

Orienteering Hutt Valley

Presidents Report 2017

2017 has been another successful year for Orienteering Hutt Valley. We have run 20 events, consisting of 5 Foot Orienteering, 8 after work rogaines, The Big Trig, The Akatarawa Attack and City Safari as well as 3 MTBO events. 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 one OY (which was combined with a CSW), 3 PMax 1 hour score events, 3 Summer Sprint events last summer, and one T(Training Style) Max this summer. Average participation was 53 starters – the most being for the CSW event at Belmont Bunkers with 168 participants and the least being 12 for a P Max at Waiwhetu – held in pouring rain. 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.

Rogaines – 7 After Work Rogaine events attracting an average of 72 participants with the most being 86 at Te Ahu Mairangi. Last years Big Trig attracted 96 entrants. Kelvin Theile has again coordinated the After Work rogaine series this year and my thanks go to him for his efforts. Kelvin also organised the City Safari this year with a record entry of 950 participants and he was able to obtain good sponsorship from Metlink. 950 entrants was a great effort. Unfortunately Kelvin has told us that due to his work commitments he will not be continuing as our event manager and we are about to begin the process of trying to find a new one. Thanks to Kelvin for his four years running the City Safari and I wish him all the best.

MTBO – Liam and Rachel Drew have again coordinated this years events. There were two introductory events, a club event on the Riverbank and the Ak Attack. The MTBO group have not been as active this year. They are only a small group – aside from the Ak Attack (47 bikers) the average participation at the other 3 events was 13 entrants, and this is a small pool when it comes to volunteers offering to run events.

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

- Three more T Maxs before the end of the year
- WOA Champs next weekend
- 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
- “Q” events. A higher quality event taking the place of the OY, which doesn’t really have much meaning anymore. Sort of monthly from Mar – Nov. The Winter Classic might be seen as part of this.
- Evening P-Max (1 hour rogaine) series, weekly from mid June, 6 envisaged.
- Throughout the year, monthly afterwork rogaines roughly April – Nov’.

These are just the local events – there are also numerous events being held in different areas around the country – Southern O Week and Sprint the Bay of Plenty to name a couple. So there are plenty of opportunities for orienteering for those who want (or need) it.

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 Estonia and the World Games in Poland. They have both recently been racing in China. Tim is currently ranked 12 in the world at Sprint Orienteering and Laura is ranked 43rd, both outstanding.
- There were 10 OHV members at the World Masters games. Bill Edwards earned a Bronze medal in the Sprint and a Silver in the Long. There were solid performances from Jill Dalton, Michael Wood, Susan Edwards and Têd van Geldermalsen. Several other members made A Finals
- Also good results in the Oceania Series held before World Masters, with wins in grades by Jill Dalton, Michael Wood, Bill Edwards and Ted van Geldermalsen.
- Bill Edwards completely dominated M50 in the Australian Champs in September winning all 3 events.
- Michael Wood did the same thing in the Australian MTBO Champs winning all 3 races in M70
- In the College Sport Wellington series Sarah Przychodzko (IG), Catherine Conolly (JG), Rebecca Conolly (Y7/8G) Kieran Edwards (SB), and Seb McBride (IB) all won their grades
- Keiran Edwards was selected in the NZ Secondary Schools team which competed at Bathurst in Australia

The club has purchased its own generator. My thanks to Tony van Dyke for letting us use his one numerous times over a number of years. We also have bought a new laptop – the old one was ancient, running Windows 95 and with no battery life. We have also obtained pricing for new control stands and are looking at moving ahead to purchase new ones. We have updated our OCAD software to the latest version.

Our time storing our stuff in James Scotts shed in Kelson has come to an end, as James has sold up. My thanks to James for the free use of the shed over a number of years. We have taken a storage unit at Wingate and will be moving our equipment there.

OHV is organising the WOA Champs next weekend and everything seems to be under control. However we have struggled to find volunteers both for the on the day requirements as well as for planners and controllers of the events, and we have had to ask Red Kiwis for help in planning the Long distance event. We have had only one new Foot-O planner this year – Lisa Caulfield planned the Percys Reserve event – however we do need more planners if we want to continue to run the number of events that we run

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 a half price subscription for 2016, or a free entry to an OHV event.

Lastly I would like to thank our committee for their input throughout the year. All committee members made significant contributions to the running of the club. 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