



Orienteering Tasmania Inc.

Annual Report for 2020

SUPPORTED BY



**Tasmanian
Government**

*Host: 2021 Australian Orienteering
Championships*

Orienteing Tasmania Incorporated

The Board

OT Executive

President	Sally Wayte
Vice Presidents	Jo-Anne Bissett Kim Nankervis
Secretary and Public Officer	Julian Roscoe
Treasurer	Dirk Nankervis

OT Directors

Director Development	Anthony Stoner
Director Performance	Clare Hawthorne
Director Technical	Greg Hawthorne

Officers

Technical

SportIdent Equipment - South	Jeff Dunn, Martin Bicevskis
Sportident Equipment - North	Chris Brown
Sportident Equipment - North West	Jo Bissett
Mapping Officer	Greg Hawthorne
Statistician	Jeff Dunn
Event Software Manager	Greg Hawthorne
Map Printing Officer - Hobart	Mike Morffew
Map Printing Officer - Launceston	Paul Pacque

Performance

State Coaching Co-ordinator	Jon McComb
NOL & JNOL Coach	Brodie Nankervis
School Team Coach	Jon McComb
NOL/JNOL Manager	Brodie Nankervis

School Team Manager	Sussan Best
Chair of Selectors	Kim Nankervis
Awards Coordinator	Cathy McComb

Development

Marketing & Communications Manager	vacant
Newsletter Editor & website news	Mary Hawthorne/Sally Wayte
Facebook	Miriam Palmer
Outreach Manager	Mike Calder
OA Magazine Liaison	Bert Elson
Permanent Course Manager	Bert Elson
Sporting Schools Coordinator	Jane Calder
Twilight Series Manager - Hobart	Mike and Jane Calder
Twilight Series Manager - Launceston	Christine Brown

Calendar & IT Services

Event Program Coordinator	Kim Nankervis
Eventor Administrator	Ian Rathbone
Website Managers	Ian Rathbone, Bernard Walker
Event Information & Results	Jeff Dunn
Membership Manager	Bert Elson

Member Protection Information Officers

MPIO - North	Peter Hoban
MPIO - North West	Jo Bissett
MPIO - South	Sue Hancock

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Last year in the annual report I described 2019 as 'an enjoyable year of business-as-usual'. That is not how anyone would describe 2020! We started the year with a full program of events planned, and keenly anticipating hosting the 2020 Australian Orienteering Championships (AOC). Instead, in late March, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we cancelled all events until further notice, and in mid-May announced the cancellation of the 2020 Championships. With the support of Orienteering Australia and other state associations, the Championships were able to be postponed for a year and we are now looking forward to hosting the Australian Championships this year.

Events

We were fortunate in Tasmania to have only a four month break from our usual event program during the COVID lockdown, and we were doubly fortunate that for most of that time we were able to find alternative ways to feed our orienteeing addiction. In Hobart enthusiastic volunteers taped numerous courses in the bush that we were able to download from the website, run on our own, and even compete by uploading our times to a spreadsheet. Thanks to Cathy McComb, Mike Calder and Bernard Walker who were the main enablers of this enjoyable series. In Launceston, orienteeers had the option to do several MapRun courses.

We ended up running 11 statewide Orienteering Series Tasmania (OST) and 49 local events, including the 'Carnival That Never Was' in St Helens in September - a very enjoyable local replacement for the AOC, coordinated by Christine Brown. We ran all four State Championships, although it was a close thing with the Middle Champs. Originally scheduled to be at Rajah Rock as part of the AOC carnival, we instead moved it to Littlechild Creek during the Carnival That Never Was, where it was cancelled due to high winds. Jon McComb and Peter Cusick came to the rescue, and (third-time lucky) a successful event was finally held at Pittwater in October.

Board Governance

The Board operated throughout 2020 with all positions filled. The Board held six full meetings – two via video-conference during lockdown, two in person and two with a combination of in-person and video-conference.

The first meeting of the new Board was dominated by the discussion of how and when to make a decision on the possible cancellation of AOC. The second meeting made the decision to cancel (which looks obvious in hindsight, but was very difficult at the time, especially as the COVID situation in Australia was looking good at that time). We also spent time developing OT's 'Return to Play' and COVID-Safety Plans as required by the State Government. Thanks especially to OT secretary Julian Roscoe who as our nominated COVID-safety coordinator took the lead on this activity.

Other Board initiatives were: the restructure of the OST series, led by Performance Director Clare Hawthorne; changes to our Constitution (on which you will shortly be asked to vote) led by Julian Roscoe; and the creation of a regular Technical Bulletin. We thank Lindsay Pender for taking on the editorship of this bulletin which we hope will fill a John Brammall-sized hole in providing technical information to organisers. We also dealt with the usual business of

Government grants, developing the calendar, updating policies, technical issues, overviewing finances, and discussing how to get more people orienteering.

Orienteering Tasmania continues to be highly-regarded for its management and governance practices and processes; meeting Sport Australia and Tasmanian Community Sport and Recreation requirements. We continue to maintain our land use agreement with the Parks and Wildlife Service.

Government grants

In 2020 OT received \$21,000 of funding provided via the Tasmanian Government Community Sport and Recreation annual grant program. These funds were met on a dollar for dollar basis by OT and used for mapping, supporting training camps, the Coach-in-Residence program, running introductory programs for school groups, as well as communication and promotion.

AOC Event Director Warwick Moore was also successful in obtaining a \$5000 COVID Event-Ready Grant to assist with developing COVID-safe procedures for AOC.

Grants previously received for AOC have been able to be rolled over to 2021.

Orienteering Australia

To continue to conduct orienteering in Tasmania, we need to maintain our strong affiliation with Orienteering Australia. This requires us to pay certain fees and levies to help fund the work of Orienteering Australia. In return we are eligible to be represented at the Orienteering Australia AGM and at the Orienteering Australia Annual Conference as well as conduct national events.

In 2020 the OA Annual Conference was replaced by a number of online workshops held in November and early December. Most Board members attended one or more of these useful sessions.

Conclusion

The reports of our three Directors and the Treasurer follow. Anthony Stoner will report on the Development portfolio, Clare Hawthorne on Performance, Greg Hawthorne on Technical matters, and Dirk Nankervis has provided the Finance report.

Thanks to all Board members for all your contributions last year – it's been a pleasure working with you all in what was a challenging year for the Board. I'd also like to acknowledge AOC Director Warwick Moore and Australian Schools Champs coordinator Meisha Austin for the significant amount of extra work they've had to put in due to the postponement of the AOC.

And thanks to everyone else for the enormous amount of good-humoured effort, energy and enthusiasm that you contribute to our sport.

Sally Wayte
President

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The goal of the Development portfolio is to increase the number of people coming in to orienteering through exposure to orienteering events, publicity and marketing. We have a social media presence as well as physical marketing materials, and we run programs with schools and other organisations.

Sporting Schools and Outreach

The Sporting Schools and Outreach programs expose large numbers of students to orienteering through orienteering events run specifically for each school. In 2020 we ran orienteering courses at 19 schools.

Sporting Schools is funded by the federal government and allows primary schools to contract sporting organisations to conduct activities within their school. Orienteering is one of the 32 sports participating in Sporting Schools.

Outreach funding was no longer available from OA in 2020, and was instead paid for through OT grant funds.

Both programs were again run exceptionally well by Mike and Jane Calder, with the help in 2020 of 13 coaches: Mike Calder, Jane Calder, Joe Dickinson, Jo Bissett, Rod Bissett, Mikayla Cooper, Will Whittington, Mark Hey, Eleanor McLean, Arabella Phillips, Zoe Dowling, Kilian Lilje, and Cathy McComb.

Sporting Schools	Outreach
Campbell Town DHS	Hutchins
New Town PS	St Brendan Shaw College
Waimea Heights	Taroona HS
Goulburn St PS	Parklands HS
Stella Maris	Elizabeth College
Tarremah School	Burnie High School
St James Cygnet	Hellyer College
South Hobart Primary	Andrews Creek PS
Bagdad Primary	Parklands HS
Newstead Christian College	

Thanks to Jane and Mike Calder for continuing to managing the Sporting Schools and Outreach program so effectively.

New 'Orienteering in Schools' Program

During 2020 Orienteering Australia developed a new 'Orienteering in Schools' program, which defines a new approach to delivering introductory orienteering activities to primary and secondary schools.

The new program enables schools to run orienteering events themselves or to engage our coaches. This will allow us to provide orienteering events for schools even if we don't have a coach available, and we can also provide a coach if schools prefer that model and we have a coach available.

Jane Calder was part of the team that developed the program and was also involved in the pilot program to test it. Thank you to Jane for representing Tasmania in the development of the new program.

Permanent Courses

2020 saw a total of 681 permanent course downloads, across the north and south of the state. Thanks to John Brock for taking the initiative to set up two Launceston permanent courses using the iOrienteering app.

Map Kit	2020	2019	2018
Domain Permanent Courses Map Kit	212	97	111
Gordons Hill Permanent Course Map Kit	105	64	-
Upper Ridgeway Permanent Courses Map Kit	94	71	105
Waterworks Permanent Course Map Kit	136	63	-
Tailrace Park	52	-	-
Windsor Precinct	82	-	-
Grand Total	681	295	216

If we compare just the southern course downloads between 2019 and 2020, it went from 295 to 547, which is a significant increase.

Users now have to complete a short survey before they download a map kit. This tells us how people are using the maps – for personal or teaching purposes, how many people are using a single download and whether the users are regular orienteers. Thanks to Bernard Walker for setting this up. The figures are summarised below:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Sum of number attending</u>
Both	448
Personal	1088
Teaching	680
Grand Total	2216

COVID Semi-Permanent Courses

With the COVID-19 lockdown, several of our members set up semi-permanent courses so that orienteering didn't have to completely stop. Thanks to Bert Elson, Mike Calder, Cathy and Jon McComb, Ainsley and James Scott, Lucy Hawthorne, Will Whittington and Lindsay Pender for setting 22 courses, across 7 events – the ISO 3 Day (3), Corona Cup (4), Covid Canter (4), Dark OFO (3), Recovery Romp (4), December DIY (3), and World O Day (1).

We didn't publicise the earlier events but did so once lockdown restrictions eased and participation numbers for the publicised courses were actually higher than normal local events.

Participation

Thanks to Ian Rathbone for the Orienteering Australia participation reports which provided the base data for the summary below.

2020 (2019) (2018) (2017) (2016) (2015)

	Events	Competitors	Competitors/Event	% Change
OST	11 (14) (10) (13) (13) (17)	1016 (1288) (891) (1179) (1254) (1379)	92 (92) (89) (91) (90) (81)	0
Northern Twilight	12 (14) (12) (12) (11) (12)	507 (569) (424) (513) (513) (461)	42 (41) (35) (43) (47) (38)	0
Southern Twilight	11 (15) (11) (15) (14) (15)	1955 (2457) (1818) (2607) (2859) (2533)	178 (164) (165) (174) (204) (169)	+8.5
Northwest Twilight	0 (4)	0 (30)	0 (7.5)	n/a
Northern Local	2 (4) (4) (5) (5) (6)	42 (77) (119) (96) (150) (143)	21 (19) (30) (19) (30) (24)	+10
Southern Local	13 (12) (14) (10) (16) (9)	1223 (884) (894) (804) (1206) (645)	94 (74) (64) (80) (75) (72)	+27
Northwest Local	5 (6) (8) (6) (9) (3)	112 (97) (126) (194) (26)	22 (12) (21) (22) (9)	+83
Southern Saturday	(5) (3) (5) (7) (6)	(374) (247) (423) (730) (507)	(75) (82) (85) (104) (85)	n/a
Summer Cup (EVT)	4 (6)	102 (240)	26 (40)	-35
Launceston Sprint Extravaganza	(6)	(285)	(47.5)	n/a
Not the Auschamps	2	122	61	n/a

Notes: There was no Launceston Sprint Extravaganza. 'Not the Auschamps' was a one off series, with one event cancelled due to weather conditions. There were no Northwest Twilight events.

Membership

OT Membership

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
MEMBERS	358	320	288	327	295	267	257	287
% Change	+12%	+11%						

Club Membership

Club	2020	2019	2018	2017
ALT	264	236	176	192
EVT	63	62	54	72
PFT	31	18	10	8
WRT	-	-	48	55
TOTAL	358	320	288	327

Publicity

Publicity is managed through our website, Facebook, and the weekly newsletter. Thanks to Mary Hawthorne for taking on the website and newsletter last year, and to Miriam Palmer who continues to maintain our Facebook presence.

Australian Orienteer

During the year we received and distributed four editions of Australian Orienteer. Thanks again to Bert for handling the distribution of paper copies.

Conclusion

Our membership and participation numbers overall have increased for another year, which is great. It's impossible to know how much of that increase is due to COVID-19 restrictions on other activities but hopefully we retain some newcomers. Numbers from the Hobart twilight events this year are up and have broken the attendance record twice already.

Anthony Stoner

Director, Development

PERFORMANCE REPORT

In a year of very little interstate and overseas competition, Tasmanian athletes had limited opportunities to shine in 2020.

Fortunately, we were able to send a full Foresters team to compete in the first NOL race of the year, the Melbourne Sprints held in early March 2020. Little did we know that this would be our last interstate competition for quite some time.

We were also fortunate to have Brodie Nankervis take on the role of Foresters manager. Brodie will continue this role in 2021, which should see an invigorated team and a new batch of juniors stepping up to fill the shoes of their high-performing predecessors.

At the Melbourne Sprints, Anna Dowling performed well in W21E to just miss out on a top 10 position, finishing 11th overall. In M21E, Joe Dickinson also had a great result, finishing in 10th place. As an organiser, Brodie didn't compete in enough races to be competitive overall, but placed consistently highly in individual races, gaining the Foresters valuable points.

The W20E class was dominated by Mikayla Cooper, who won three out of six races in a very competitive field, easily winning overall. In M20E, Jack Wickham was our best placed junior male in 16th place overall.

But it was the NOL relay in which the Foresters really shone. In a moving tribute to Hannah Goddard, all the M/W21 team members wore black armbands for the mixed relay, with our number 1 team finishing in second place. Several tears were shed before and after the race.

Tasmanians also performed well in other age classes, with Niko Stoner coming in equal 2nd place overall in the senior boys, a mere point ahead of Jett McComb in 4th. Charlie Cooper finished a

commendable 3rd in the Junior Boys, while Sue Hancock took out 2nd place in W50. Cathy McComb and Clare Hawthorne proved yet again that they are very difficult to tell apart, tying for first place in W40.

Coaching

For the first time in a number of years, we did not have an international coach-in-residence for the latter part of the year. Jon McComb continued to support us with his excellent coaching wherever possible, and we engaged Mikayla Cooper to provide local coaching in the Hobart area for the first part of this year. Jon also organised and ran the annual junior training camp in St Helens in January 2021. A huge thanks, as always, to Jon for his enthusiasm, expertise and relentless ~~whip-cracking~~ hard work.

Schools Championships

It was clearly a great disappointment to many juniors who missed out on a 'home ground' Schools Championships in 2020. This was particularly difficult for a number of our juniors who were in Year 12 last year and are therefore ineligible to compete in 2021. Our focus is now on ensuring that those juniors stay in the sport, either as casual competitors or performance-focused young adults aiming for JWOC and beyond.

Clare Hawthorne

Director, Performance

TECHNICAL REPORT

Mapping

Mapping activity for 2020 was mainly confined to urban areas, however two new bush maps were introduced in 2020 - *Randalls Bay*, used for an entertaining Tasmanian sprint championships, and *Siamese*, an extension to the *Golden Fleece* map, provided at least one new map for our Australian championships alternative 'Carnival That Never Was' at St Helens in October. The updated *Russell's Plains* map was used for the Tasmanian long distance championships.

Restrictions on social gatherings meant that the normal orienteering competitions were suspended for a while, which provided the impetus for DIY orienteering and a couple of micro-maps of small but detailed areas were produced – many thanks to Cathy McComb for producing the Kingston Wetlands and Cascade Gardens maps, as well as the Kingston Beach Foreshore map used for the street-O score event in November.

Technical training

An event organisation/course planning/controlling course was run for orienteers in the Hobart area, and Jenny Casanova (Orienteering Australia Technical Director) conducted an advanced controlling course for our Level Three controllers.

Greg Hawthorne

Director, Technical

FINANCIAL REPORT

Orienteering Tasmania remains in a strong financial position with around \$120,000 in the bank at the end of 2020.

Despite the challenges faced by all of us last year, OT has made a 'trading profit' of \$20,691. This amount can effectively be reduced by \$9,406 Tax payment in early January.

The surplus was due to items such as an ATO cash boost, and then other reduced expenses such as NOL/JNOL support and support for Schools Teams. We have been able include the AOC mapping expenses into the 2020 expenses and still achieve a surplus.

Orienteering Tasmania has continued to invest funds into development programmes such as coach-in-residence, Sporting Schools and Outreach, and I would expect these to continue into the future.

As stated last year, after this year's Australian Championships, we have no major carnivals scheduled for several years, so decisions may need to be made in regards to whether we continue with our current spending and/or put up our membership and entry fees.

The changes to our Chart of Accounts have worked well and we have registered for GST. This was backdated to 1st January 2019. So far the registration for GST has had only a minor effect on our operation, but we will be monitoring this into the future.

Dirk Nankervis
Treasurer