

November 1999 DOCUMENT

DUNEDIN ORIENTEERING CLUB - 23RD ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 September 1999

Bruce McCormick.

The success and enjoyment of members is the main measure of any orienteering year. It is your committee's hope that you have enjoyed your orienteering, improved your skills and achieved your orienteering objectives, whether competitive or social.

Many of our members have performed well in both national and international competition. Our congratulations on your success. Tonight we will be celebrating these successes at our club prizegiving.

As we end one century and look forward to another, I believe it is important to review one's performance, celebrate the successes and by learning from our experiences, make improvements for the future. Our club, now in its 24th year, has taken the opportunity this year to review its performance and establish some changed directions for the future. Building on a previous strategic planning paper and members' comments plans have been put in place to:

simplify the running of club events
with self starts;

add more regular competition;

add more social activity to the event
calendar;

develop some new maps – for both
club and championship events;

provide more coaching;

and provide training for planners,
controllers and mappers.

I have been impressed by the willingness of the committee and members to put many hours into the administration of the club and making events happen. Our sport does demand a lot of preparation to ensure events are successful – it's pleasing to see the commitment made. To ensure the broadening of the skill base and spread the workload, the training of newer members to assist with planning and controlling is essential. Additionally, with the help of Bruce Collins who shifted to Otago last year, we are able to start developing mapping skills within the club.

Your committee welcomes your input to improving the functioning of the club. If you have suggestions you want the committee to consider, we would welcome your call or contact.

The 2000 event schedule and the above plans suggest the club is in good heart administratively to start the new millennium. Looking at our membership numbers is another measure of good heart. A year ago, the Club offered the choice between full membership (including being able to compete in NZOF and other club events) and local membership. At year-end there were 96 members – 60 full members and 36 local. In contrast, membership totalled 120 in 1996.

At Easter 1998, the club ran the very successful NZOF Orienteering Championships. Prior to this the Club drew on all its financial resources (creating substantial financial deficits) to develop new championship maps for this event. The support of The Community Trust of Otago was an important factor in achieving the quality of maps required. The outcome of running these championships has been a nice financial surplus and a restoration of a healthy bank balance.

It is timely now to be looking at the Club's needs for new maps – both championship and for club events. With this in mind your committee have:

developed a map of Kettle Park with the aim of it being utilised as an introduction to orienteering for school children using the Dunedin Stadium;

have underway a plan to map an area along part of the beach at Waikouaiti;

are investigating some of our older maps which have unusable areas to see which might be able to be resurrected by re-mapping;

and are investigating some new areas for NZOF Championship events – the next being the South Island Championships in 3 or 4 years.

In addition, the building of mapping skills by our own members will assist and speed up this process.

Reviewing the financial performance of the club for the year shows a small surplus for the year, a contrast to the deficits of recent years for the reasons given above. Your club enters the new century in good financial health. The support of the DCC Community Grants assistance for the Kettle Park map is acknowledged. Other donations were from our own members who donated back their event expenses – this is very much appreciated. A big thanks to for our Honorary Auditor, Stuart Melville for his assistance.

The major NZOF event held this year was the national secondary schools event held at Matarae and Mt Ross. Many of our North Island competitors will never forget the snow that delayed the start at Matarae or the rescue helicopter arriving at Mt Ross. Thanks to all who organised these events.

Your committee worked very effectively during the year and provided great support. Planning is well underway for the 2000 programme. A large vote of thanks is owed to Pat Ehrhardt who is retiring from the committee at this AGM. Pat has been on and off the committee from its earliest days and has had, at one time or another, taken every committee responsibility. Pat, from all the members of the Club, a grateful thanks for everything you have done, for your wise counsel and your efforts in building the club. Another Pat (Taylor) is also leaving – her assistance with the annual accounts sped the process up immensely.

Finally, it is with regret that I advise that I will not be able to stand for re-election to the committee. A business opportunity has arisen in the last month and my family will soon be the operators of a new motel – the Bella Vista, in Great King Street. As I will continue working, my involvement in the motels at weekends and weeknights will reduce my involvement in orienteering over the next year. As your Past President, I will assist as I can the transition to a new committee.

I believe the club is well placed to commence the new century and with the support of its members can approach the future with confidence.

YODA REPORT.

William Flockton.

It's been a long time since anyone has been informed about what YODA has been up to. Therefore this article is both a catch up and from my point of view, after standing down from being YODA President, an end of a year and reign report.

Phew! What a busy year. I didn't realise that being President was such a busy job. Along with our regular YODA meetings, I sat on the DOC committee, organised several events and had my first year at Varsity and a new job to contend with.

YODA has suffered a lot this year with diminishing numbers. We said a short term goodbye to Fran and Julie, away for a year to far flung, exotic (and dangerous sounding) places. Also halfway through the year we bade farewell to the "old spice" of Wayne, away to Cambridge to do his doctorate. I hope he enjoyed his time at YODA and especially his farewell present!!!! However, at the same time, we have seen more involvement from new juniors. We hope to attract even more to the fold next year.

The first of our three events this year was Naseby in April. I was the organiser of this event and I think it went really well, though I suffered from the flu on the first day and still felt weak on the second. The traditional format was improved a little this year with prizes from the \$2 shop and an Easter Egg Hunt/Night-O. We were blessed with fine weather and excellent courses, all thanks to Wayne and Bob, Melanie, Aaron, Michael and Bruce. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Although there was a noticeable lack of supportees at Naseby, it was even more evident at our Night -O/Scavenger Hunt at McLeod's farm. This event saw the talents of Ciaran and Myles Thayer and Melanie,

Tanya and Michael combine to create a chocie-lover delight. Even I was able to gorge myself on the amount of chocolate that we bought!

However, only 10 people competed at the Night-O. Even though some used the excuse that they were "watching the rugby" we had planned the event as such so that you could do at least one event then go and watch the rugby. To use that as an excuse just goes to show the lack of commitment to our sport and especially to us juniors by many of the more experienced Dunedin Orienteers. I felt that this lack of support has created a serious division in the club, which ought to be repaired. Many older people forget that the juniors need every little encouragement. In the long run this may mean that the club will have to fold as there will be no-one to replace you. New blood and new ideas must be injected into the club for it to survive rather than the reliance on the same old people to do the same old thing.

YODA has established itself on creating events for the "common" person, not the elitist that many of the club seem to be orientating themselves towards. It has been recognised by us that the majority of people do not wish to compete in the South Island Champs or for National rankings but run for sheer enjoyment. To cater for these people, we developed more fun events - ordinary events "with a twist", as someone was overheard commenting on YODA events. We take a lot of enjoyment in creating the events for you and hope that you enjoy doing them as much. In this line, we organised the "Triple Treat" combining three maps and a 13km run. Again numbers were limited (even the planner couldn't be there) but the event was (I was told by helpers) a lot of fun.

A big thank you must go to all of my helpers especially Jenn Haugh, Bob Cunninghame and R Davies.

Overall the year has been one of highs and lows. We have recently had a complete set of YODA tee shirts with our very fashionable logo, the

"nervous hen" (as designed by ex YODA member Jamie Stewart) so see them out in force next year. In 2000 we hope to have a "Middlemarch Madness" in lieu of a Naseby next year and a RODA, a YODA Road trip to the Nationals. Look out for the dates of these events to be published soon. I haven't fully abandoned YODA yet and I am remaining as Secretary. I wish Melanie Stephen, our new President and Aaron Searle, our new Treasurer, the best of luck for the next year. Under their careful helm YODA can only go from strength to strength in the next millenium.

WMOC 2000 publicity update - from Kathy Farquhar

Now that the entries have closed for WMOC 2000 it looks like there are almost 1500 - a fantastic effort

Some of the first Europeans have started arriving already - Stige and Katherina Berge from Norway were at the NZ Champs. They came 5th and 14th respectively in Denmark. Apparently Stige was World Champ about 1968.

I now have Peter Snell's travel itinerary and he is due in New Zealand on the 27th December

Graham Teahan is organising a "Meet the Media" day in Feilding on December 8th.

Some of the gardens in Feilding have been planted with orange and white diagonal flower beds so I gather they look like O flags!!!!!!! Wow Feilding - that is excellent! I hear from Graham that his staff are right behind the event and it certainly looks like it.

The following have been awarded NZOF Foundation Coach Certificates:

Ev. Smith, Jane Cloete, Michael Tagg, Tanya Ronson, Ciaran Thayer,
(all DOC)

Hayden Peter, Nathan Peter (SOC)

Because of his improvement this year Peter Wilson has been added to the Otago Junior Squad.

Congratulations to the following, who have been chosen as the 'Most Improved Orienteers' for 1999:

Juniors - (F) Rhonda Thayer (M) Michael Davies

Seniors- (F) Jane Forsyth (M) Nathan Midwinter.

A SUCCESSFUL TRAINING DAY.

Margaret Tagg.

On Sunday 14 November Brendon Tagg held a successful training day at McLeod's Farm. The weather was warm and sunny, about ten people with a wide range of abilities attended, and the training was a good lead up to the South Island Championships at Naseby.

Activities included beach and on-the-hills exercises in contours and route choice, discussion about attack points and catching features and a fun score event after lunch.

Everyone contributed by sharing ideas and experiences.

Thanks to George and Eunice for the use of their land and to Pat Ehrhardt for advice on planning the day.