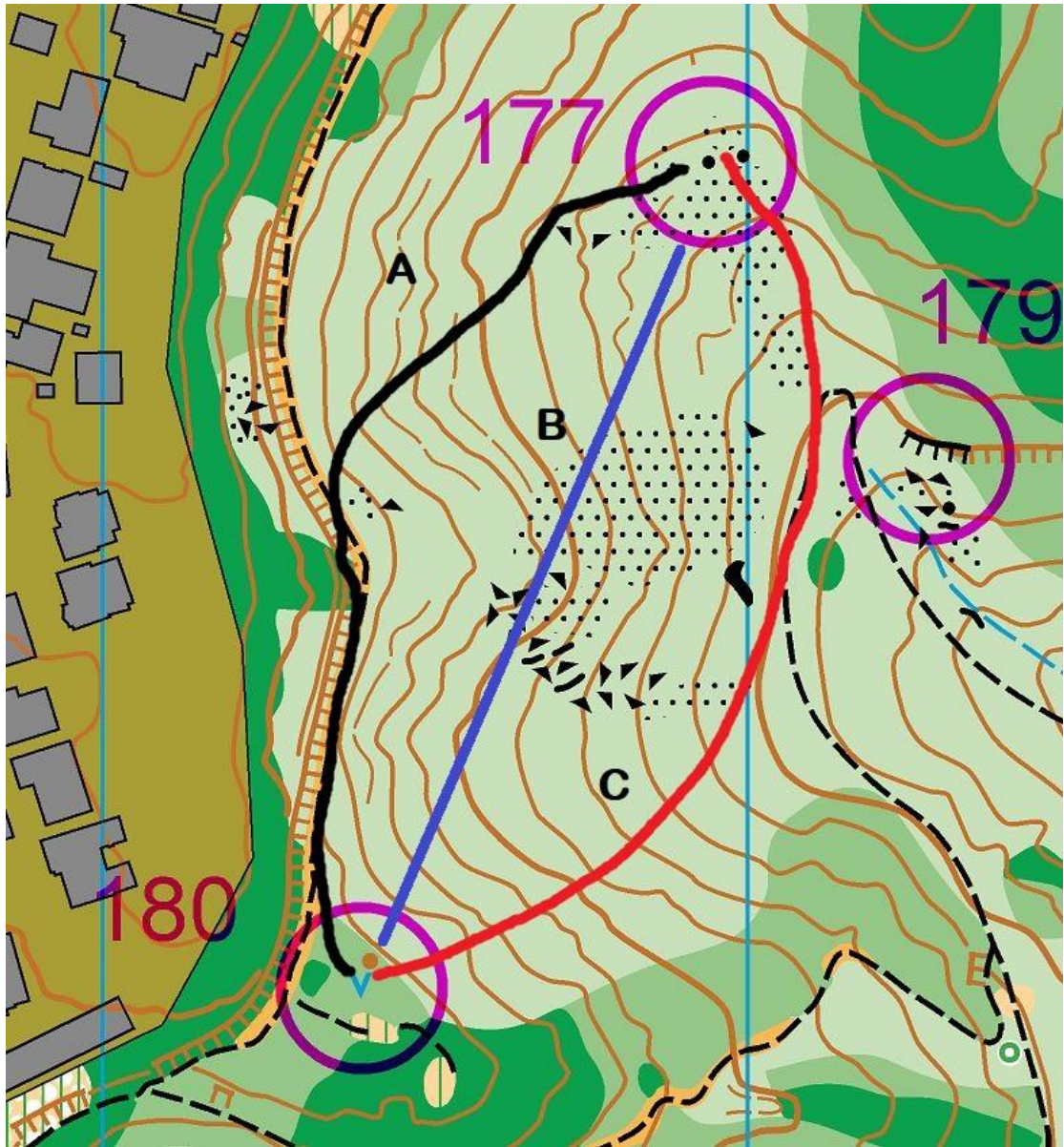
B: 315m

C: 368m

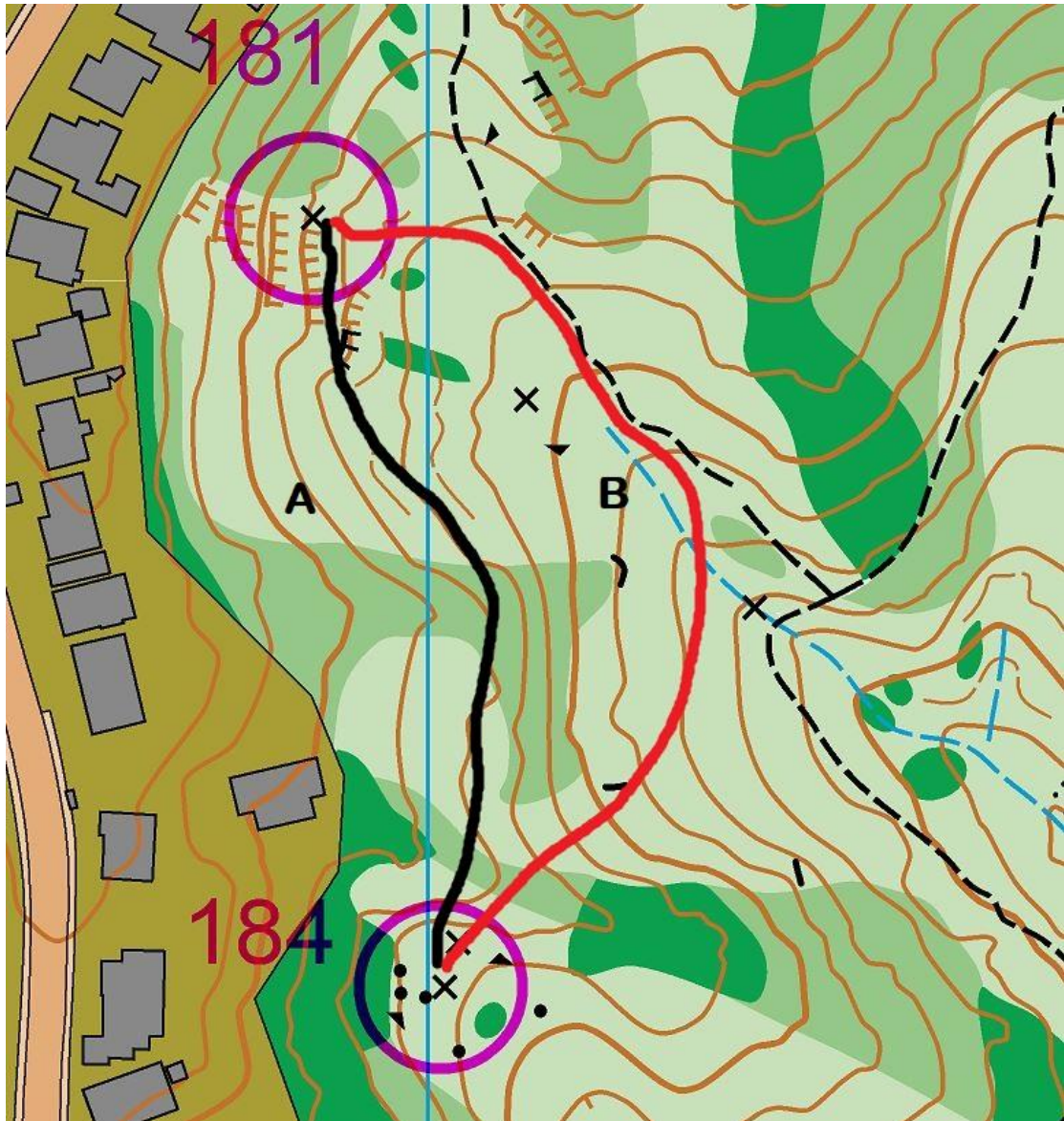
Planner's Pick: A.



A: 455m
B: 697m
Planner's Pick: B



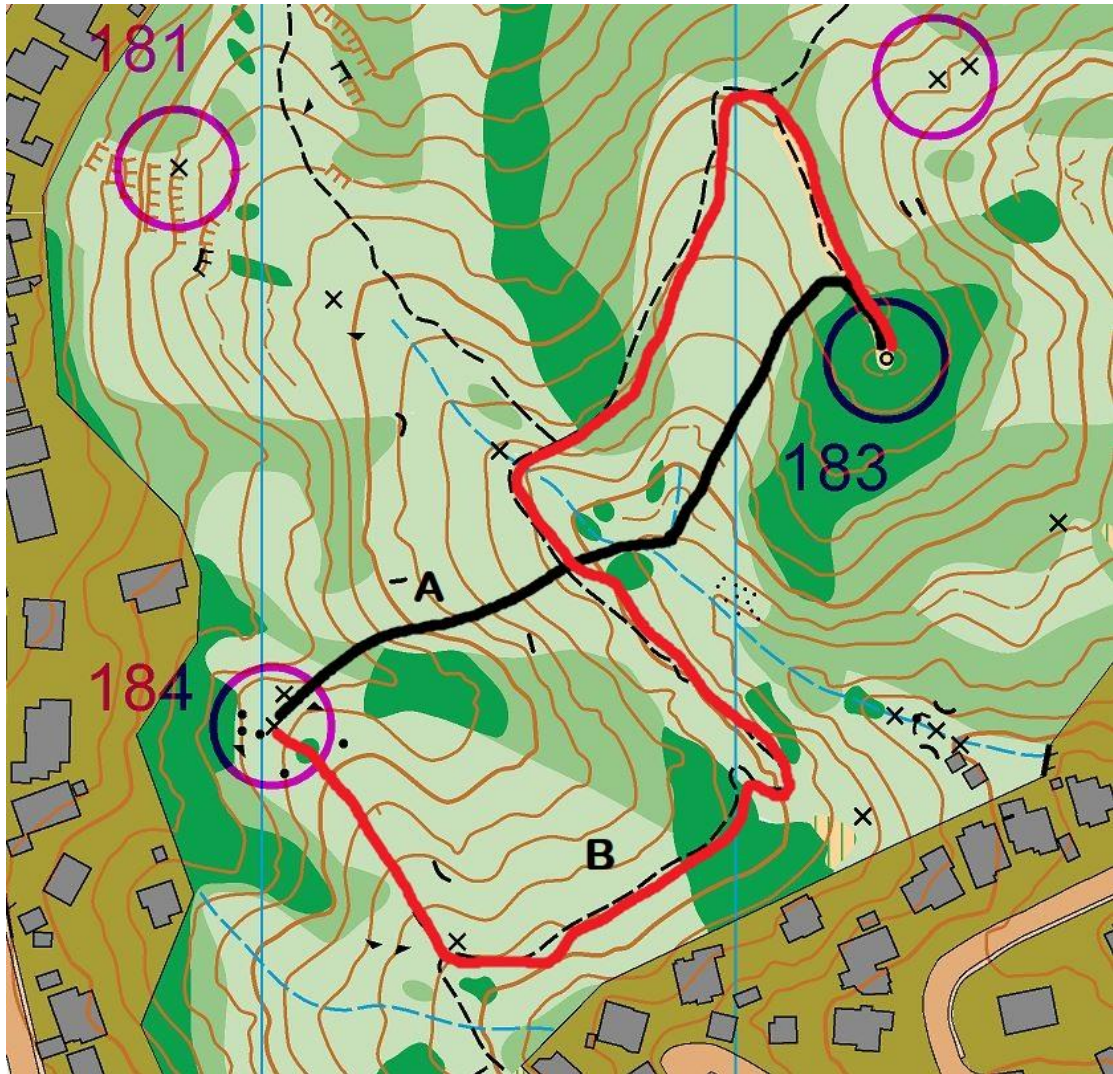
A: 181m
B: 163m
C: 194m
Planner's Pick: C



A: 146m

B: 185m

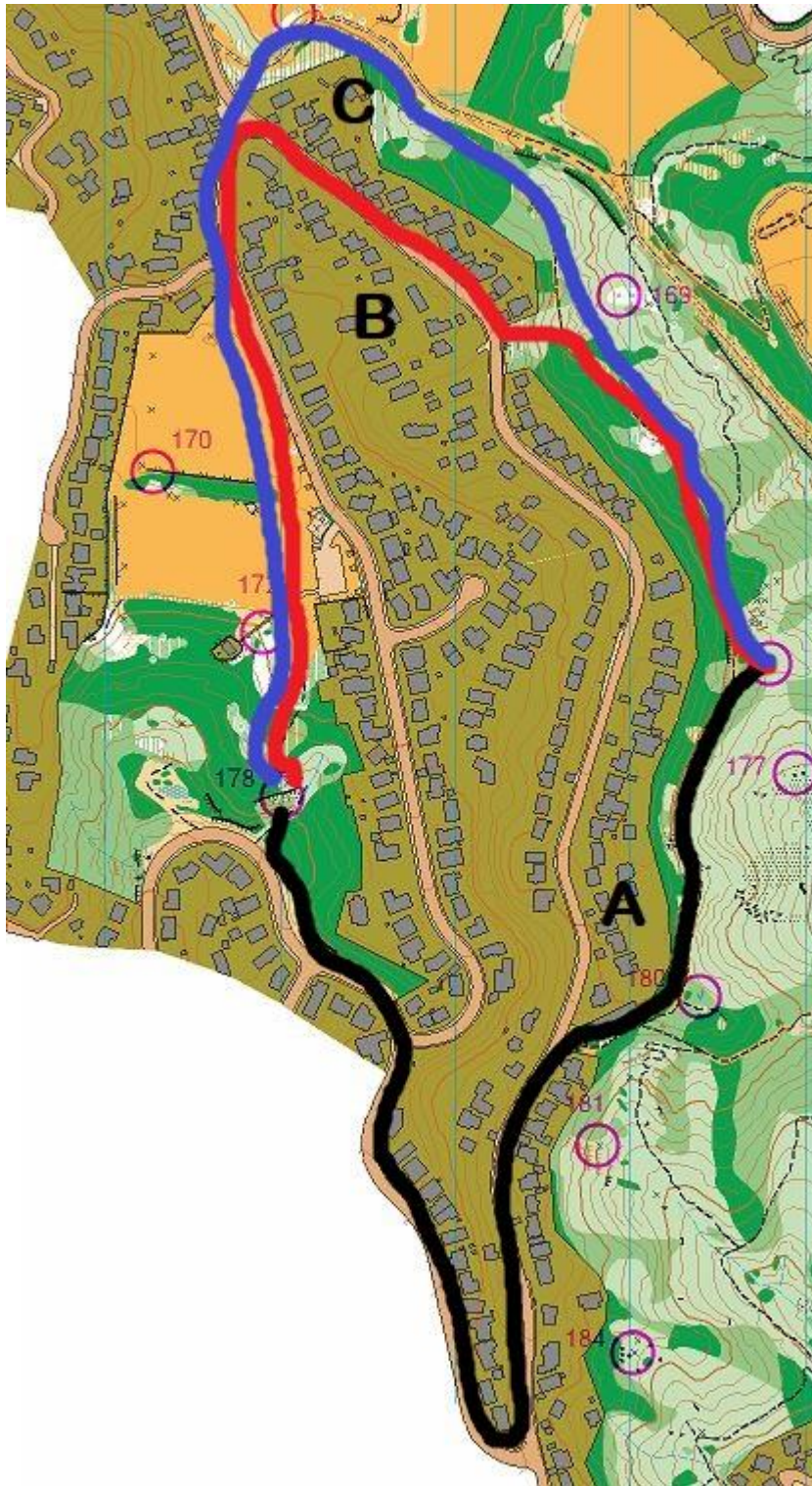
Planner's Pick: B



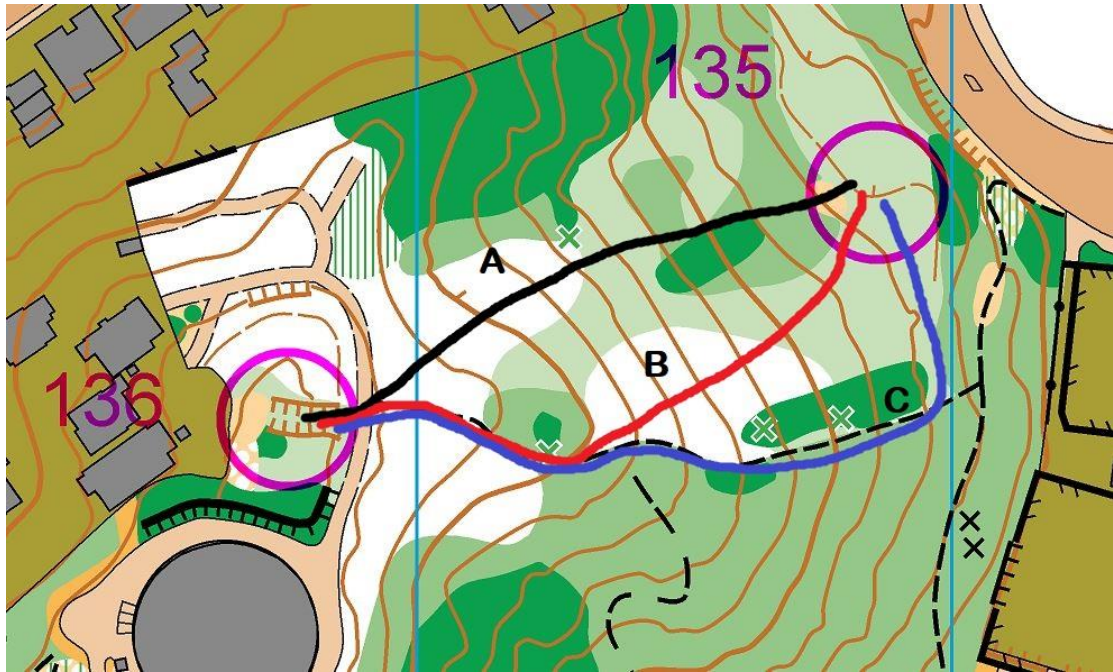
A: 214m

B: 490m

Planner's Pick: B



A: 1196m
B: 1093m
C: 1145m
Planner's Pick: C

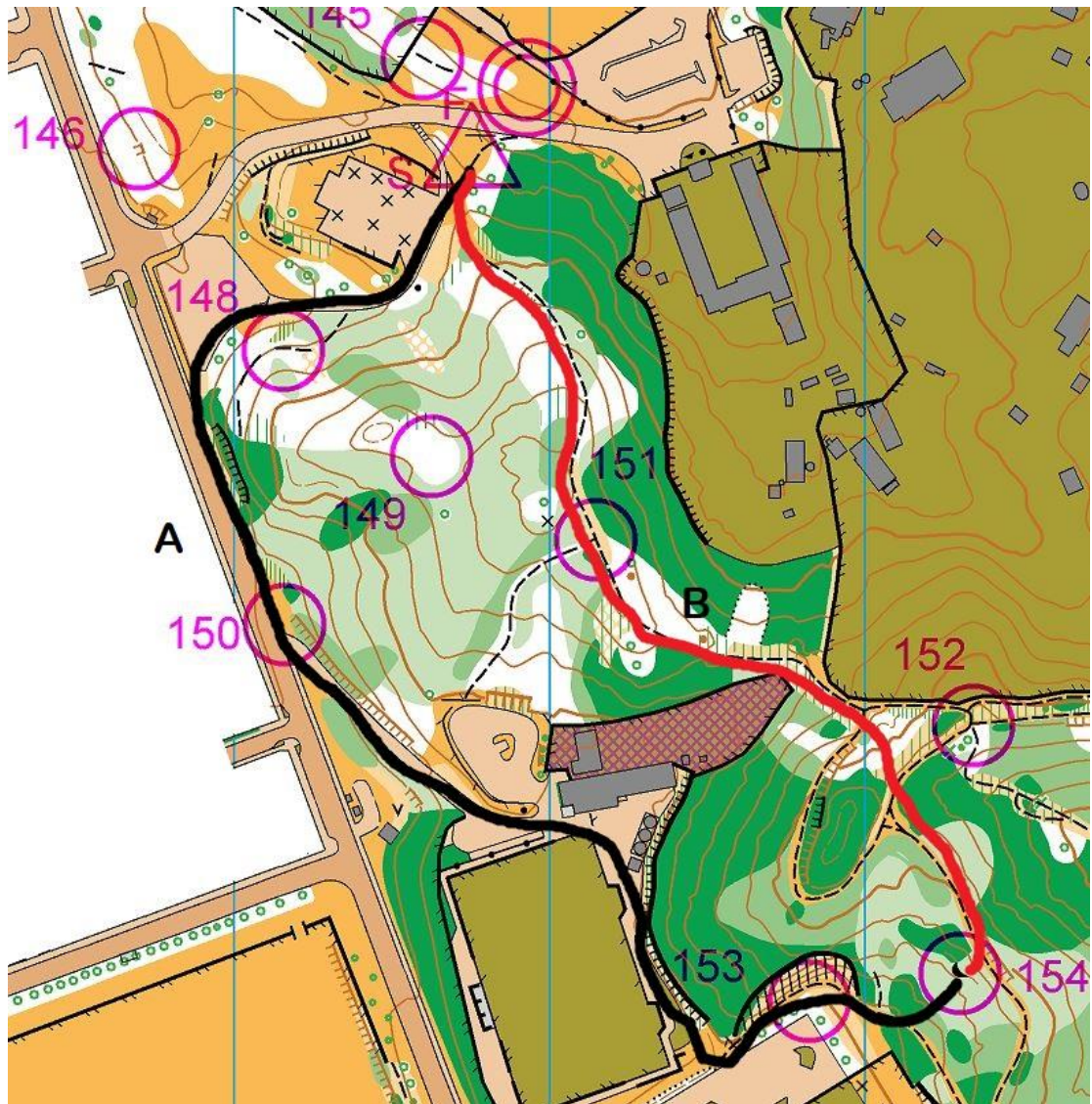


A: 137m

B: 159m

C: 200m

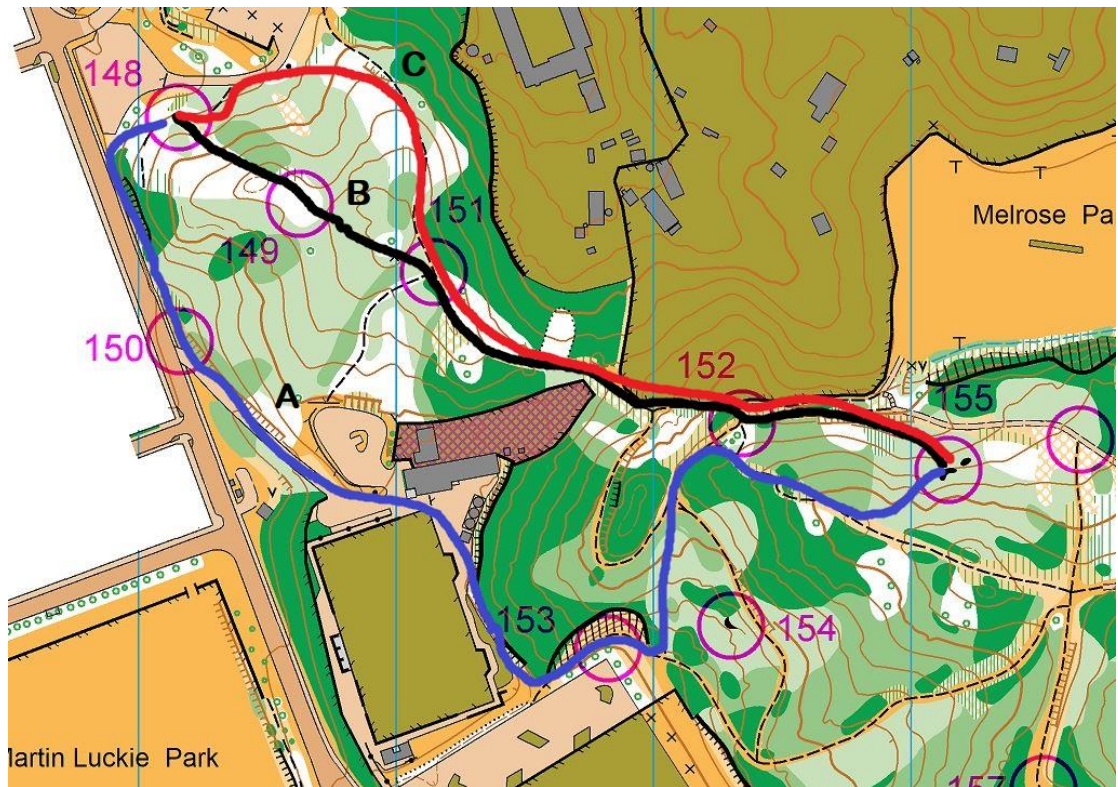
Planner's Pick: A



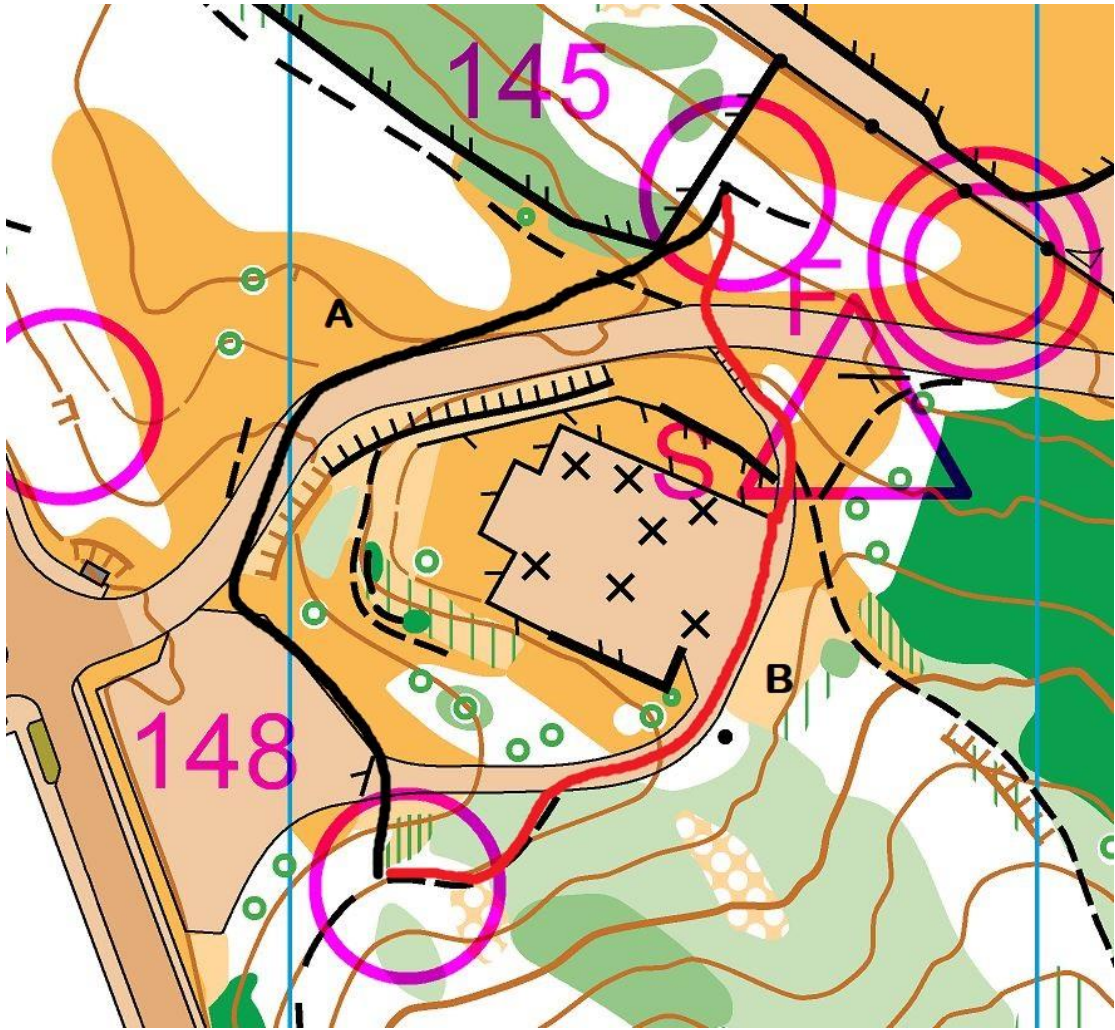
A: 624m

B: 416m

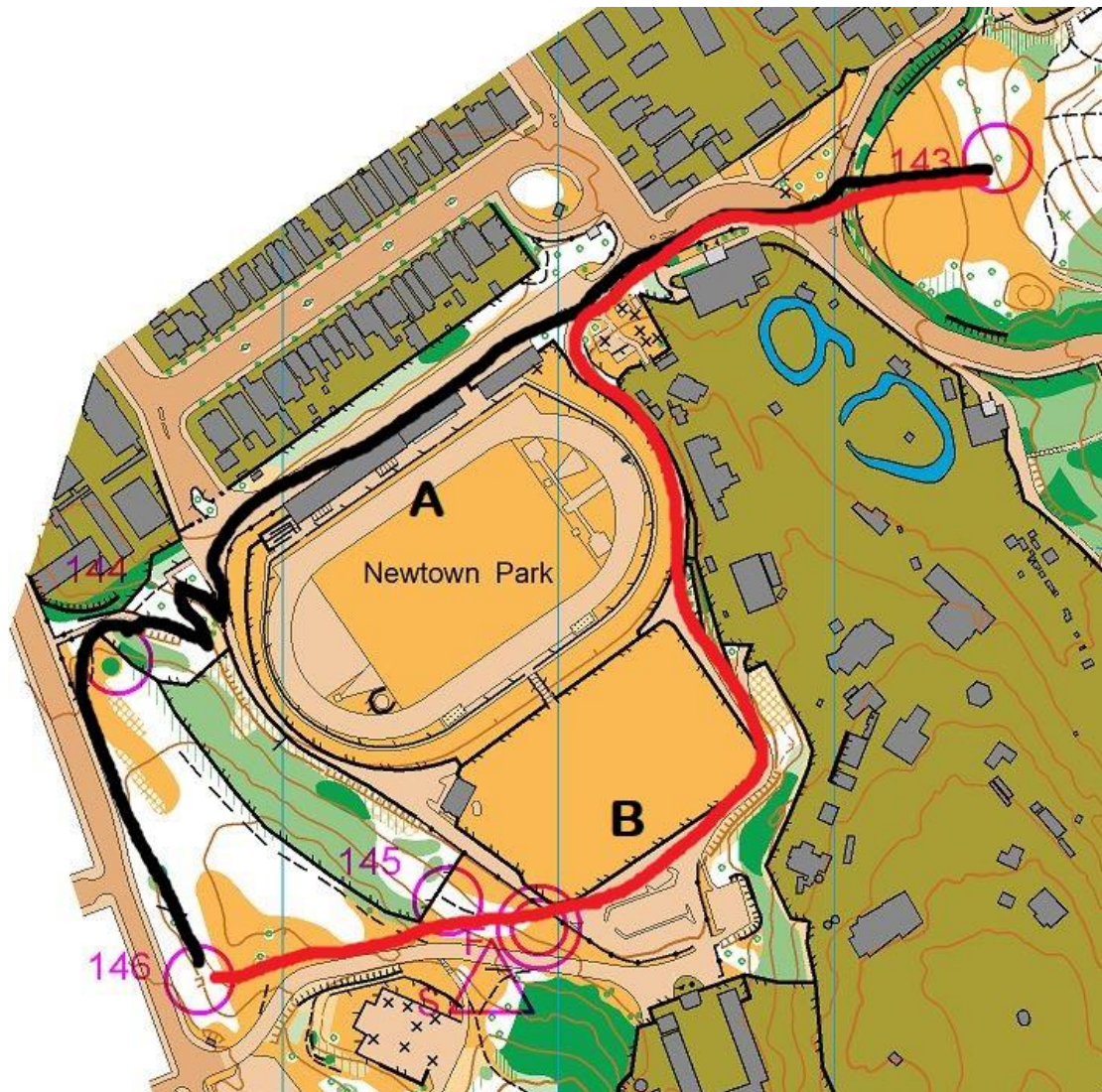
Planner's Pick: A



A: 685m
B: 427m
C: 482m
Planner's Pick: B



A: 160m
B: 152m
Planner's Pick: B



A: 652m

B: 693m

Planner's Pick: A

Feedback:

Gene Beveridge: (winner Course 1)

Wellington has a lot more interesting tracks than Auckland.

Magnus Bengtsson: (winner Course 2)

I think this track was in the wrong place or there was an extra one not mapped.

(I'll have to check this out)

Simon Robinson:

Thanks for an excellent day on Sunday, the challenge on course 1 was immense but the map was excellent and the day smoothly run.

It was great to be taken on a tour of surprisingly nice new bits of Wellington bush, thanks for all the work in mapping and planning to get us there, I look forward to running in some of the reserves again soon.

Sarah Gardner:

Thank you Bryan for a great event, maps were great and we had a lot of fun.

Tom Middlemiss:

Thanks so much for the day. Loved it.

Paul Teesdale:

Thanks for the feedback - my observations added in red below (Bryan)

Thanks, Bryan - for this, but particularly for all the hard work you put into making the event run successfully once again. Some feedback I have received, which I thought was good to pass on. [Comments in square brackets are from me]

I was pleased with someone on the white course saying that it was easy compared to last week as I was concerned that my course was long and a bit steep and was not really following the white course rules in some places (I would have had to have several more controls at decision points).

Everybody I spoke to felt challenged, but had a good time. [After a week before when things went a bit awry with the setting, it was good to have quality planning evident]

The map printing itself was clear - maybe clearer than some of the printing we have had recently from our usual printer. [I am not sure if that was the difference in the paper or the quality of the printer, but it was notably more crisp]

Also clearer because of not using plastic bags and the waterproof paper holding up better to folding/creasing. The club should think of printing on waterproof paper for all events like the DOC club does.

The map was clear (except for contrary feedback as noted below). [I don't know how much is variation in the new symbol format, or having fewer of the problem that people most often complain about, which is the tan-coloured sprint format tracks fading into greens or contours. I think you had more black tracks on the map than tan tracks, and the tan tracks often in white forest. For myself, the indistinct tracks still showed out more strongly than the tan tracks. I

think you did quite a bit of pulling the green colour back from major tracks, too, but that was just an impression I got whilst running, and may not reflect reality].

There was a problem with symbol sizing (maybe on just the 1:5,000 version). Symbols for point objects (e.g. trees, pits, maybe some line features) seemed very small. Houghton Bay School was especially problematic at that scale. Two younger orienteers with good eyesight said independently that they had no idea what was going on in the area, so they pointed themselves in the right direction and hoped it would work out. One older orienteer with less good eyesight described it as impossible to read the school.

The map was made with the 1:4000 standard symbols (like the rest of the City Map) and events using the maps should really be printed at 1:4000) - I would have preferred printing at 1:4000 for all courses but wanted to cover a large area and couldn't fit in the courses at 1:4000 so had to settle for 1:5000 which makes point symbols harder to read. I would have also liked to print at 1:3000 for the yellow/white courses but again couldn't fit at these enlarged scales. The Houghton Valley school area was more detailed and required at least 1:4000 and was only one control. With my eyesight I could just make out what I mapped.

We were lucky as when I picked up this control, someone had moved it and the sportident was lying separately on the ground.

The tan tracks are what's in the current international specification - I wouldn't want to deviate from them. I only pulled the green colour back because there was a clear 10m mowing strip on most of the tracks that was rough open. Personally, I lean on using the black foottrack symbol because it's easier to read but when the size of the track goes over a certain size, I have to use the tan symbol.

That last point needs to be read in the context of the ones above. People enjoyed the map and mapping. I suspect there is a technical fix to the small symbol problem that you might be able to advise on. I ran with the 1:4,000 map on red short, so no issues for me, and I didn't get to experience the school at that scale. Do you reckon the school works at 1:4,000 or should we have a go at simplifying something or widening gaps?

For shorter events, the map should be at 1:4000 or even 1:3000 for clarity.

Anyway, it was a good day and good courses. The above was not meant to be in anyway negative and apologies if anything came out that way!
Regards Paul

Further Information:

History of Houghton Bay

Houghton Bay was named after Captain Robert Houghton, who was the person responsible for the powder magazine on Matiu / Somes Island, and later the signal station at Mount Albert above Houghton Bay. In the 19th century The Hermit of Island Bay lived in a nearby cave.

History of Houghton Valley

Houghton Valley was once covered with native bush and full of bird song before it was cleared for farming. Once farming ceased, invasive weeds such as gorse quickly took over the steep slopes. Reforestation of native plants began in 1970 and is still being done today by the local community including the students of Houghton Bay School. Students can now learn and play in the forest surrounded by the chattering of tui and the odd screeching of the kaka.

Cleared by Maori before Europeans settled - used as Farmland. 150 years ago turned into a dump. Transformed into a nice field for horses. When horses left gorse took over. In 2002 HVS Coastal Restoration Project started. Rainforest growing back to what it was before it was cleared.

Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houghton_Bay

Conservation planting:

<https://bookings.conservationvolunteers.org/project/houghton-valley-planting>

Newtown:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newtown,_New_Zealand

Newtown Park's Long History:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/capital-life/9238285/Newtown-Parks-long-history>

Mount Albert

Tracks on the Mount Albert ridge provide walking and biking opportunities with views of the Cook Strait and Miramar Peninsula.

<https://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/outdoors/parks-and-reserves/town-belt-reserves/mount-albert>

Mt Albert ridgeline mountain bike trail - trailforks

<https://www.trailforks.com/trails/mt-albert-ridgeline/>

Mt Albert part of Southern Walkway:

Get the best views of the city from Wellington Harbour to the South Coast. Walk from Oriental Parade to Island Bay through the city's parks and suburbs.

You can complete this track in stages and can easily include Mt Victoria Lookout and Mt Albert Lookout on the way.

<https://www.walkingaccess.govt.nz/track/southern-walkway>

WW2 lookup post on Mt albert:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/taniwha/3029394>

Mount Albert loop

A 2 kilometre walk, taking about 90 minutes to complete.

<https://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/outdoors/walks-and-walkways/beyond-the-city/mount-albert-loop>

Wellington Zoo:

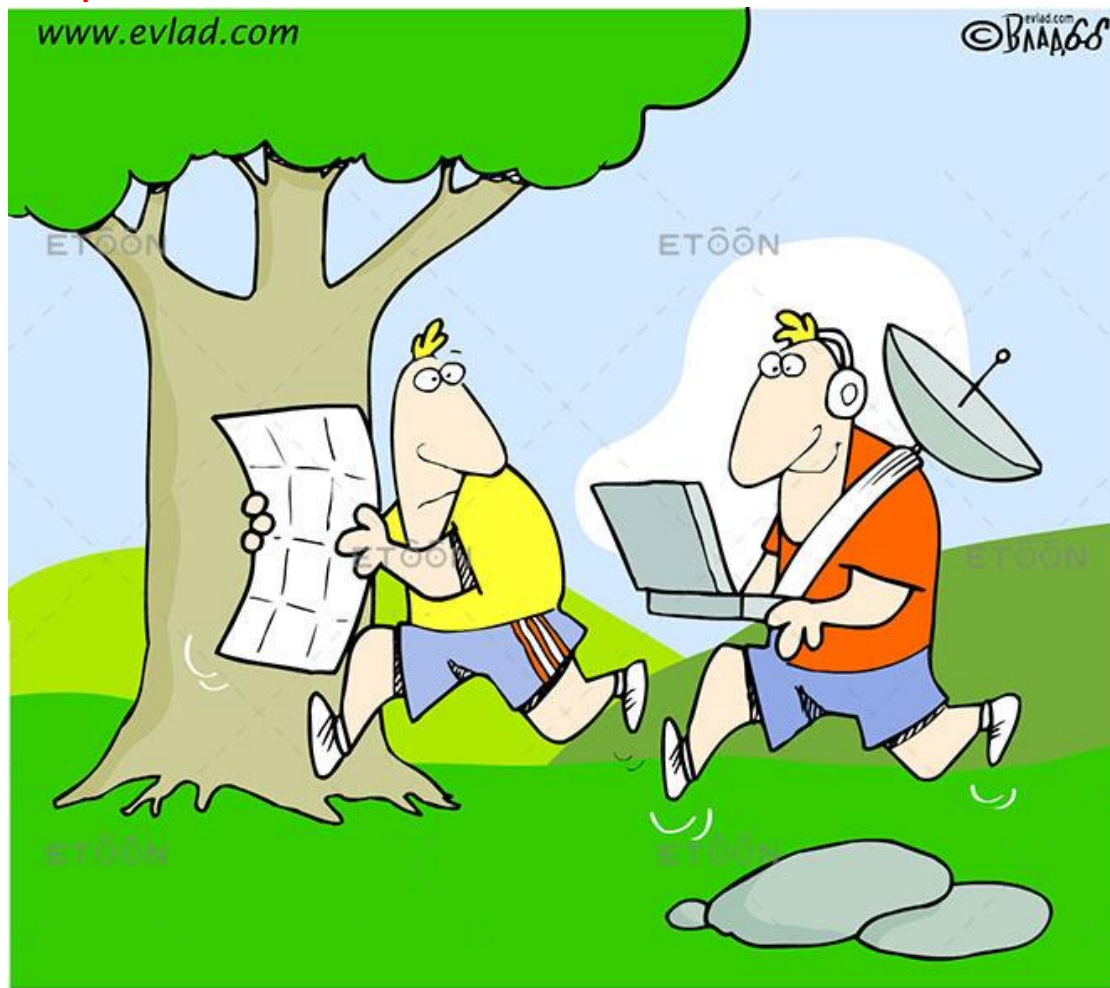
<https://wellingtonzoo.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_Zoo

Wellington Zoo starts 'complex' process to breed Sumatran tigers:

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/wellington-zoo-starts-complex-process-to-breed-sumatran-tigers/PMMRI3MDNOR5ZCGKHGZZ2QYTE4/>

Map Cartoons:



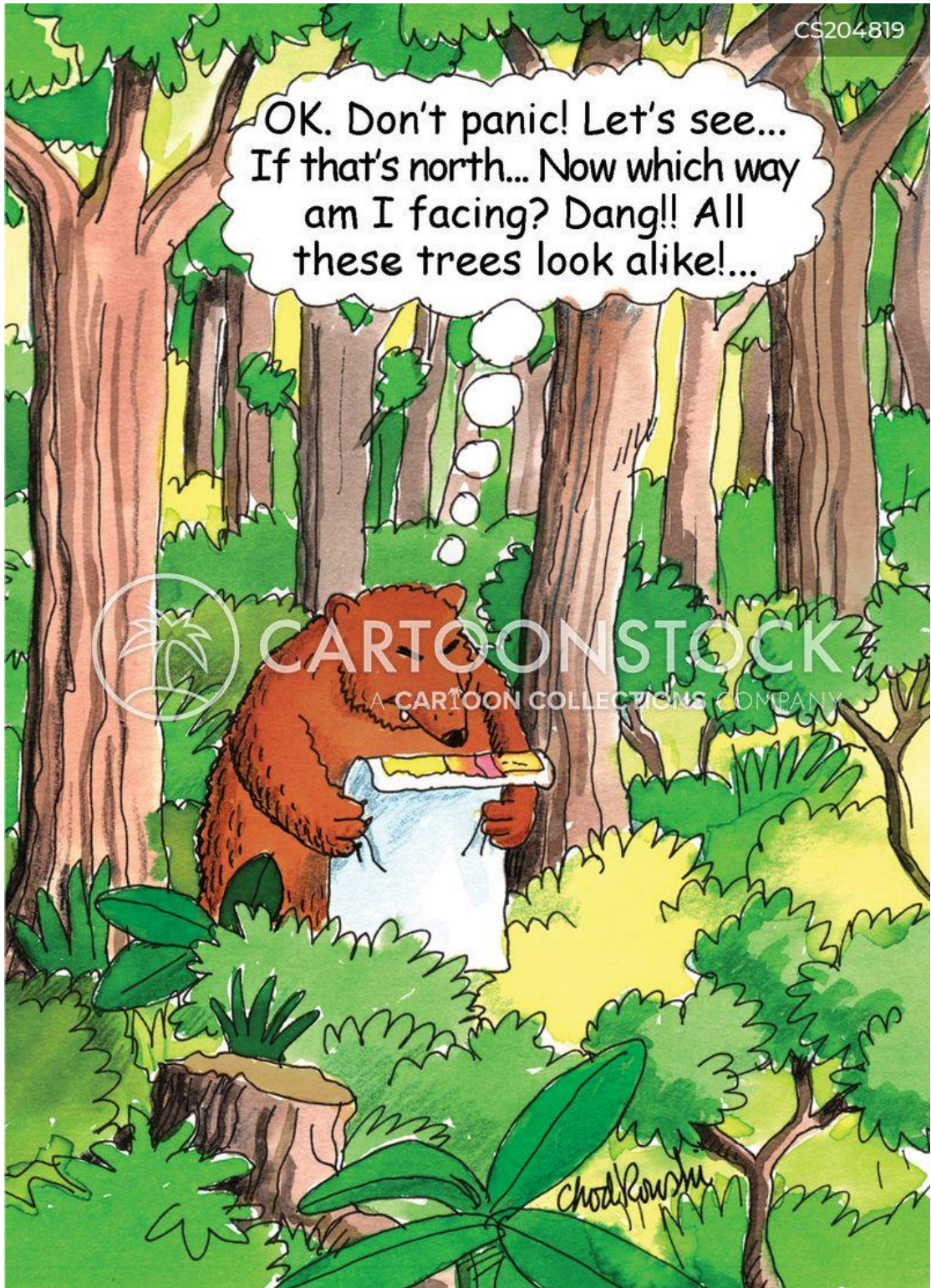
OK. Don't panic! Let's see...
If that's north... Now which way
am I facing? Dang!! All
these trees look alike!...

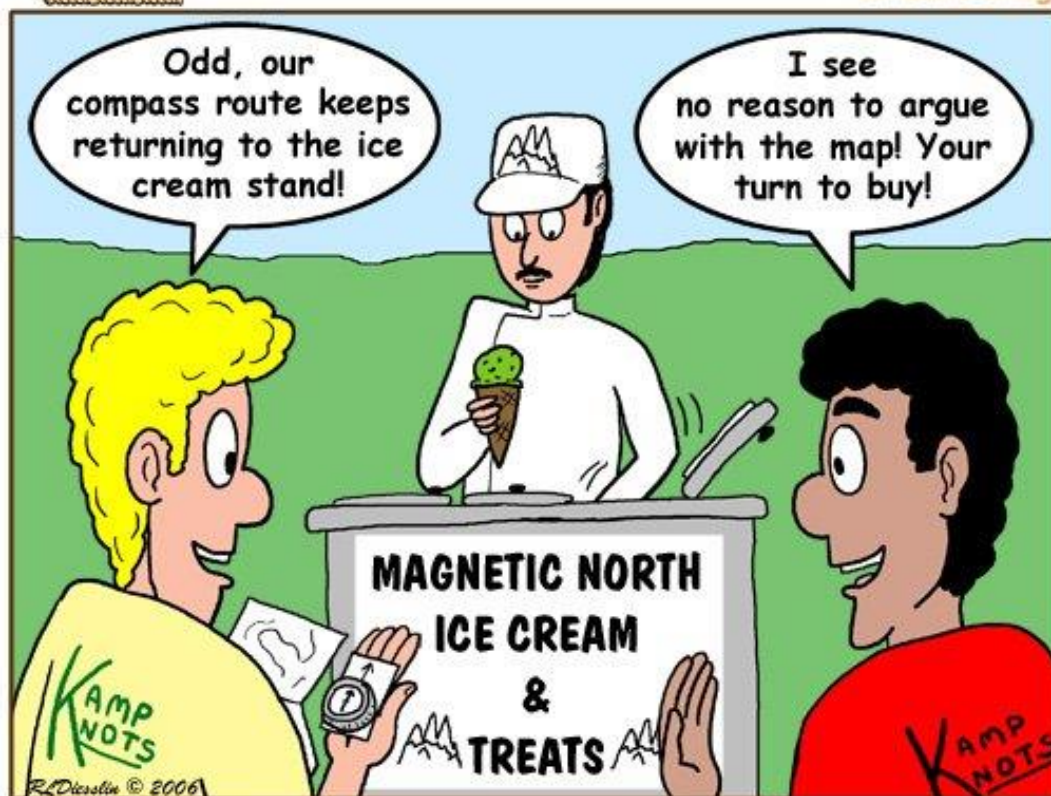


CARTOONSTOCK

A CARTOON COLLECTIONS COMPANY

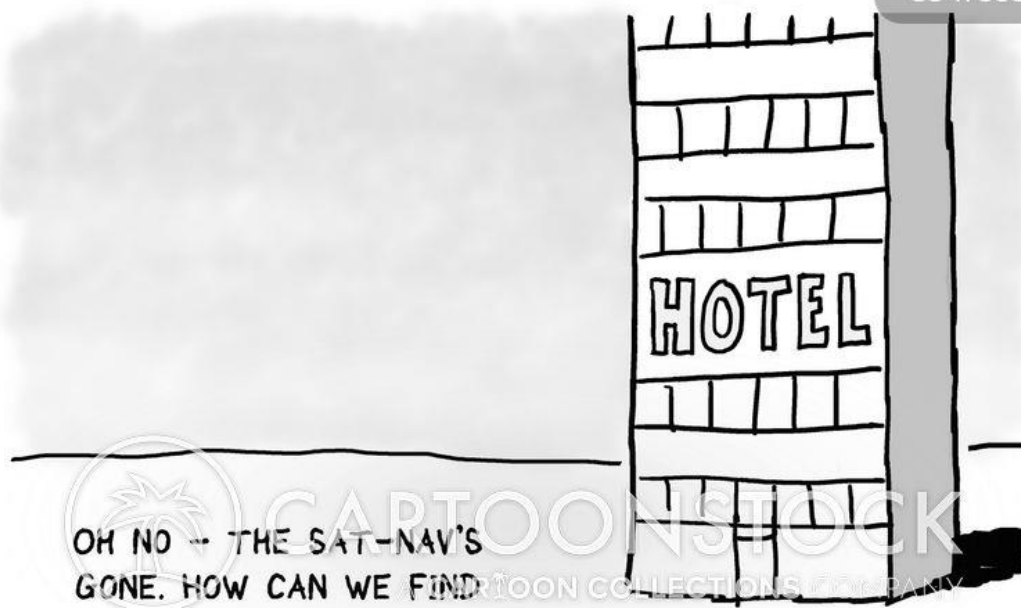
Chod/Roushi





SCOUTS ARE ATTRACTED TO FUN



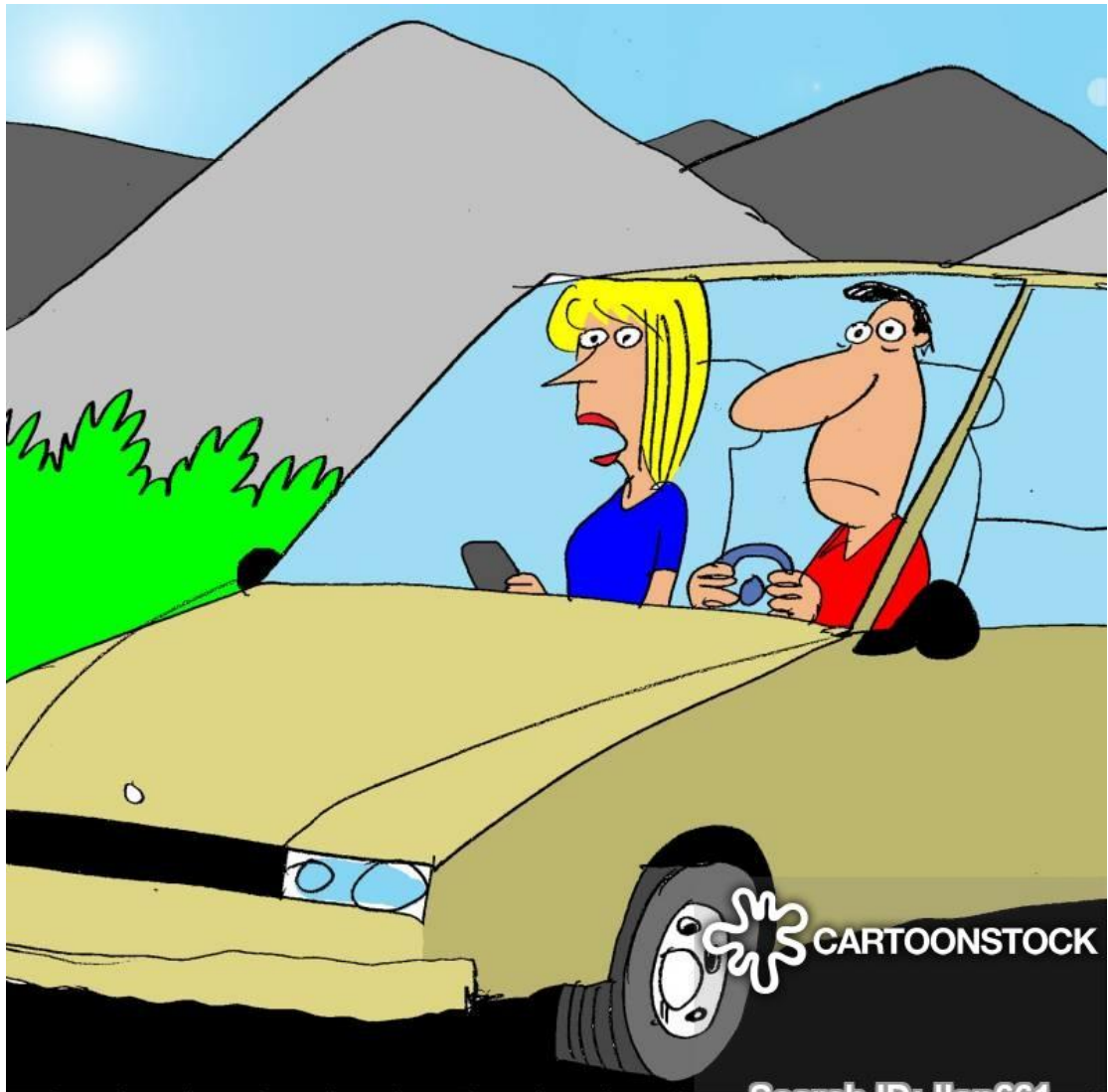


OH NO -- THE SAT-NAV'S
GONE. HOW CAN WE FIND
THE HOTEL NOW?



CHRIS
MADDEN





Search ID: llan661

*“This really is the road less traveled.
I can't find it on my Google Map.”*



"We're supposed to be going to Cornwall!
That sign back there said
'Welcome to SCOTLAND!'"