



COURSE RATINGS

The ratings (E, M, H, or VH) in the handbook were a collaborative effort of four participant veterans, each with roughly 23 years of experience participating in the HTC and PTC events.

To determine leg ratings, distance was considered negligible, with elevation drops and gains considered the primary influence. Two reasons for this approach: 1) captains can easily share two pieces of information about a particular leg with their walkers, and 2) we can provide a side-by-side comparison of all 12 walking assignments. While we don't expect unanimous agreement among every walker, we hope the ratings and information below will help captains make informed decisions about assigning legs.

The table below takes into account BOTH distance and terrain. The assumption used is that in relation to an "E" leg, an "M" is 10% harder, an "H" is 20% harder, and a "VH" is 30% harder. (These ratings and distances were based on the known course as of the printing deadline of this handbook).

Leg	1st Leg		Leg	2nd Leg		Total Miles	Mileage Ranking	Relative Difficulty	Difficulty Ranking
	Mileage	Rating		Mileage	Rating				
13	4.67	E	25	3.75	E	8.42	11	8.42	11
14	5.49	M	26	5.77	H	11.26	5	12.96	5
15	7.25	H	27	5.79	M	13.04	1	15.07	1
16	3.52	E	28	4.20	E	7.72	12	7.72	12
17	5.69	M	29	6.11	VH	11.80	3	14.20	3
18	4.15	H	30	5.35	M	9.50	10	10.87	10
19	5.89	VH	31	4.00	M	9.89	8	11.92	8
20	5.75	VH	32	4.09	M	9.84	9	11.97	7
21	5.00	E	33	7.72	H	12.72	2	14.26	2
22	6.81	H	34	4.13	M	10.94	6	12.72	6
23	4.18	E	35	7.28	H	11.46	4	12.98	4
24	4.92	E	36	5.23	M	10.15	7	11.28	9

Besides distance and the ratings, captains should give consideration to the following variables:

- The time of day walkers will encounter each leg
- The leg's exposure to the sun and/or wind
- Variable weather
- The walker's ability
- The walker's familiarity with the area
- Whether there is any van support on the leg
- A walker's willingness to walk on a gravel (and potentially dusty) road