



Orienteering Tasmania Inc.

Annual Report for 2021

SUPPORTED BY



**Tasmanian
Government**

*Host: 2023 Oceania Orienteering
Championships*

Orienteering 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

COVID Safety Officer	Julian Roscoe
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Technical

SportIdent Equipment - South	Jeff Dunn, Martin Bicevskis
Sportident Equipment - North	Chris Brown
Sportident Equipment - North West	Jo Bissett
Mapping Officer	Greg Hawthorne
Technical News Editor	Lindsay Pender
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
Assistant Coach	Anthony Stoner
NOL & JNOL Manager	Brodie Nankervis
School Team Manager	Sussan Best
Assistant School Team Manager	Alison Stubbs
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

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

Member Protection Information Officers

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As we enter our 50th year, orienteering in Tasmania is in a strong and healthy position, despite the challenges of the past two years.

AOC and TCTNWB

After the disappointment of postponing the 2020 Australian Orienteering Championships (AOC) due to COVID-19, we started 2021 eagerly anticipating hosting AOC2021 in September. Planning resumed, the logo was tweaked, entries opened, and by the end of May almost 600 people had entered. Considerable effort went into the development of a COVID-safe event plan (thanks Julian and Warwick). In July it became apparent that New Zealanders would not be able to attend the carnival, and by early August the COVID Delta outbreak meant that it was likely that orienteers from NSW, Victoria and ACT would not be able to attend due to border closures. On August 22 the OT Board, in conjunction with AOC Director Warwick Moore, reluctantly made the decision to cancel the AOC.

I'd like to acknowledge again 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 and then cancellation of the AOC. Warwick scrupulously communicated personally with all the many stakeholders, ensuring we maintain good relationships which will stand us in good stead into the future.

We decided to reserve the planned Australian Long, Middle and Relay Championship events in the hope that they could be used at a future carnival. We hastily re-organised the Tasmanian Middle Distance Championships, the AOC model event (that became an ingenious score event) and the Schools Championship public events (the Turbo Chook 3-Days) into The Carnival That Never Will Be (TCTNWB). Almost 200 people took part in this Carnival, including an appreciative group of 56 mainland orienteers from those states that could still travel to Tasmania.

Typically we plan to deliver a moderate profit from running a major carnival in order to cover expenses in intervening years and fund future map production. To mitigate against making a loss on the carnival, OT approached Orienteering Australia for some funding support, and were offered \$7000 from the Moira Whiteside Bequest. We also offered the option for entrants to donate part of their entry fee to us as a tax-deductible donation via the Australian Sports Foundation. In all, 36% of entrants made donations, resulting in approximately \$10 000 income added to the balance sheet. We are grateful that the State Government did not require us to refund grants, and even granted us another almost \$5000 towards the staging of TCTNWB. Taking into account profits made from TCTNWB, the final budget outcome for the two carnivals is a small surplus of about \$1500. This is of course much less than we had hoped for, but we still have the assets of the unused new maps and planned events. Christine Marshall will present more details in the Financial Report.

After the 2022 Oceania Championships in NZ were cancelled in late 2021, the opportunity arose for OT to use our reserved AOC events to host Oceania in January 2023. Most volunteers from AOC have agreed to continue their roles. We have now made a formal offer to run Oceania, and have appointed Event Director Christine Brown who is full-steam ahead with planning.

Events

In 2021 we ran 8 OST events, 4 State Championship events, 37 local or other events, and 27 Twilight events across the State. Development Director Anthony Stoner will provide more detail on events, membership, participation and Sporting Schools. Participation numbers have increased across nearly all event types, and membership numbers are the highest they've been for many years.

2021 was the first year of our re-structured OST series, where competitors can enter any course regardless of age class. A survey on the new OST structure showed an overall strong positive response. As a result of the feedback received, we have tweaked the OST course structure slightly for 2022.

Board Governance

The Board operated throughout 2021 with all positions filled. The Board held six full meetings all with a combination of in-person and video-conference.

As was the case in 2020, much time was spent discussing the planning for AOC, deciding whether to cancel AOC and dealing with the aftermath of cancelling of the AOC. Other issues dealt with by the Board were: development of a new three year Strategic Plan; the OST feedback survey; the development of a more general survey; review of membership fees; updated Search & Rescue and Safety policies; grant applications; Oceania 2023; and of course the usual business of overseeing finances, reporting to government bodies, development of the calendar, technical issues and policy updates.

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

Government grants

In 2021 OT received \$21,000 of funding provided via the Tasmanian Government Sport and Recreation annual grant program.

We also retained \$38,000 in State Government grants provided for running AOC, and were granted another \$4930 for TCTNWB.

Orienteering Australia

To continue to conduct orienteering in Tasmania, we need to maintain our strong affiliation with Orienteering Australia. This requires us to pay 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 2021 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.

Farewell

We were saddened by the death in October of long-time Australopers member Tony Mount, at the age of 90. Tony was one of the stalwarts of orienteering in Tasmania, having started orienteering with his wife Sue in 1973. He was president of OT in 1975, 1976 and 1989 and was made a Life Member of Orienteering Tasmania in 1985. Among his many orienteering successes were winning the Australian Long Distance Championship in his age class 12 times, and the Easter 3 Days 12 times, most recently in 2018 in Tasmania. With Sue (who passed away in 2019) Tony was always very enthusiastic about welcoming newcomers to the sport, and teaching the art of orienteering. He even wrote an Australopers club song, full of brilliant orienteering advice. You can find it on the Australopers web page. We'll miss him.

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 Christine Marshall and Dirk Nankervis have provided the Finance report.

We have a number of Board members leaving this year, and we thank them very much for their hard work during their tenure and particularly in the last two challenging years. Thanks must go to Dirk Nankervis, our Treasurer for the last three years; Greg Hawthorne who has been Technical Director for five years; Clare Hawthorne, our Performance Director for three years, and Kim Nankervis, vice-president for three years. You'll be pleased to know that Anthony Stoner, Julian Roscoe and Jo Bissett are continuing their Board roles, and we have received nominations for all vacant positions.

I've reached the end of my term as President, so thanks for putting up with me, it's been a privilege. Thanks to all Board members for your hard work and contributions – it's been a pleasure working with you all. I wish the new Board all the best.

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 2021 we ran orienteering courses at 26 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.

Both programs were again run exceptionally well by Mike and Jane Calder, with the help of 11 coaches and mappers: Mike Calder, Jane Calder, Joe Dickinson, Jo Bissett, Rod Bissett, Mikayla Cooper, Mark Hey, Eleanor McLean, Cathy McComb, Greg Hawthorne and Paul Pacque.

Sporting Schools	Outreach Schools
Cygnets PS	Hutchins
Glen Huon PS	Taroona
Mt Nelson PS	Calvin Senior School *
Calvin Christian School	Burnie HS
Lenah Valley PS	Elizabeth College
Albuera St	Marist Regional College
Andrews Creek PS	St Brendan Shaw College
Montello PS	Lilydale
Moonah PS	
Kempton PS	
Franklin PS	
Hilliard Christian School	
Glenorchy PS	
Molesworth PS	
Goodwood	
Orford	
Calvin Senior School*	
Sacred Heart Catholic School	
Geneva Christian School	
Total	8

* both Sporting Schools and Outreach

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

Permanent Courses

2021 saw a total of 757 (up on 681 in 2020) permanent course downloads, across the north and south of the state, the increase attributable to the new courses created in the north by John Brock.

Map Kit	2021	2020	2019	2018
Domain Permanent Courses Map Kit	107	212	97	111
Gordons Hill Permanent Course Map Kit	49	105	64	-
Upper Ridgeway Permanent Courses Map Kit	72	94	71	105
Waterworks Permanent Course Map Kit	107	136	63	
Tailrace Park	71	52		
Windsor Precinct	62	82		
Royal Park	48			
Riverbend	52			
Punchbowl	77			
Heritage Forest Mowbray	52			
Heritage Forest Invermay	60			
Grand Total	757	681	295	216

The short survey that users complete before they download a map kit tells us how people are using the maps – for personal use, for teaching or for both:

Personal Use	578
Teaching	121
Both	58

Participation

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

2021 (2020) (2019) (2018) (2017) (2016) (2015)

Event Type	Events	Competitors	Competitors/Event	% Change
OST	8 (11) (14) (10) (13) (13) (17)	820 (1016) (1288) (891) (1179) (1254) (1379)	102.5 (92) (92) (89) (91) (90) (81)	11.4
Tas Champs	3	402	134	n/a
Northern Twilight	12 (12) (14) (12) (12) (11) (12)	578 (507) (569) (424) (513) (513) (461)	48.2 (42) (41) (35) (43) (47) (38)	14.8
Southern Twilight	12 (11) (15) (11) (15) (14) (15)	2204 (1955) (2457) (1818) (2607) (2859) (2533)	184 (178) (164) (165) (174) (204) (169)	3.4
Northwest Twilight	5 (0) (4)	92 (0) (30)	18.4 (0) (7.5)	n/a
Northern Local	2 (2) (4) (4) (5) (5) (6)	54 (42) (77) (119) (96) (150) (143)	27 (21) (19) (30) (19) (30) (24)	28.5
Southern Local	15 (13) (12) (14) (10) (16) (9)	1213 (1223) (884) (894) (804) (1206) (645)	81 (94) (74) (64) (80) (75) (72)	-14
Northwest Local	8 (5) (6) (8) (6) (9) (3)	188 (112) (97) (126) (194) (26)	23.5 (22) (12) (21) (22) (9)	7
Southern Saturday	3 (5) (3) (5) (7) (6)	295 (374) (247) (423) (730) (507)	98 (75) (82) (85) (104) (85)	31

Summer Cup (EVOC)	4 (4) (6)	187 (102) (240)	47 (26) (40)	80
Launceston Sprint Weekend	4	312	78	n/a
Carnival that never will be	4	469		n/a
Tas Schools Champs	1	137	137	n/a

Membership

OT Membership

(end year)	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Members	373	325	320	288	327	295	267	257
% Change	+14.8%	1.6%	+11%					
Casual Members	428	374						
Total	801	699						

Note: 2020 membership numbers have been amended.

There were 48 new full members and 54 new casual members.

Club Membership

Club	2021	2020	2019	2018
ALT	273	242	236	176
EVT	59	57	62	54
PFT	41	26	18	10
TOTAL	373	325	320	288

Survey

For the first time in several years we conducted a survey of OT members and casuals. We received 136 responses. Thanks to everyone who responded. Pleasingly one of the highlights was that 76.5% rated their satisfaction with orienteering events at 8, 9 or 10 out of 10.

Publicity

Publicity is managed through our website, Facebook, and the weekly email newsletter. Thanks to Mary Hawthorne for managing the web news and newsletter again this year, and to Miriam Palmer who continued to maintain our Facebook presence.

Australian Orienteer

During the year we received and distributed 4 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. Numbers from the Hobart Twilight events this year are up and have broken the attendance record again.

Anthony Stoner

Director, Development

PERFORMANCE REPORT

In 2021, for the second year in a row, our ability to attend national and international competitions was severely curtailed by state and federal border closures and lockdowns in response to COVID-19.

Most disappointing for all of us was the forced cancellation of the Australian Championships Carnival for the second time. From a performance perspective, this profoundly affected our junior orienteers, many of whom have now left school, and will never have the opportunity to compete in the 'senior' class in the Australian Schools Championship.

Nonetheless, I'd like to personally congratulate all the athletes who made the schools team in 2020 or 2021 – despite not being able to compete, this is a fantastic achievement that all team members should be proud of. I'd also like to thank our coaches – in particular Jon McComb, Anthony Stoner and everyone else who helped out on the camps – and managers Meisha Austin, Sussan Best and assistant manager Ali Stubbs for doing an amazing job keeping our juniors motivated when morale was surely at its lowest.

All was not entirely lost, however, with The Carnival That Never Will Be proving to be a fun, exciting and challenging series of races – enhanced greatly by the participation of fifty interstate competitors who, due to the great lockdown lottery, were able to travel freely to Tasmania at the time.

Earlier in 2021, the forecast still looked bright for the orienteering calendar when NSW successfully hosted the Australian 3-days at Orange. All three forest races were held on extremely challenging terrain, where many Tasmanians were able to demonstrate their superior command of complex granite.

Special mention must be made of our junior orienteers, who performed exceptionally well on very difficult courses, in particular Niko Stoner, Eddie Stoner, Jett McComb, Zali McComb, Julia Powell-Davies, Arabella Phillips, Tara Powell and Liana Stubbs, who all achieved a top five place in their respective age classes.

Our National Orienteering League (NOL) and Junior NOL teams also acquitted themselves well in early 2021. Under the enthusiastic management of Brodie Nankervis, we were able to field competitors in all of the ten races.

In the JNOL competition, Mikayla Cooper finished third overall, while Arabella Phillips finished strongly in sixth place. In the men's JNOL, Will Whittington ran consistently to finish in 11th place overall. Unfortunately for Tasmania, Brodie – who finished 3rd overall in the senior men's NOL – was running for the Victorian Nuggets. However, I am happy to announce that in a lucrative transfer deal, Brodie will be running for the Foresters in 2022.

Sadly, the same can't be said for women's NOL winner Grace Crane, who, despite having an impeccable Tasmanian orienteering pedigree, now runs for the Canberra Cockatoos. I am assured her parents are not to blame.

Due to the ongoing uncertainty of COVID, Orienteering Australia elected not to send a team to the World Orienteering Championships (WOC) or the Junior WOC in 2021, however they did name a merit team for both events.

For the senior world championships, Brodie Nankervis was named in the merit team. As the reigning Oceania sprint and long-distance champion, Brodie had automatically qualified for a place in the WOC sprint and long-distance races. Grace Crane was also named in the merit team.

For the junior world championships, Arabella Phillips and Mikayla Cooper were named in the JWOC merit team. Congratulations Brodie, Grace, Arabella and Mikayla.

When it comes to national team representation, Tasmania has always punched well above its weight, particularly with JWOC representatives. It's looking more and more hopeful that we will have a full complement of national events this year, and with a number of our promising young athletes vying for WOC and JWOC selection, we look forward to seeing that trend continue in 2022.

Coaching

- A training camp in January was attended by 22 juniors
- A women's coaching weekend in June was attended by 33 women
- A Schools Team training camp in June was attended by 19 juniors
- A Schools Team training camp in September was attended by 20 juniors
- Regular coaching and fitness training sessions are open to all members.

Clare Hawthorne

Director, Performance

TECHNICAL REPORT

Mapping

Mapping in 2021 was confined to urban and school mapping, with three new maps produced for the Launceston sprint weekend and numerous school maps produced for the Sporting Schools Program in Hobart, Launceston, and the North West. Many thanks to Paul Pacque, Joe Dickinson, Mark West, Jo and Rod Bissett, and Mike Morffew for their mapping work. Thanks also to Mike and Paul for organising the map printing for the 100+ events organised in the state.

Information Technology

Considerable effort was put into upgrading OT's IT equipment in preparation for the Australian Championships. Although it was just one more area where the cancellation of the championships resulted in frustration for those involved, the knowledge gained will be useful when OT hosts its next major competition.

A big thank you to Andrew Barber for his assessment and refurbishing of our PC stock; Bernard Walker and Ian Rathbone for their work in bringing on-line arena results to events; and Kate Lucas for her efforts in setting up the download systems for the championships.

Technical training

Due to the work involved in preparing for the Australian Championships Carnival, there were no controller workshops provided in 2021, however Lindsay Pender has co-ordinated our Technical Newsletter which provides both hints and tips, along with more formal rules-based advice.

Greg Hawthorne

Director, Technical