

DECEMBER DOCUMENT 2004

DOC Coaching Weekend

11/12th December.

Is now full!

Thanks to the 30 who have put their name down.
Looking forward to a great weekend with lots of sun!
More info will be e mailed out to participants this week.

Brian Buschl.

From the President

Myles Thayer.

This month saw the finish of our Orienteer of the Year series at Christies Gully. Elsewhere in this DOCument are the points for this year's series. Congratulations to all the winner and place-getters.

When I first joined the Dunedin Orienteering Club, Christies Gully had a reputation for always having rain. In fact I remember a NZ Masters Games event there in the late 1990s that was held during a drought and it rained solidly all day. Anyway I'd like to thank George and Richard for not only planning the interesting and challenging courses but also for putting on such beautiful weather. Many thanks to the Grant family for hosting us afterwards for a barbecue. The club doesn't have many social events (something we would like to rectify) so it was a great opportunity to spend some time together and share our experiences of the day, etc.

Also in this issue is the latest version of the 2005 Event Programme. Of note is the change of dates and place for the Otago Championships weekend. It is now at Queenstown on 12th and 13th February. We are aware there have been several changes and this has been quite confusing but the opportunity to have our major event of the year on new maps is really too good to pass up. Please have a look at the entry form in this DOCument and think about transport and accommodation options early. This should be our best weekend of the year

and is a wonderful lead up for those of you planning a trip to Hawkes Bay for the National Champs at Easter.

The NZOF annual meeting is also held at Easter, to coincide with the National Champs. Because Easter is so early this year, the closing date for remits to the AGM is 31st December. In order for us to consider anything at our December committee meeting, if anyone has a remit they want to submit to NZOF, please send it to Pat Ehrhardt or myself by the 13th December.

Remember, we are having our Christmas picnic event this coming Sunday, 5th December. Note the start place has been changed to the top of Warrender Street, North Town Belt. Then the last event of the year is our coaching weekend at Warrington on the 11th & 12th December.

Lastly, many thanks to everyone who has contributed to a wonderful year of Orienteering. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

NOTES FROM NZOF

Myles Thayer

I have just returned from the NZOF Council meeting and we have finalized a new Strategic Plan for the Federation. As most of you will know, Owen Cambridge and I represented the Dunedin Club at the workshop held in August to gather information and ideas for the plan. It will now be circulated to all clubs for comment and possible changes. It is also envisaged that it should become the basis for clubs' own strategic plans. This will be a way for us to plan our goals for each year and keep a track of whether or not we are meeting them.

Some of you will remember the club producing a strategic plan during 1996 and 1997. I'm not sure of the reasons for producing the plan but it appears to have been geared especially with the 1998 National Championships in mind. Many of the items in that plan are still valid but with the production of a new NZOF plan, I would like us to take the opportunity early in the new year to review our Club plan.

If anyone would like a copy of our old plan, please contact me, and if you have any good ideas for a new Club strategic plan please let me know.

Attention 2005 Planners and Controllers!

At a recent meeting, the Committee agreed that the following information should be printed on small sheets for each event, and handed to each competitor at the caravan. Preferably, it should be stapled to each set of control descriptions that is handed to competitors. The idea behind this is to make certain points absolutely clear for beginners and novices (things that experienced orienteers often take for granted).

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Event: Signal Hill
Date: 1-1-2005

- * **Have you got a whistle?**
- * **Fill in clipcard and go to the Start**
- * **All controls must be visited in order**

- * **You must report back to the Finish**
- **even if you don't complete your course**
- **by XX pm (course closure time)**

- * **Safety Bearing (if you get lost):**
head north (towards sun) to road. Turn right
along road back to Finish area.

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A template for the above notice is available on the website (on the "Resources" page), as are Controller, Planner and Organiser Guides.

Note that the Club Planner's Guide now recommends that orange courses should have fenced maps and written control descriptions. This has also been discussed and agreed to by the Committee.

ORIENTEERING.

Written by Emily Buschl 8 years

Nervous to start
Wanting to win
Maps are rustling in the wind

Starter shoots the gun
Excited people run
Through the wind I see a marker
Is it the right one?

996 I turn to my map
Yes it is!

I cross the finish line in a beautiful sprint
Cheering makes me excited
I go to the tent
I won orienteering!

From Ken Dowling.

Lars Olsson didn't really feel much like training on the evening of 11 October. He had been wondering whether he should go out on his run or forget about it. It wasn't just that he felt tired, there was a film on TV that he wanted to see. In the end he decided to go for his run after the movie, even though it would be late.

Olsson lived on a farm near Svarte. He had been born there, and still lived with his parents although he was over 30. He was the part owner of a digger and was the one who knew best how to operate it. This week he was busy digging a ditch for a new drainage system on a farm in Skårby. He was also a devoted orienteer. He lived for the joy of running in the Swedish woods. He ran for a team in Malmö that was preparing for a national night-orienteeing run. He had often asked himself why he devoted so much time to it. What was the point of running around in the woods, often cold and wet, his body aching, with a map and compass? Was this really something to spend his life doing? But he knew he was a good orienteer. He had a feeling for the terrain, as well as both speed and endurance.

He watched the film on TV, but it wasn't as good as he expected. Just after 11 p.m. he started out on his run, headed for the woods just north of the farm, on the boundary of Marsvinsholm's huge fields. He could choose to run either five or eight kilometres, depending on which path he took. Tonight he chose the shorter route. He strapped his running light to his head and started off. It had rained that day, heavy showers followed by sunshine. He could smell the wet earth. He ran along the path into the woods. The tree trunks glistened in the light from his headlamp. In the densest part of the forest there was a little creek. If he kept close to it, it made a good shortcut. He decided to do that. He turned off the path and ran up a small hill.

Suddenly he stopped short. He had seen someone in the light of his lamp. At first he couldn't work out what he was looking at. Then he realised that a half-naked man was tied to a tree in front of him. Olsson stood quite still. He was breathing hard and felt very frightened. He took a quick look around. The lamp cast its glow over trees and bushes, but he was alone. Cautiously he took a few steps forward. The man was hanging over the ropes tied around his body.

He didn't have to go any closer. He could see that the man was dead. Without really knowing why, he glanced at his watch. It was 11.19 p.m.

He turned around and ran home. He had never run so fast in his life. Without even taking the time to remove his headlamp he called the police in Ystad. The officer who took the call listened attentively, then without hesitating, he called up Kurt Wallander's name on his computer screen and punched in his home number.

The story continues in the Fifth Woman, a Kurt Wallander mystery by Henning Mankell.

Planners report/comments – Christies Gully (South) Sunday 7 November 2004

Richard Thum

Way back in September this year, I downloaded from the club's website the latest and most up-to-date version of the how-to for event planners. In it has all the stuff that needs to be done as a planner with a timetable and list of contacts that may need to be approached during the planning process. All very good stuff and highly recommended.

I have planned a few events over the years and each one has reminded me of the HUGE amount of work required before, during and after the event. I must be getting old, but this

time I had some elective minor surgery done to my foot about a week prior to the event, thinking/believing that I would be well and truly fit and able to get all the controls out into the field, and collect them up afterwards, as one does. Hint – don't get surgery done too close to an event!

Consequently, George and Eunice (controller and organiser) ended up putting out all the controls and, with some appreciated assistance, bringing them all in again. Thankfully their son (Bruce) advised me years ago to minimize the number of controls in any event. My sincere thanks to you both.

Feedback that I received while sitting at the finish suggested a general satisfaction with the courses, although despite comments made on the caravan notice of the hilly nature of the map, 'hills' and 'climb' were commonly mentioned. I suspect that if there were no hills (and therefore no contours), then there would've been a few embarrassing DNF's. Contours are probably the best navigational aids we use on a map.

Anyway, thank you to ALL of you who came out to the southern part of Christies Gully today and shared all that marvellous sunshine!!

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Cancellations.

Extremely bad weather conditions can result in the **cancellation** of an event for safety reasons. If that is ever necessary Radio Stations 4XO, 97.4 FM and Newstalk ZB 10.44 AM will be notified and a cancellation broadcast by 9 a.m. Also, orienteers in doubt can phone Margaret 467 5460 or Myles Thayer 454 2385. It is also worth checking your email.

Start Times.

Generally 11.30 a.m. until 1.00 p.m.

Check course closure which is usually 3.00 p.m. but occasionally 2.30 p.m.

Ross Creek Permanent Course - Maps Available from:

Visitor Centre – Octagon

DOC Shop Lower Stuart Street

Maori Hill On the Spot Dairy

Jennifer Hudson 134 Larnach Rd 454 4981

Chingford Park Permanent Course - Maps Available from:

Tourist Shop North Road (near Baldwin Street)

Jennifer Hudson 134 Larnach Rd 454 4981

Visitor Centre – Octagon

DOC Library Books.

These are available for members to borrow.

DOC Committee Meetings.

Are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Citibus building, Princes St by the Oval at 7.30pm. All DOC members are welcome to attend.



WEBSITES

<http://www.dunedinorienteering.com>

On the club's website you can find the latest event timetable, results, club rules and policies, membership and entry forms, controller, planner and organiser guides, a map

showing club courses, map and control symbol legends, past issues of DOCUMENT, some pictures, a list of committee members and other club contacts, links to other websites and more. If you have any comments or ideas for development please email Nick on webmaster@dunedinorienteing.com

The official NZOF website address is <http://www.nzorienteing.com>



EMAIL

New email addresses have been set up for the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster; these are of the form president@dunedinorienteing.com. The club operates two Yahoo email groups, one for members and one for non-members (i.e. friends, supporters and colleagues who want to get notice of events). If you don't receive regular email notification of events and results and want to, then go to the club's main web page and follow the GROUP EMAIL link.

Anyone in the members' group can send a message to all other members. To do this you just email doc-members@yahoo.com

To remove yourself from the list email doc-members-unsubscribe@yahoo.com

WHISTLES WHISTLES WHISTLES WHISTLES

**Please note that you must have a whistle if you want to run a course.
The starter is quite entitled to turn you back if you don't have one.**

2004 Event Fees - Club and OY Events

Members: Senior \$6.00, Junior \$3.00, Family \$15

Non Members: Senior \$10.00, Junior \$5.00, Family \$25

Senior Student discount of 20%