Orienteering Hutt Valley

Presidents Report 2018

2018 has been another successful year for Orienteering Hutt Valley. We have run 20 events since the last AGM, consisting of 8 Foot Orienteering, 7 after work rogaines with one more to come , The Big Trig, The Akatarawa Attack as well as 3 other MTBO events and a number of smaller training style events. We also coordinated the WOA Champs. Club members have competed on the international stage with some great results. Membership is strong and the club is in a sound financial position.

Firstly Foot Orienteering – we have run 8 events since the last AGM, consisting of two events at the WOA Champs, 2 CSW events, 1 Winter Score event, 2 Summer Sprint events last summer, and 1 T Max (Training Style) event. Aside from the WOA Champs which had 94 at the Sprint and 103 at the middle, average participation was 82 starters – the most being for the CSW event at Belmont Bunkers with 164 participants and the least being 22 for a T Max at Central Hutt. These are good numbers. Michael Wood also ran a number of U Max, do it yourself style events on weekends when there were no other events scheduled. While the numbers for these events are small it is good to see our maps being used. Michael also ran a multi sprint event at Catchpool which attracted 25 participants

Rogaines – 7 After Work Rogaine events attracting an average of 68 participants with the most being 101 at the Mt Kaukau event. One more to go on 27 November. This years Big Trig attracted 62 entrants. Kelvin Theile has again coordinated the After Work rogaine series this year and my thanks go to him for his efforts. Kelvin has agreed to coordinate the series again next year. Rogaines are attracting the biggest participation numbers of the events that we run, other than the College Sport Wellington series

MTBO – Liam and Rachel Drew have been busy with other commitments this year but they did organise the Ak Attack. They have recently moved to the UK, so we are looking for a new MTBO coordinator. There were 4 events, one on Belmont Regional Park and two at Kapiti as well as the Ak Attack. The two Kapiti events attracted good numbers, 57 and 64 participants, and there were 18 at Belmont. There were also two “Sprint Adventure Races”run by Michael on the riverbank – bike to the first area, complete a sprint event on foot then bike to the next area and do it again. These two events attracted 67 and 62 participants so they obviously have appeal.

Orienteering is also moving into the Smartphone world with an app called Maprun. We have two permanent courses set up which you can run anytime using your smartphone.

Again this year we have coordinated with Wellington in regards to the schedule for the orienteering year. The programme ahead looks something like this:

* Four more O Maxs before the end of the year (one more by OHV)
* Evening sprint series, weekly from mid Feb, 4 envisaged.
* College Sport Sunday Series, every fortnight-ish from mid Feb to QB. Normally 5 or 6 events
* Malcolm Ingham is restoring the OY series with 3 events in March / April preceding the Nationals at Easter and two more in May. (OHV event at Waiterere on 7 April)
* Evening P-Max (1 hour rogaine) series, weekly from mid June, 6 envisaged.
* Throughout the year, monthly afterwork rogaines roughly April – Nov’.

Nationals are at Easter and WOC are running a 3 race event at Queens Birthday weekend

There have again been some great performances by club members at National and International events, too numerous for me to list them all but a number worthy of mention

* Tim and Laura Robertson both represented NZ at the Orienteering World Cup in Latvia. Tim won a Silver medal in the sprint to follow up a Gold at the World University Champs in Finland. Jill Dalton and Ted van Geldermansen had wins at the Australian Champs
* OHV members were at the NZ Secondary Schools Champs near Christchurch in July. Our best results came from Rebecca Connolly, 4th Y7/8, and Oliver Edwards, 4th Int Boys; both in the long. Other members were Catherine Connolly, Jack, Zoe and Nicole Maddigan, Larissa and Kieran Edwards, Olivia Healey and Amber Riddle.
* Michael Wood had 3 wins at the Australian MTBO Champs

The club has purchased new heads for our control stands and are in the process of fitting these.

The new storage facility at Wingate is working well, but does cost $130 per month

Thanks to all who helped to organise events throughout the year. We will be again recognising planners and controllers, as well as significant contributors to the club with the offer of $10 off their subscription for 2019, or a free entry to an OHV event. I encourage all members to think about helping to plan an event this year. The purpose of the club is to plan events for our members and the more planners we have the more events we are able to run.

Lastly I would like to thank our committee for their input throughout the year. I particularly want to thank Andrew and Amber Riddle, as well as Gavin Scott who are stepping down from the committee – they have all made significant contributions to the club. This does leave the committee looking rather thin with only myself, Michael Wood and Barbara Bridger remaining. We are all prepared to continue to serve on the committee, but if there are only the 3 of us then this does restrict the amount that the club is able to do. I encourage all members who participate regularly in our events to consider joining the committee as the more of us there are the easier it is to run our events and the task does not fall on the same people all of the time.

There are plenty of events coming up, so enjoy your orienteering for the next year.

Simon Rea

Club President