

Auckland Orienteering Club

Auckland Orienteering Club - October Newsletter

Hi Glorious Club Members,

I apologise in advance of the length of the following newsletter.....

There are a number of different opportunities and announcements that are highlighted below and I would ask that you all have a read through.



October has been a fascinating month culminating in the excellent 3-day Northern Regional Champs hosted by North West orienteering club in Woodhill Forest. I always enjoy NWOC's events as their highly capable set of Planners and Setters know exactly how to create highly complex and challenging events right on the limit of everybody's abilities. We had some exceptional results from our club members which we highlight in the Monthly Review section.

At the start of the month we had the culmination of the Australian Orienteering Championships which incorporates the Schools Southern Cross Challenge which again had some amazing results for Auckland Club Members. They were part of the 2 NZ teams that took out 1st and 2nd place in the event.

We also saw the start of our 18-event SummerNav series in Western Springs as well as the closing out of the AOS Series in Mushroom Road, a notoriously tricky affair.

In this newsletter we will showcase the following:

- An update on our Working Groups and how they are progressing
- Highlight the 2023 Orienteering Calendar which has some exciting new Competition Series
- Provide entry details for the AGM Teams Rogaine – a must do event for club members
- Introduce a partnership with Owairaka Athletics Club with opportunity for Coaching and Training for club members
- Describe the AGM process and the how we formally elect the Club Committee
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I would like to introduce a new feature in each Newsletter where I recognise somebody that has gone above and beyond for the club.

In this month I want to acknowledge **Callum Wishart**. We were struggling for a Controller to take on the AOS 12 Mushroom Road event and Callum stepped forward and took on the task. As a M18 it was fantastic to see someone get stuck into the task with no fears and helped deliver an excellent event. This was undertaken during his trip to the Australian Championships as well as his studying in his final year at Mount Albert Grammar where he captained the team to NISS and NZSS success again this year.

We want to start encouraging all juniors to be brave and take on setting and controlling tasks, it really is an amazing way to learn and understand the sport and it massively improves your orienteering skillsets. Thank you Callum.

1. New Members joined this month

We welcome the following new members to the club – glad to have you all on board. We look forward to you all developing your Orienteering abilities and seeing you at our events.

David Nicholas
Amelia Scrymgeour
Stella Valerio
White Family
Liv Jackson
Karla Anderson
Judith Burnie
Tony Hawkes
Emma Cannin
John Scott
Sander Lommertzen
Joseph Herde

We welcome you all on board to the club.

2. Monthly event Review

2.1 Australian Champs

An amazing 9 day adventure in the heart of Goldmining country. Too many amazing results from club members to mention them all. We had over 30 club members competing

Please see the results page for full details - <https://aoc.orienteering.asn.au/results/>

- In the Elite Grades for the Australian Champs
 - Aussie Middle – Zara Stewart – 3rd
 - Aussie Grand Prix – Liam Buyck – 3rd
 - Aussie Sprint – Zara Stewart – 1st
 - Aussie Sprint – Molly McGowan – 2nd
 - Aussie Long – Molly McGowan – 3rd
- In the Schools events
 - Sprint – Zara Stewart – 2nd
 - Sprint – Harry Borton – 3rd
 - Sprint – Zara Toes – 3rd
 - Long – Zara Stewart – 3rd
 - Long – Matthew Greenwood – 3rd

2.2 Northern Region Champs

An intensive 3 day stage race with a chasing start on Day 3. Excellent results from Auckland Orienteers across all the grades. Again too many to mention, results can be found here:

<https://www.nwoc.org.nz/nrc2022/nrc-results/>

Winners of their grades:

1st - Sam Carryer – M16A
1st – Luka Johnson – M18A
1st – James McCormack – M21A
1st – Martin Crosby – M60A
1st – Alistair Stewart – M70A
1st – Gavin Scott – M80A

1st – Zara Toes – W14A
1st – Molly McGowan – W20E

1st – Lyn Stanton – W50A

2.3 AOS 12 and Points conclusion

October saw the final Auckland Orienteering Series of the 2022 Season at Mushroom Road. Always a difficult map, Jonty Oram set a highly challenging range of courses that really tested all grades.

Results here - https://orienteeringauckland.org.nz/assets/20221016_AOS12_2022_Mushroom_Rd_E.html

In the Series we ran an unofficial points system that formed the basis of a Competition Series for 2023 (more later in this newsletter).

2.4 SummerNav 1 – Western Springs

This week saw the first of the SummerNav events in Western Springs, set by Alina Granger and controlled by Monique Dean. A huge thank you to all of the club members who volunteered to make the event happen.

We move on to Churchill park next week. **We do need Volunteers desperately at all of our other events.** We strongly encourage club members to have a look at the [Volunteer sheet](#) and put their name down. For next week we need help with set up from 4:15 and someone to help newcomers from 5:45 to 6:45.

We also need a Planner and Controller for the Eastern Beach event on the 24th January – please use the sheet above to sign up.

3. Working Groups Progress

3.1 Finance and Investments

The group got together this month to start shaping up the Financial health of the club, with the intent of investing in the clubs infrastructure and coaching/technology assets. We kicked off looking at Funding and Grant opportunities as well as creating a future-facing draft budget. We will collate an overall Financial picture of the club and understand what opportunities are available.

3.2 Social and Engagement

Some new attendees to the Working Group will see us start to focus on how we can attract different age groups in to Orienteering as well as look at ways that we can build up the atmosphere of events. A key focus for the group is to look at the overall onboarding experience to the club and see how we can tie that in with the website. A review of the website is underway within the group. We are keen on any web content managers within the club to come and join the Working Group.

3.3 Coaching and Performance

Yet to start but we've had good response. A key focus point of the group will be to start creating a Coaching experience for all members of the Club

3.4 Technology and Mapping

Again yet to start but we've had a fantastic number of people join us. A key early focus is to look at our overall Technologies and build a training plan to get more people able to use the tools.

4. Announcement – 2023 Auckland Orienteering Calendar

It is with great excitement that the three Auckland Region clubs and Lactic Turkey announce our [Orienteering Calendar for 2023](#)

In bringing the programme together we recognised that members look for different things from events at different times. This changes as the year progresses, depending on whether you're trying to build your fitness, develop your technical skills, and/or bringing it all together in a competition event. Subtle differences between the schools' programme and the club programme, plus having Club Champs so early in the season, make this even more challenging!

To reflect this the calendar this year is designed around four seasons, each reflecting a different focus (please see link above for more detail)

Summer – “Build-up” (Jan, Feb, Mar)

Autumn – “Development” (Apr, May)

Winter – “Competition” (Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep)

Spring – “Wrap-up” (Oct, Nov, Dec)

To support this programme we're announcing **two new competition series!**

1. **Auckland Region Sprint Series**

- 6 Saturday afternoon Sprints in June, July and August
- Points scoring system across the events
- A Sprint Series Final on the 5th August with prize giving afterwards

2. **Auckland Region Forest Series**

- 4 Forest events in August and September
- Points scoring system across the events
- A Forest Series Final on 17th September with prize giving afterwards

We are excited to see these series develop as a highpoint of the programme, shared between the 3 clubs. As a collective we want to recognise the work and effort that has gone in from all three clubs and Lactic Turkey in aligning this calendar and introducing these new competition formats.

Many thanks

CMOC, NWOC, AOC and Lactic Turkey

5. Upcoming Events

5.1 SummerNav Calendar for November

- Thursday 3rd Nov – Churchill Park – Kinsale Ave
- Tuesday 8th Nov – Cornwall Park – Haydn Ave
- Tuesday 15th Nov – Craigavon Park – Connaught St
- Wednesday 23rd Nov – Auckland Domain – The Crescent
- Wednesday 30th Nov – Ambury Park Farm

5.2 AGM Teams Relay – Entry form

- Before the AGM at Blockhouse Bay Reserve we will be running a Teams Rogaine for Club Members. Meet at 3pm on Terry Street. This will be a fantastic event – do not miss it – will be carnage.
- Blockhouse Bay is now embargoed until after the AGM – live cameras have been erected
- Event Information
 - 1)
 - a) More detailed Bulletin to follow
 - b) Stage 1 – Individual Prologue
 - i) Seeding Race
 - ii) Mass start
 - iii) Will determine teams for stages 2,3,4
 - iv) Creates initial points per grade

2)

- a) Stage 2,3,4 – Teams Rogaine
 - i) Teams of 3 of equal strength from Seeding Race
 - ii) 3 mini-rogaines – 15 controls on each stage
 - iii) Mass start on Stage 2
 - iv) Teams must get all 15 controls
 - v) Maximum 8 controls per person, minimum of 3
 - vi) Meet up at Stage finish, you get Stage 3 map when all three members have arrived
 - vii) Stage 3 and Stage 4 similar.
 - viii) Time finishes at end of Stage 4 when all members have finished
 - ix) Time penalties – will appear in the bulletin

Please fill in the following [Entry Form](#)

6. Introducing a partnership with Owairaka Athletics Club

The final announcement of the week is the kick-starting of a partnership with Owairaka Athletics Club. We are offering Auckland Orienteering Club Members the opportunity to join Owairaka Athletics Club as an Affiliated Member and be able to compete in Athletics New Zealand events. Owairaka has consulted with Athletics New Zealand and its own committee and has allowed a half year membership deal if we sign up now.

This gives a membership to the end of March 2023 (when the membership cycle renews) and allows entry into any Athletics New Zealand event as an affiliated member. They have created an entry form solely for our members:

[Owairaka membership Form for Auckland Orienteering Club Members](#)

Benefits of the Partnership:

- It develops a training and coaching opportunity for our members
- We have access to Owairaka track as well as the clubs midweek and weekend training sessions
- We will be running have-a-go events for Owairaka juniors and expose them to the sport
- We can enter Auckland events and wear our Auckland Orienteering tops (for National events we will need to wear Owairaka singlets)
- Given Tim's 3rd place at ANZ X-Country champs then continuing this exposure for the sport is fantastic – very powerful marketing
- We've been able to run a 5km event at the Owairaka track for the u23 camp which Kieran is organising

7. AGM – 4th December

At the AGM in December we will have the opportunity for club members to get involved in the new Working Groups that have been created. The idea behind these Working Groups is to allow Club members to get involved in specific aspects of the Club that interest them or where they have skills or experience to contribute that may benefit the Club. As a reminder the Working Groups are:

Technology and Mapping

Event Management and Logistics

Coaching and Performance

Social and Engagement

Finance and Investments

As the Working Groups develop much of the Club's future direction will be shaped within these Working Groups or between the groups by them working collaboratively. The Committee still has a governing role however to ensure the direction of each Working Group is aligned to the overall culture and direction of the Club.

At the AGM we formally elect the Club Committee. The Club Committee consists of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and at least two other committee members. The Club is currently operating with an Acting President (Neill McGowan) and Acting Secretary (Susy Carryer). Both Neil and Suzy have indicated they are happy to put their names forward for these roles. The Treasurer (Philip Barlow) has also agreed to stand for another term. In the event of there being more than one nomination it will be decided by vote, otherwise the Club will be asked to formally appoint Neill, Susy and Philip to these roles at the AGM. If you are interested in one of these roles or being on the committee, email your nomination together with the position you are standing for to the Club Secretary on auckocsecretary@gmail.com no later than 30 November.

8. A Message from Tim Robertson:

"I had a 20 year old Swedish girl contact me about a place to stay in Auckland for 3.5 months from February. She's going there for an English course and can get accommodation through that, but she's keen to try to stay with an orienteering family if possible. Do you know any Aucklanders that would be keen to host her?"

If anyone is interested in helping Tim then please contact Kieran Woods (woods-17@hotmail.com)