

# Route Vetter's Role



Before you can participate in the TGOC Challenge your Route Sheet has to be reviewed by a Vetter, any required revision(s) incorporated and the Route Sheet 'signed off' by the Coordinators.

The Vetter's role is a vital part of the TGO Challenge safety system. The team comprises of previous Challengers who have had many years of experience walking in the Highlands both during and outwith the Challenge. They all have different styles, some will give expansive thoughts including places of interest whilst others will focus purely on the problems that may be encountered on your crossing. Their primary role is to assess and advise on the safety and feasibility of your route taking into consideration their knowledge of potential conditions underfoot and your previous experience or the least experienced member of your group. They also assess the route for clarity of description and suitability of phone in points.

The most common risk identified during the vetting process is potentially dangerous river crossings. Whilst the vetting team will pass on any knowledge they have of unsafe or unbridged crossings, they cannot know them all. You, and all of your group, must have the skills to risk assess any unbridged crossings.

No Vetter can have walked every metre of your route. At times their knowledge will be personal, at others drawn from other members of the vetting team, but often in remote areas they will be using maps and their knowledge of potentially similar areas of Scotland. Even if they have personal knowledge of an area, the passage of time may mean things have changed. Any advice must be used with common sense, considering ground and weather conditions. Ultimately you must rely on your own skills and judgment.

If you do find anything during your crossing that will be useful to the vetting team and future Challengers, please report it [here](#).

Vetters may make optional suggestions or required revisions in light of their experience and the guidelines given to them by the Coordinators. If revisions are required or you incorporate any suggestions a revised Route Sheet must be sent to the Coordinators.

We'll now hand over to your Vetter for comments specific to your route.

*Sue & Di*