

2026 Team Trials Map and Course Setter Notes

Rutgers Mapper's Notes for Competitors by Jon Campbell

The Rutgers map is drawn to the latest IOF sprint map standards (ISSprOM 2019-2, revision 6, Jan 2024) with field checking at the beginning of April 2026 by Jon Campbell. Worthy of comment:

- There is no use of “Green 4” (IOF 411. Uncrossable vegetation or hedge, dark “black” green). Instead, the map shows forbidden areas like flower beds, private areas, etc with the more common olive color (IOF 520. Area that shall not be entered). This symbol always has a black edge line and may be exaggerated in width to be visible and clear. There is no “gotcha” mapping of out-of-bounds: it will look like areas where the gardeners would be quite unhappy if you trampled through. Hedges in the area are on the map as traditional green: slow run, walk, and fight, as appropriate.
- Light yellow (403. Rough open land) shows slower, mulched areas. The mulch in some areas consists of loose, grapefruit-sized round river rocks which are quite slow and treacherous underfoot. When there was space, stony ground black dots augment the light yellow in these areas.
- Major electrical / utility boxes are on the map as black squares (522.1 pillar symbol) if ~waist high and as min-size buildings if ~head high.
- The dark brown version of pavement shows only the most heavily travelled, “fast” roads, not every place vehicles may travel. Use common sense.
- I made no attempt to map every tree trunk on campus. If there are no trees, it's mapped as open land (401, bright yellow). If there are trees, it's mapped as white (405 forest) regardless of the ground underneath: leaf litter or grass. And if it's navigationally significant, it may be mapped as a prominent individual tree or bush. This distinction between prominent small bush or tree (418, green dot) and prominent large tree (417, green ring) is subjective, although in general a mapped large tree is big enough to fully obscure an orienteering marker (>~16”), and the symbol has to fit in the area.
- Mapped fences may be as minor as single chains strung to protect the grass from sidewalk corner cutting. Since the taglines on short segments of fence or railings (both crossable and uncrossable) cause clutter on the map, I have suppressed these taglines, turning them into walls; as usual, whether they are crossable or not depends on the main line thickness. Walls with fences on top: mapper's choice.
- Finally, what's not shown, deliberately:

- small canopies at building entrances: pavement suffices. Small canopy bus stops are on the map as small buildings, per IOF.
- benches
- building and minor campus signs
- disc golf baskets and tee-off pads
- short segments of railings and fences avoidable with a few steps of deviation or those that are redundant because they abut olive drab out-of-bounds.
- saplings and small landscaping trees, particularly if still supported with stakes
- minor curbside trees or even narrow strips of curbside grass or trees: generally irrelevant to your navigation: there's a road, there's a sidewalk, enough shown.
- powerlines, following other more prominent features. Naturally, these are all over an urban area. But, in one place on the map, the power line is shown because it's prominent (subjective).

Map and Course Notes for Competitors by Yury Tambasov

Day 1

Map of Rutgers University Cook/Douglass Campus, New Brunswick, New Jersey

IOF ISSprOM 2019-2, Scale 1:4000, H 2m

Field survey and drafting by Jonathan Campbell, April-May 2026

Widely open typical campus terrain which requires high running speed.

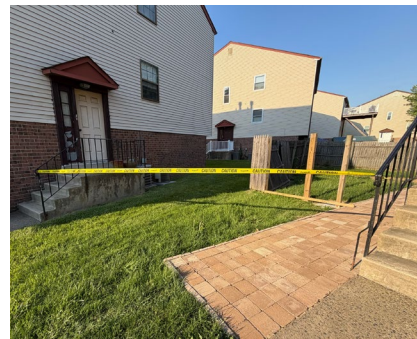
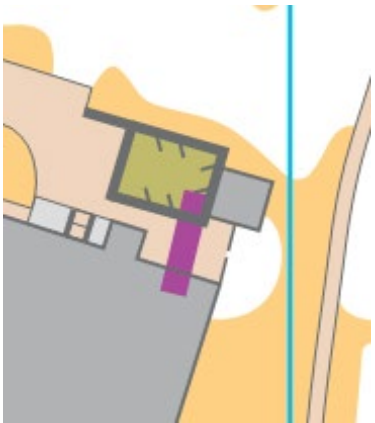
Although roads have light traffic, they should be crossed with caution as sometimes individual cars move really fast.

George St on the North is marked out-of-bounds. This road must not be crossed anywhere other than on overpass bridge. Any attempt to cross George St will result in disqualification. Running **along** George St on sidewalks or grass **is allowed**.

NO spiked shoes allowed.

Artificial barriers will be used on the course to prohibit some routes. On the map the artificial barriers are marked by purple uncrossable border symbols. In the terrain the artificial barriers will be marked by **yellow** tape about 3-4 feet above the ground.

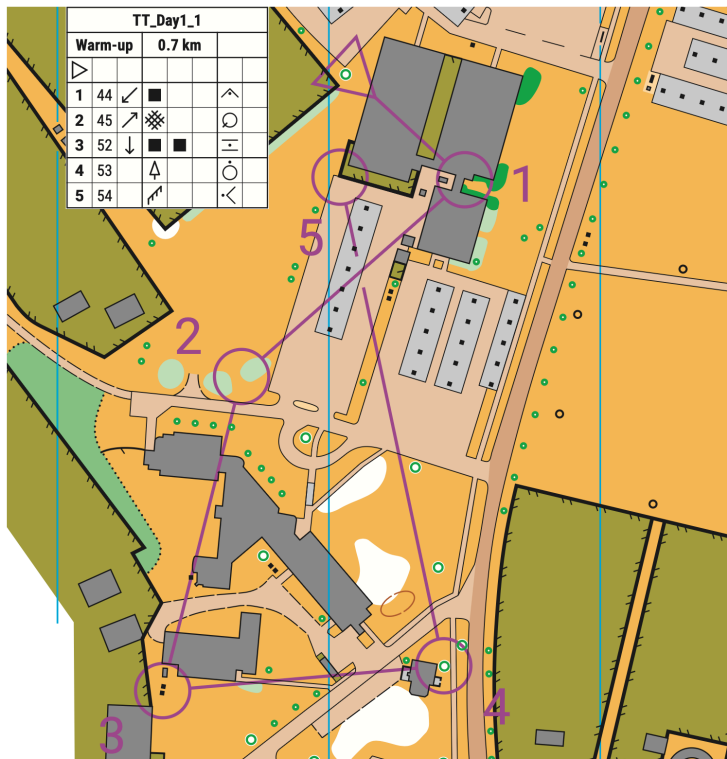
Crossing the artificial barriers will result in disqualification.



Other prohibited areas:

- Big ravine on the North is marked as temporary out-of-bounds with purple hash.
- Olive-green (permanently out-of-bounds).
- All these areas shall not be crossed. Crossing these areas will result in disqualification. Controllers will be standing in different parts of the course to enforce prohibited routes.

Warm-up map is shown below. Printed warm-up maps will be available at the arena before the race.



Day 2

Map of Ambler Arboretum of Temple University, Ambler, Pennsylvania

IOF ISSprOM 2019-2, Scale 1:4000, H 2m

Field survey and drafting by Mark Frank spring 2023

Update by Yury Tambasov May 2026

Widely open campus terrain with different (from ideally flat to rough) surfaces mixed with dense arboretum garden.

The Loop road around Arboretum has light/no traffic, but competitors should pay attention crossing this road. Meetinghouse Road on the west edge of the map has more traffic, and competitors will not cross.

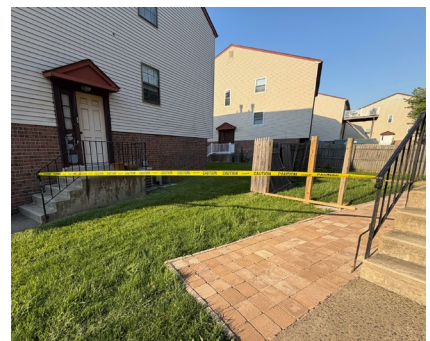
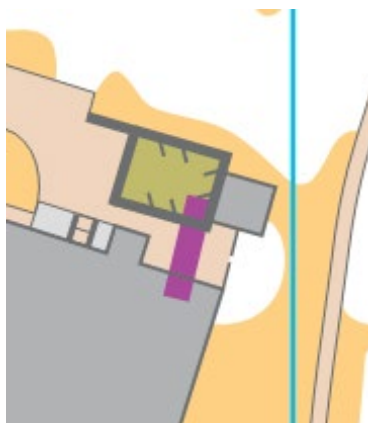
NO spiked shoes allowed! Running on the grass is allowed.

Some places the visibility is reduced in the garden areas, so competitor should pay extra caution to avoid collision with other orienteers or visitors, since Arboretum will be open to the public.

There are some short light posts along some pathways that are not shown on the map. See example below.

Artificial barriers will be used on the courses to prohibit some routes. On the map the artificial barriers are marked by purple uncrossable border symbols. In the terrain the artificial barriers will be marked by **yellow** tape about 3-4 feet above the ground

Crossing the artificial barriers will result in disqualification.



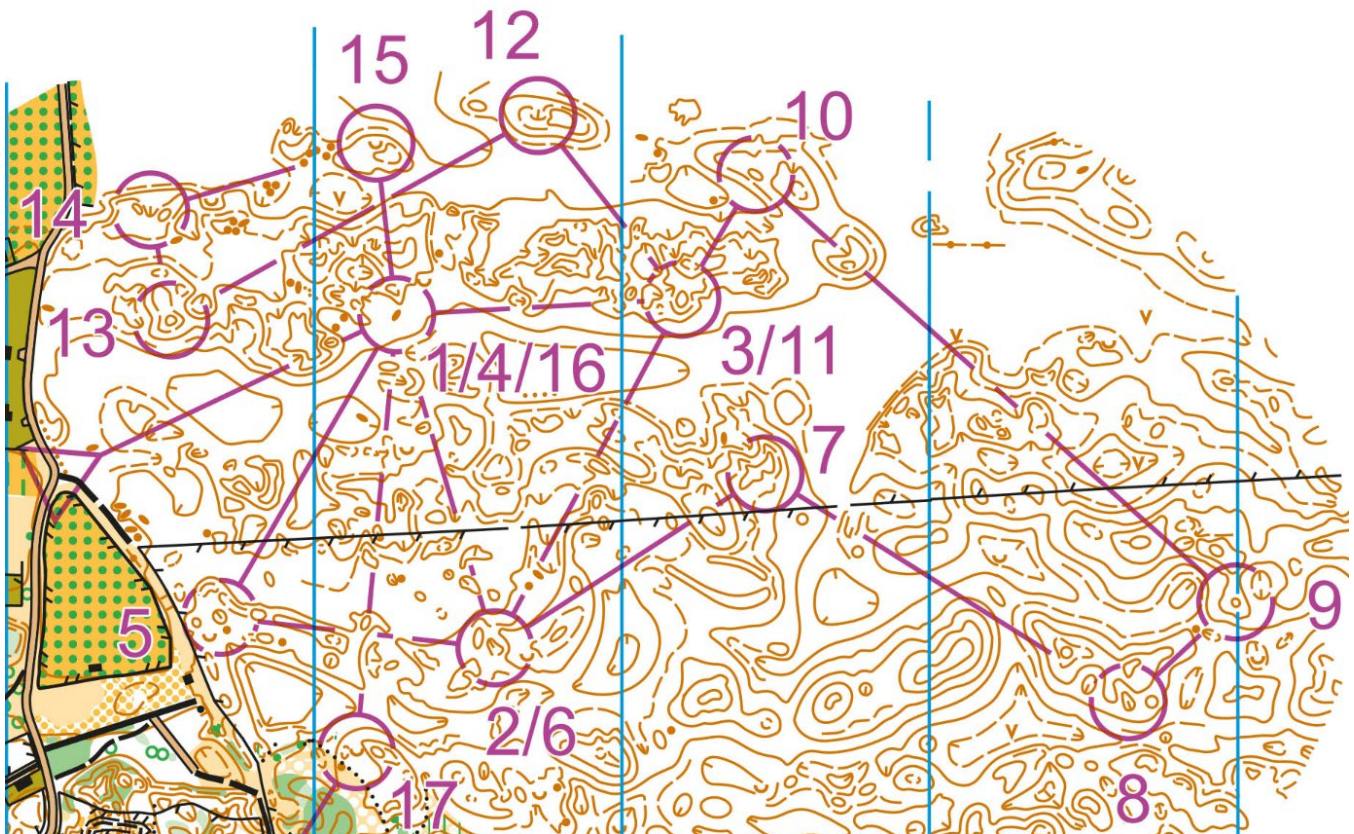
Other prohibited areas:

- Olive-green (permanently out-of-bounds).
- All these areas shall not be crossed. Crossing these areas will result in disqualification. Controllers will be standing in different parts of the course to enforce prohibited routes.

Some Arboretum facilities and places for storage will be marked as out-of-bounds on the map, but will be **NOT** marked on the terrain. Those areas will not affect competitors' routes.

For the Knockout rounds, be prepared for self-forked courses:

- Maps will be randomly shuffled and handed out at the start line. **At download, be sure to show the download crew your map before downloading, so they know which course variant you are on.**
- To get a sense of what this may look like, take a look at this sample course and ensure you understand in what order you'd need to get these controls:



Warm-up map is shown below. Printed warm-up maps will be available at arena before the race.

Temple University -Ambler Campus

Scale: 1:4000 Contour Interval: 2 m

