

*The Auckland*



# Orienteer



*The finish at the Year 7 and 8 Champion-of-Champions School event.  
In action are Les Paver, Heather Clendon, Mary Moen, Rae Powell, Debbie  
Beveridge and Peter Godfrey.*

June 2007



## From the editor

Two addresses to note are my new email address of [johnandrae@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnandrae@xtra.co.nz) and an interactive international control descriptions quiz at [www.fortnet.org/icd/](http://www.fortnet.org/icd/) where you can revise your knowledge of the descriptions.

Attendance at the score events this year are much less than for promotional events, 186 for the first two score events but 344 for the two promotion events. The 106 at the third score event, Slater Road, was not any better being only eight more than at Stags' Roar.

Differences in weather are not an explanation and, as far as I know, there were no popular competing activities. Nor does location seem to be an explanation as the first two score events and the promotion events had similar drive-times and Slater Road, which was the longest drive of the three score events, had the best attendance.

A very large proportion of the orienteering community in Auckland did not go to the score events! Is the experience that unsatisfying that it is not even worth going to? So what is happening? Why did you not attend? Write to the magazine and let everyone know, anonymously if you wish. Here is your chance to put it right for next year.

The OY series begins this month and you will find the information you need to know about the series in the notices section. The acronym 'OY' is short for "Orienteer of the Year" and is the title awarded to the best performing person in each age class over the duration of the competition.

The series originally consisted of monthly events from March to October or November, which the other orienteering area associations still have, hence the "Year" in the title, It was changed in Auckland decades ago in the belief that a more compressed competition would provide greater interest.

You may have noticed at the end of last year that there was no summary or analysis of the 2006 OY results. It was written by the OY Statistician, Peter Godfrey, but never made it into the December magazine. Whether it was a malfunctioning 'send' button or an overactive 'delete' we will never know but it does appear in this issue and provides a timely preamble to this year's competition.

This issue has Wayne's answer to last months map exercise so review your answer before reading what he would do. Schools events figure prominently in this issue following a fairly hectic month for the club members involved. Note that events are not cancelled because the weather is foul.

## Notices

### Auckland Orienteering Association Club Relay Champs

**When:** 10 June 2007. Registration between 10-10.30am with mass start at 11am

**Where:** Otakanini Coastal Strip; (signposted from Rimmers Road off S/Hwy 16)

**Who:** Members of the AOA clubs

**How much:** \$10 per competitor

**Format:** This year's event will be based on a three-person relay. Each team will comprise of a long red/med red/short orange runner. Teams will be selected randomly on the day of the event after each club splits their entrants into thirds based on ability/speed.

All runners will start together at 11 am and run courses that will include splits and butterfly loops that ensure each team covers all controls evenly whilst discouraging following. Team member's times added together will give the overall team time.

The top 3 finishing teams from each club will have their times added together to provide an overall Club Championship winner.

**How to enter:** Please contact your club secretary (contact details in this magazine) to let them know you will enter by 4<sup>th</sup> June so we know how many maps to print. Payment and registration will be on the day.

More details: Andrew Bell 09-4284337 or [the.bells@xtra.co.nz](mailto:the.bells@xtra.co.nz)

### DIY training day Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July

This is a great opportunity to improve/practice your orienteering skills, whether you are a newcomer to the sport or an old hand.

The controls used the previous week (1<sup>st</sup> July) for all but the white (easiest) course will be left in place for do-it-yourself training on Sunday 8 July. There will also be club members available to assist anyone newer to orienteering who would like some help/coaching or to go out and do some legs with them.

Gate opens 9.45-10.00 am for entry and 12.15-12.30 pm for departure. If you are able to stay for an extra 30 minutes and collect in a few of the controls at 12.15 that would be most appreciated (many hands make light work!).

There will be no SportIdent, campomatic/shelter tent or toilet. Use your map from the previous week or buy a new one for \$5. For safety reasons please register the course intention of everyone in your car on the CHH form at the gate and carry a whistle. Course closure is 12.15 pm. A search will be initiated if anyone has not returned at that time.

## **Summer series 2007 - long on events/short on helpers**

*by Craig Pearce*

It is now that time of the year when the next Summer Series needs to be planned. There is a great deal of work needed to be done now before the events calendar can be published.

The series has become ever more popular and more helpers are needed. Unfortunately the responsibility currently falls on a decreasing number of people. As the summer series calendar is four months long it is a significant imposition on their time.

**Although there are usually some people who just turn up and help when they can, that doesn't help with advanced planning. The series urgently needs far more people to make a firm commitment to undertake a role on a particular date otherwise the club may have to reduce the number of events.**

What we have in mind is to have "teams" of 3 or more responsible for a particular function, such as making sure the signs directing people to the event are in place reasonably early.

Other functions required include:

- making sure the Campomatic is towed to and from the event
- setting up
- registration duties and
- packing up

We have started contacting every member of AOC to ask if they can

help, but you don't need to be an AOC member as all offers are welcome.

We realise that certain days will clash with other activities and you may not always be available. This is why we propose to form teams to communicate with each other and ensure that at least one member of the team is available to do their job on any night.

The worst case scenario if we can not achieve the required numbers of helpers could mean removing or reducing specific events or locations from the programme, cutting back to the most popular locations and holding events only in certain time periods.

If this was to happen the other clubs in Auckland could possibly fill the gaps. This would most likely mean events being held further away on the North Shore or in South Auckland, so you would have to travel much further for your weekly run.

This would most likely mean holding, based on last year's programme, only 12 events instead of 17, with no night events, abandoning venues with consistently low turnouts or where controls get stolen.

So please have a serious think about whether you can make a firm commitment to helping with the series in some way, and contact a committee member before they call you!

## Orienteer of the Year Competition 2007

*By Peter Godfrey, AOA statistician*

The Auckland Orienteer of the Year competition is a competition among the members of the North West, Auckland and Counties-Manukau clubs.

- You will be automatically entered into the competition in the age-class in which you **first** compete.
- If you unexpectedly do not receive OY points then initially contact your club membership officer to ensure that you have been entered.
- You can change your age-class, by advising me, although the points you earn in the first class will be forfeit.
- You must be eligible for a class in order to earn OY points.
- You will not earn OY points in a second course you do at an event.
- Your age at 31 December **2007** determines your orienteering age and therefore your official class. (Teenagers, please note!)
- Classes designated 21, for example M21E and W21B, are open to everyone. Junior classes are those below 21, for example W18A, and the age means *up to and including this age*. Senior classes are those above 21, for example M50A, and means *this age or older*.
- Classes designated S, for example. W40AS, provide a shorter course for that age group.
- If you choose to run a *course* which does not provide a *class* for which you are eligible then you will be entered as *unofficial*.

Course	Men	Women	Colour	EWT	km
1	21E		red	90	
2	21A, 40A	21E	red	65	
3	18A, 21AS, 50A	21A, 40A	red	60	
4	16A, 40AS, 60A	18A, 21AS, 50A	red	50	
5	50AS, 70A	16A, 40AS, 60A	red	45	
6	80A	50AS, 70A	red	40	
7	14A, 21B	14A, 21B	orange	40	
8	12A, 21C	12A, 21C	yellow	35	2.5-3.5
9	10	10	white	25	2.0-3.0

## Technical Difficulty

- **Red** courses are designed to be as technically difficult as possible. They are hard and for the experienced orienteer.
- **Orange** courses have controls near attack points but away from handrails, and offer some route choice. Intermediate in difficulty.
- **Yellow** courses have controls near handrails and offer little route choice and no reliance on the understanding of contours. Easy and for the beginner.
- **White** courses have controls on handrails, all routes directly along handrails, no route choice and no contour features. Very easy and for children.

*A detailed statement of colour-coded technical difficulty can be found in the rules listed in the technical section of the NZOF website*

## Pre-start

All six OYs will have SportIdent electronic punching. If you do not already own one of these E-cards, they can be hired on the day. Pre-marked maps will be used and you will not see your course until you start.

## OY Points

The winner of each class at an event receives 20 points. The points are calculated in two parts:-

- Place points are awarded in each class, from 10 for first and 9.5 for second, to 0.5 for twentieth.
- Time points are awarded according to the following formula:

$$10 - [ ( \text{Your time} - \text{Winner's time} ) / ( \text{Winner's time} / 10 ) ]$$

This means that you lose one time-point for every 10 percent of the winner's time that you are slower, until no time-points are earned when your time is double the winner's time. Clear?

This year as a trial, competitors who DNF or miss controls will get one point instead of no points.

Controllers and setters are not penalized as they receive points for the event for which they have been responsible. The points allotted will be the equivalent of their best score from the entire series and thus will not be able to be calculated in some cases until the end of the OY series.

## Non AOA club members

Members of other orienteering clubs visiting Auckland may run in an OY and earn points without producing proof of their membership and age, unless they are intending to run in sufficient OYs to be challenging for a title. In this case they will need to produce proof of membership and age from their club. People who are not members of any orienteering club may participate but will not be part of the competition and will not receive OY points.

## Results

The OY points for the latest event and the cumulative totals for the series to date are published on the North West and Auckland websites as soon as possible after an event, are displayed at the following OY event, and are printed in the next *Auckland Orienteer*.

## OY Awards

At the end of the series, each competitor has their *best five scores* totalled. The winner of each senior class receives an OY certificate at the end of the season, provided that they have run in a minimum of *four* of the six OY events, or have earned more points than others in the grade who *have* run in at least four events. Junior competitors qualify after *three* events.

## Program

The program for 2007 is as follows.

OY	Date	Venue	Club
1	June 17	Spaghetti Soup	NW
2	July 1	Hobbits	A
3	July 29	Stags Roar	NW
4	August 12	Waiuku Forest	CM
5	August 26	Hobbits	A
6	September 9	Waiuku Forest	CM

The location of these maps is shown in *The Auckland Orienteer* March 2007, p. 15. Hobbit Woods (not marked on the map) is near Goblin Country.

Some of this year's events will have different formats from normal. Counties-Manukau club's first OY will have longer expected win times than those shown in the EWT column of the above table and its second OY will be a loop event similar to the Stags Roar event on 15 April at TAMOC.

## To club officials

The OY Statistician relies on up-to-date lists of current financial members produced by the participating clubs. Competitors not listed in them are ineligible for OY points. Thus, the appropriate official in each club must advise the OY Statistician before every OY event of any new financial members. For this reason, members excluded from OY results should contact their club treasurer in the first instance.

The OY Statistician also relies on the prompt arrival of the published results, preferably as a spreadsheet, from each OY so that OY points can be calculated for prompt display on the internet.

Course lengths must be and climb should ideally be included in these results for each event so that competitors' times can be compared with other events.

The names of the controller and the setter must also be included if they are to be allocated OY points.

## Event Calendar

Details of events may change between the publication in this newsletter and the date of the event. Check on club websites. Phone listed club contacts, if necessary, for confirmation.

### Auckland Area Events

#### June 2007

- |        |      |  |
|--------|------|--|
| Sat 2  | A    | Loop event, Hobbits map, register 10-10.30 am, mass start 11 am, signposted SH16/Restall Rd  |
| Sun 3  | pvte | 4-hour rogaine, Slater Road map, signposted SH16/South Head Rd roundabout, maps at 10am, racing starts 11am                            |
| Mon 4  | A    | 1-hour score event, Muriwai, signposted on SH16 at Waimauku, register before 10.20am, mass start 11am.                                 |
| Sun 10 | NW   | AOA relays, signposted SH16/Rimmer Road. Register 10-10.30 am. Mass start 11 am.   |
| Sun 17 | NW   | OY1, signposted SH16/Restall Road. Starts 10-12 am   |
| Sat 30 | NW   | MTBO, 45 Slater Road, 15 minutes north of Parakai off South Head Road. Massed start at 11 am for 90 minutes. Senior \$20, junior \$10. |

## July 2007

- Sun 1 A OY2, Hobbits map, signposted SH16/Restall Rd, start 10 am–12.30 pm,
- Sun 8 A DIY event using OY2 controls. Gate open 9.45-10 am, 12.15-12.30 pm. Signposted SH16/Restall Rd
- Sun 15 CM Promotion event, Waiuku forest, signposted from Waiuku town, starts 10 am-12.30 pm
- Sun 29 NW OY3, Stags Roar map, signposted SH16/Restall Rd, start 10 am–12 pm

## The 2006 OY Competition

*By Peter Godfrey (OY statistician)*

It has been quite a while since I have written comments about OY results, hasn't it? However, in response to an overwhelming number of requests -- well, at least two -- I have been driven to set pen to paper, or should that be digits to keyboards, one more time before they come to take me away to a "safe place".

But first, a question for you. Which 2005 title-holders were title-holders again in 2006? The answer is further on, no peeking now! (Hint: Not all are in the same class as they were in 2005.)

### Statistics

The number of club members participating in OYs remained fairly constant through the season averaging 117 per event, 71 males and 46 females. The fewest attended

Kelland Road (103) while the most turned out at Hobbit Woods (128).

The overwhelming majority, 83%, ran red courses. The number on orange, yellow and white courses never varied beyond 18 and 23. Males tended to run red while females made up 62% of the non-red courses.

### Course completion

The number of people completing their courses averaged 92.5% for the series. The success rate showed a general improvement throughout. It started at 84% at Weiti and then never dropped below 90%. It finished on a high of 96% or better at the two Counties Manukau events, which were both on farmland.

### Participation

Club participation followed the usual pattern. North West averaged 51 participants, Auckland 44 and Counties Manukau 20. On average there were a couple from other clubs but this was quite variable.

Next, the answer to the question above. The number was seven: four females; Kate Smirnova, Alina Smirnova, Patricia Aspin and Annette Orchard and three males; Jonty Oram, Matthew Ogden and Mark Lawson.

### **More questions**

Now for question 2. There were 26 OY titles won in 2006. Which club won the most, and what was the number?

And question 3. Which 2006 female and male title-holder have the longest unbroken run of OY titles? To make it a little more difficult, I want the number of years in each case.

### **The high performers**

Next, my personal list of ten people who did really well. There were two people who scored 100 OY points: Patricia Aspin with six wins out of six and Pete Swanson with five wins out of six. Scott Mackenzie had a perfect record with four wins out of four. Then there were others who came close: Matthew Ogden 99.3, Jourdan Harvey 99.0, Dave Middleton 98.8, Dave Crofts 98.4, Annette Orchard 97.9, Rolf Wagner 97.4 and Mark Lawson 96.1.

And then there are the ones who did not win anything but carried unbeaten records through the season. Without mentioning those with two event wins, there were six with three wins: Greta

Knarston, Marquita Gelderman, Rachel Smith, Heather Whelan, Andrew Bell and John Robinson. But my hard-luck award for a perfect record of four wins out of four starts, without a title to show for it, must go to Jill Dalton.

Now the answers to questions 2 and 3. The most successful club was Auckland with 12 titles; North-West was second with 9 and Counties-Manukau third with 5. Patricia Aspin has won every year since 2003 so her run is four years. Mark Lawson, not surprisingly, has won M21E every year this century as well as 2000 and 1998. I am sorry, Mark, that I could not find the 1999 results, so I will give your run as seven years. It is a fantastic record, whatever it is.

### **Success elsewhere**

Finally, just to show there's life after the OY competition, a number of OY winners and runners-up went to the WOA Champs at Wanganui over Labour Weekend. Four OY title-holders came back with fastest times: Patricia Aspin in W50, Dave Middleton in M50, Chevelle Sands in W18B and somebody in M70, I think), as did OY runner-up Greta Knarston in W20. OY runner-up Gene Beveridge took second in M16. And just to show that you don't have to be an OY title-holder to take out fastest time away from home; Simon Jager did just that in M20.

## 2007 Year 7 and 8 inter-school championships final



*John Robinson, Tom Clendon and Val Robinson (white jersey) organising Conifer Grove teams at the start. The maps are in the bins and the children get to have a good look at their map and quite a bit of instruction before they start.*

### Introduction

A Year 7 and 8 Auckland School Sports Organisation oversees all Auckland regional school sport, including orienteering, for this age group. The Auckland region is divided into eight zones: North Harbour, North West, Waitakere, Central, Eastern, Southern, Counties and Franklin, for the organisation of inter-school sports within a zone.

The organisation has an executive committee consisting of a principal or teacher from each zone and is, therefore, not representative of the sports it administers. Auckland orienteering is therefore fortunate in

having Val Robinson of CMOC on the committee.

### Responsibilities

A teacher or principal in each zone is appointed by the executive committee to be responsible for providing the inter-school orienteering in their zone. They may be orienteers which is the case for six of the eight zones.

The orienteers currently producing the zone championships are Mary Moen (North West and North Harbour), Leon McGivern (Waitakere), Vy Smirnov (Central), Bert Chapman (Eastern) and John and Val Robinson (Counties, Southern and Franklin). The

Robinsons also provide a competition for Year 6 and below pupils in their zones.

The events are the joint responsibility of the executive committee and the Auckland Orienteering Association. The events calendar is determined by the executive committee and the events produced by the clubs.

There are some minor differences amongst the zones in administration and operation of an event. In some cases, who has the responsibility for the quality control of administration and the event is not at all clear. The degree and scope of "ownership" by each of the AOA and the executive is undocumented and problematic.

### **The events**

Each zone can enter four schools into the greater Auckland area championship event - the "champion of champions".

Inter-school events are held by most zones to select their four teams. Southern and Counties, and Harbour and Central, have a combined inter-zone championship and North West combines with Waitakere if necessary.

The champion of champions tournament has a long history being initially established by the South Auckland club in the early 1970s by Unni Lewis and Terje Moen's father. Other zones have become involved over subsequent years with some being quite recent.

Laurie Baxter (NWOC), formerly principal of Northcross Intermediate, was instrumental in having orienteering included in the national schools' curriculum.

The annual champion of champion event is provided in rotation by AOC (Cornwall Park/One Tree Hill), CMOC (Reeve's Farm) and NWOC (Moire Park). This year it was North West's turn.

### **Courses**

There are separate competitions, in four grades, for boys and girls with each school team having six members.

A team starts together and have courses of much the same length but with a number of different legs. Every school team, therefore, has the same legs over the six members.

The girls and boys run the same courses. The final championship event has six courses but there may be as few as three courses in zone events. The legs are white and yellow with the emphasis upon easy yellow.

The sum of the best four times for a school becomes the school's time and determines its placing in the championship.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is very different from a typical club event. SportIdent is not used and the clip boxes are on the map, not on a separate card as in the summer series.

The school name, student name and start time are printed on the back of the map. The finish times are written on the back of the students' maps and their run-times calculated.

The maps for a school go to their teacher who transfers the data from the map onto a summary sheet for the school. Depending upon the organising zone the control clips check may be done by club members or teachers.

Teachers calculate the total time for the best four results in each of their six-member teams (addition of times is not a strong point of the primary teaching profession!) and display the result sheets on a string. The arithmetic is checked by club

members and the overall results sent to schools.

School teams are pre-entered and have allocated start times. A school generally leaves following the teacher completing the results display task.

### **Club members involved**

The orienteers helping at the 2007 championships were: Bert Chapman (setter), Ken Taylor (controller), Diane Taylor, (coordinator/registration), John and Val Robinson (start), Tom Clendon (start), Les Paver (map collection), Mary Moen (finish order), Debbie Beveridge (finish time on maps), John and Rae Powell (run-time calculation), Heather Clendon and Scott Vennell (clips check).

### **2007 Results**

	First	Second	Third
Y7 boys	St Joseph's	Papakura Normal	Remuera
Y7 girls	Blockhouse Bay	Remuera	Farm Cove
Y8 boys	Remuera	Bombay	Pukekohe
Y8 girls	Remuera	Ponsonby	Northcross

Check your arithmetic skills:-

The fastest four times in minutes and seconds for a team are 24.32, 20.19, 18.40 and 16.21. What is the team time? The answer follows on another page.

**Lost 1:** Inevitable result of finding compass and map reading in agreement for more than 30 seconds.

**Lost 2:** Occurs while attempting to drive home after competing on a new map.

**Map:** A piece of paper with a colourful pattern on it fabled to bear a resemblance to the ground.

## Wayne's Way

*See the last issue for the map and the associated activity - ed.*

### Leg 4

Before I reached control 3 I would have looked at all the options. First, where is 4's control site? I would have noted that that it was high on the feature with a catching feature being the ridge above.

Second, I would have looked at possible route choices and noted the determining ridge in the middle of the leg.

I would take a course to the right of the centre line if the visibility is low as it is safer than exiting to the left and going round the major centre spur, which adds length although that route has less climb.

The right side route has positive features with good catching attack points such the major re-entrant before the control site with the spur above.

If the visibility is high I would take the left route, rounding the spur at the second contour and using a compass bearing from that point, noting the two re-entrants as I crossed them and using the low spur as an attack point feature.

The red line option has a bit more climb and has two steep-walk sections.

### Leg 6

Even if the visibility is high or low I would aim off to the left of the red line ensuring that I am to the left of the control and once on the ridge I would look for the small hill as the attack point into the re-entrant with the control.

On the way up to the ridge I would look at the next leg route and see if there is a handrail feature away from the control so that when I clip, I will move away smoothly in the right direction without stopping.

Being sure of where I was when approaching the control site, I would have set my compass for the next leg so as to ensure that I am immediately in contact with the terrain.

I frequently look at my compass in sand dune terrain. It gives me confidence so that I can run harder in the green light section.

Besides looking for an attack point, I also look for catching features behind the control site, for example, a hill, road/track or depression, in case I lose contact with the map and have to relocate.

**Answer: 79 minutes and 52 seconds.**

## Results - AOA secondary school championships

	First	Second	Third
Sen boys	Jourdan Harvey, Kings	Gene Beveridge, Massey	Ben Ng Wai Shing, WBHS
Sen girls	Greta Knarston, EGGS	Nicola Peat, St Cuthbert's	Hannah Linkhorn, St Cuth's
Int boys	Matthew Ogden, Massey	Toby Scott, Glendowie	Tyler Casey, Massey
Int girls	Kate Smirnova, EGGS	Renee Beveridge, St Doms	Anna Grey, St Cuthbert's
Jun boys	Benjamin Reynolds, WBHS	Daniel Fitzpatrick, Kings	Tom Prebble, Kings
Jun girls	Bridget Lambert, EGGS	Jenny Hauke, EGGS	Merryn Ng Wai Shing, WGHS

AOC: Hannah Linkhorn, Toby Scott, Kate Smirnova,

CMOC: Jourdan Harvey, Greta Knarston, Nicola Peat, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Tom Prebble

NWOC: Gene Beveridge, Ben Ng Wai Shing, Matthew Ogden, Tyler Casey, Renee Beveridge, Anna Grey, Benjamin Reynolds, Merryn Ng Wai Shing

No club in 2006: Bridget Lambert (ex CMOC), Jenny Hauke

### Top school competition points

	Boys	Girls
First	Kings College, 11	Epsom Girls' Grammar School, 18
Second	Massey High School, 10	Saint Cuthbert's School, 7
Third	Westlake Boys' High School	Saint Dominic's School, 4

## Editorial Bits

### Next Issue: June 2007

Please send your contributions to John Powell at [johnandrae@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnandrae@xtra.co.nz) by June 20, phone 09 238 8159

### Distribution

If you change your address please contact your club membership officer or Stephen Reynolds at 09 358 854 or [Stephen.Reynolds@lion-nathan.co.nz](mailto:Stephen.Reynolds@lion-nathan.co.nz)

### Sender

Jill Smithies, secretary/treasurer Auckland Orienteering Association, 4b Fairbanks Place, Glendene, Auckland.

*The Auckland Orienteer is the monthly magazine of the Auckland Orienteering Association. It is produced monthly and is available online from [geocities.com/nwocnz](http://geocities.com/nwocnz). Other orienteering related publications are welcome to draw material from the magazine although credit is asked for both the author, if stated, and the magazine.*



**Sender:**

Auckland Orienteering Association  
4b Fairbanks Place, Glendene, Auckland

The  
Auckland  
Orienteer

