



ABN: 96028120934

PO Box 339

Sandy Bay

TAS 7006

Orienteering Tasmania Inc

Annual Report for 2014

SUPPORTED BY



Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

Winner:

**2013 Community Organization Award
Premier's Physical Activity Council**

Host:

**2015 Oceania Championships and Round 1 of
the IOF World Cup**

Orienteering Tasmania Incorporated

The Board

President	Warwick Moore
Vice Presidents	Ian Rathbone Bernard Walker
Secretary	(March – August) - Janet Bush (Sept – March) - Vacant
Public officer	Janet Bush
Director Finance	Andrea Schiwy
Director Development	Bert Elson
Director Performance	Jan Hardy
Director Technical	Roger Harlow

Officers

eBulletin Editor	Jane Cusick
Mapping	Greg Hawthorne
Membership	Bert Elson
OKnow Editor	Mary Hawthorne
Public Courses	Martin Bicevskis
Results and Statistician	Karl Bicevskis
Website	Ian Rathbone
OA Annual Conference delegates	Ian Rathbone Warwick Moore

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Introduction

2014 was a busy year for orienteers in Tasmania with a full calendar of events, both state-wide and local, as well as the huge effort being undertaken to prepare for our hosting of the Oceania Championships and Round 1 of the World Cup.

As a state sporting organisation, a primary measure of success must be our performances at national and international level. In this regard 2014 was a very successful year with Tasmanians selected to represent Australia at the World Championships and the Junior World Championships, and our orienteers performing outstandingly in the National Orienteering League, and Junior National Orienteering League.

Our Schools Team was victorious in the Australian Schools Championships (for the third time in the last four years!) and is confirmed as the most successful schools team in Australia for the past decade.

Three of our athletes were ranked number 1 on the Australia National Rankings as at 31 December 2014. They were Hanny Allston (elite women), Brodie Nankervis (Junior men) and Anna Dowling (Junior women).

These achievements, in particular the success of our schools and juniors, is a true reflection of an excellent programme of coaching; the annual and well-run training camps programme; and the excellent team management, not only during 2014 but built over more than a decade.

In other areas, total membership increased on the back of strong growth in casual memberships and in spite of a decline in full memberships. There was a full programme of events (more than one a week!) conducted during the year – a total of 88 (80 in 2013) which does not include some events organized for specific groups. Orienteering Tasmania's financial situation remains strong with a small operating profit in 2014 and with sound financial reserves.

The Board

The 2014 Annual General Meeting saw one change to the Board, with Janet Bush replacing David Marshall as Secretary. I would like to thank David for his work as

Secretary during his four years from 2010 to 2013. David was previously President (2003-2005) so his overall knowledge of the management of the sport, together with his well-considered contributions to Board discussion and his attention to detail, made him a very valuable Board member. I appreciated his advice very much.

Janet Bush provided valuable support to the Board as Secretary during the first half of the 2014. Unfortunately, Janet was unable to continue in the position for personal and health reasons.

During the second half of the year, the Board was unable to fill the vacant Secretary position despite the position being advertised widely. In this age of electronic communication, and apart from the minute-taking role (and keeping the President on task!), the bulk of the traditional role of Secretary has morphed from writing and answering letters to checking emails and passing on the important ones to the relevant Board member as well as maintaining the Board's electronic action list. Overall, it is not a demanding job but it does take a bit of time and the lack of a Secretary during the second half of the year put extra demands on the President and other Board members. I believe it is essential that we fill this position at this meeting.

Three Board members are retiring tonight. Bernard Walker is retiring from his Vice President position after three years (and having filled the position for six years during a previous period). Bernard's current term on the Board will be remembered for his leadership of the Oceania Organising Committee but his contribution to Board deliberations across the whole of the sport has been invaluable.

Bert Elson is stepping down as Director, Development, a position he filled with the utmost enthusiasm and with a wide range of projects on the go at all times. Bert has held this position in two stints for a total of eight years (with a break of three years) and together with his three years as President has completed over eleven years on the Board. I am certain he will continue to be a big contributor to orienteering in the years ahead.

Jan Hardy took up the offer of a position on the Board late in 2013 when the Board was in urgent need of someone with interest and knowledge of the high performance area. The Board very much appreciated Jan's knowledge and understanding of both the state and the national high performance scene. She plans to continue her involvement as both a national and a state selector in 2015.

On behalf of all orienteers, and especially the Board, I thank Bernard, Bert, Jan, and Janet for their contributions to our sport. All of them have done more than their share to keep the sport of orienteering going.

The Board held four full meetings during this reporting period (between the AGMs) and three executive meetings. As usual business was brisk and purposeful with all Board members preparing papers for discussion and decision during the year. All meetings were held in Hobart as Roger Harlow found it convenient to travel south. Board communication is increasingly through the use of ActivCollab, software that also serves as a central repository for all our official documents in electronic form.

Finance

Orienteering Tasmania's finances remain strong. In 2014 expenses were up, but so was income, resulting in a small net profit. There was steady growth in members' funds and the Oceania carnival will contribute to further growth, although the precise details are yet to be finalized.

Orienteering Tasmania was again successful in obtaining a grant from the Department of Sport and Recreation. The grant contributes to our junior camps; to the ongoing communications that we provide, including *OKnow*, the webpages and server costs; the production of the new promotional brochure now available; the training of officials (controllers and planners); and contributes to the cost of mapping and information technology infrastructure. All of the Key Performance Indicators related to the Government Grant for 2014 have been met and, as a result, a further grant for 2015 has been approved.

Maps are the major cost to our sport and last year I mentioned that the Department of Sport and Recreation had accepted that maps are an integral part of our sport and had permitted us to apply for funding for maps. The grant for 2015 also accepted mapping as a cost with which they are prepared to assist, so that is a positive.

It is the Board's responsibility to use members' funds for their benefit and so the Board has embarked on a major programme to update our maps, which of course will benefit all of us. Initial work was completed during 2014 with the creation of an up-to-date listing of all maps and their current status, however the bulk of the expenditure on the re-mapping and updating of maps will take place over the next two years. The Board has agreed to make available funding of up to \$60000 over two years for this major project and expressions of interest will be considered by the Director Technical in the immediate future.

The Board has also set aside \$30000 over three years for promotion and this money will form part of the budget for the Director Development.

On behalf of all orienteers but especially the Board, I take this opportunity to thank Andrea Schiwy for her work as Treasurer. She has again done an excellent job maintaining our financial records in a very professional manner and keeping the Board well informed on financial matters. Her work during 2014 and into this year is particularly meritorious as she has also had to deal with the considerable task of managing Oceania carnival finances. Being Treasurer is not something any of us wanted to do when we took up orienteering but it is something someone has to do on our behalf and Andrea does it so well.

Participation and Events

The 2014 Orienteering program included a total of 88 formally organised events. This is a huge number for a small organisation, with only four clubs and 257 full members. Given the intricacies of organising and running an orienteering event, it indicates the dedication of many of our members to see so many events on the calendar. I thank every member who has been involved in ensuring the success of these events, in whatever way, and I wish the organisers of the 80 plus events planned for 2015 every success.

To minimise confusion over the two state-wide series, one age based and one course based, that we have conducted for the past several years, the Board has moved to merge the two into a single age class based competition, the Orienteering Series Tasmania. Older members will recognize that this is a move back to what was formerly the Orienteer of the Year competition.

Last year I reported that the Board planned to undertake some initiatives to try to coax orienteers who regularly attend local events to try bush events during 2014. In the end, the lack of personnel and higher priorities meant that these initiatives were not taken up. All of us should do our bit to encourage more people to try bush orienteering.

The Board continues to support orienteering on the Northwest Coast and conducted a successful Tasmanian Sprint Championships in Devonport during 2014. This has been scheduled again this year. I would urge all orienteers to support this initiative.

It was a rather difficult task last year to develop the 2015 calendar as the Board was working towards a new competition and everyone was busy with Oceania work so there were many versions and revisions. I would like to thank Ross Kelly for his persistence and his negotiating skills in producing the calendar once again.

Technical

Events continue to be conducted at a very high technical level under the watchful eye of Director Technical, Roger Harlow. There are 21 accredited Controllers in Tasmania and these people are the keys to maintaining the high standard of events. We always need new Controllers and to this end Roger has developed an online course that can be used for Level 1 accreditation. I encourage all orienteers interested in helping with events to undertake this course. Level 2 and level 3 Controllers need to maintain and/or upgrade their accreditation as, and when, it becomes appropriate to do so.

Undertaking event management, course planning and/or controller training does help orienteers improve their own orienteering skills. However, it also helps guard against the unlikely event of legal action if we can show that we provide training for our officials and that they act in accordance with the training.

In 2014 we continued to conduct all events using SI cards and P cards and this is improving the participant's experience.

For Oceania almost all Tasmanian entrants were able to use Eventor for their entries and pre-payment. For this reason it has been decided to use Eventor for pre-entry to all state-wide events this year. This should be a great help to organisers who will not need to handle entries and funds on the day of the event.

Governance

Orienteering Tasmania continues to be highly-regarded for its management and governance practices and processes. The Australian Sports Commission expects state sporting organisations to be well-aligned with their national bodies, and Orienteering Tasmania's plans are consistent with the aims and objectives of Orienteering Australia.

The orienteering Tasmania Strategic Plan has been extended to a four-year plan to align it with that of orienteering Australia. The Plan is now posted on the website for anyone interested in having a closer look.

Our Key Performance Indicators in our State Grant application continue to be closely aligned with the Strategic Plan. In 2014 we met all our KPIs except for the conduct of an Event Management and Course Planning Workshop which was delayed and completed successfully in February this year with ten people attending. Those who attended have almost completed accreditation for Level 1 Controller.

Risk Management has continued to be a standing item on the Board agenda and it continues to be of concern to the Board of Orienteering Australia who recently obtained legal opinion about risk management at events and the need for a prominent display of a risk warning and disclaimer at events and during the online registration/entry process. I urge all organisers to obtain a copy of the document and make sure it is prominently displayed at their event.

Maps are our most precious resource. During 2014 the Board brought in a new policy dealing with the correction of existing maps and this policy is now on the website. The Board also initiated a major project to upgrade maps or conduct re-maps. Preliminary work has begun and the Board is looking to make substantial progress during 2015. Thanks are due to Roger Harlow, to our Mapping Officer, Greg Hawthorne, and to our mappers for their ongoing work on this project. Because of the centralization of the map database and associated policies relating to map renewal, it is logical that funding of mapping and the updating of maps is paid for centrally and the Board has approved a change in the funding agreement between the Board and clubs to this end. It was decided to leave the clubs with the same proportion of income from events, even though mapping costs are now Orienteering Tasmania's responsibility. This should help release funds, currently held in reserve in clubs, for use in other areas for the benefit of their members and for local promotion of the sport.

Access to land for orienteering was a major issue during 2014. The proposed golf courses, village, and 200 residences at Pittwater was a major concern and Orienteering Tasmania presented its case to various agencies within the government and to the Clarence Council, finally ending up with a presentation to the Tasmanian Planning Commission. I would like to thank Ian Rathbone for leading this presentation, while I was overseas, and Mike Dowling and Christine Marshall for the excellent expert evidence they presented, as well as Mike Morffew for supporting material. The result was a win in the Planning Commission that ensured the full development could not proceed. However, the developers lodged a second proposal for a single golf course and this was approved by the Clarence Council as it did not involve a change to approved land use. The current plan is for a golf course covering the best set of complex dunes on the current Pittwater map. To date there is no indication of when or if this golf course will proceed.

The Board has begun negotiations with Parks and Wildlife with the aim of getting annual approval for use of land that PWS manages. We have received a favourable response and negotiations are continuing. A similar plan has been put to Forestry Tasmania who will await the completion of negotiations with Parks and Wildlife. Thanks are due to Bert Elson who has continued to work with the Hobart City Council in maintaining a similar agreement for use of Council property.

Marketing our sport to the general public has always presented difficulties. However, our website, with its regularly updated news items and information about events is expertly maintained by Ian Rathbone and provides the central source of information for the sport. During 2014, Ian published 58 news items on the website and there were 111 Facebook feeds and 191 Twitter feeds. We are indebted to Ian for his efforts in this area. Thank you, too, to those who provided news items for inclusion on the web page.

There is an opportunity here for one or two of our younger, IT savvy orienteers to take over roles within this electronic marketing and communication programme, as their contribution to the sport.

Jane Cusick and Mary Hawthorne, editors of our weekly *eBulletin* (50 issues published) and bi-monthly *OKnow* (6 issues published), provide a sterling service and a constant flow of information to nearly 700 interested casual or full members. A new colour brochure has been developed by Bert Elson and copies are now available for promotional purposes. Bert has also offered to conduct a short survey of full and casual members to see which of the various media are most useful for marketing.

Links with Orienteering Australia

In order to conduct the sport of Orienteering in Tasmania we must maintain our affiliation with Orienteering Australia. To do this, we are required to pay certain fees and levies to help fund the work of Orienteering Australia, and in return for specific items such as the national magazine. In return we are entitled to be represented at the Orienteering Australia AGM and on the various committees, as well as to send delegates to the Orienteering Australia Annual Conference and, of course, to conduct national and international events such as Oceania and the World Cup races held in January.

The use of Eventor has been accepted by Orienteering Australia, so Orienteering Tasmania intends to increase our use of Eventor in line with increases in other states.

Eventor will eventually become the definitive results database for orienteering in Australia, as well as the universal event entry system and a membership renewal database.. At the 2014 Orienteering Australia Annual Conference it was agreed that there were some serious weaknesses that needed to be remedied, most notably the use of Eventor for membership renewal. At the conference Ian Rathbone was appointed to lead a national committee to develop and to document functional requirements and change requests to be implemented as soon as possible. Once again, we are indebted to Ian Rathbone for both his work at the national level but, more particularly for his work in managing Eventor for our use, here in Tasmania, and for the recent Oceania carnival. It was a huge amount of work.

The increasing use of Eventor will add to Orienteering Tasmania's costs but the cost will reduce as more states use the software more fully, as is likely in Victoria and the ACT. WA and NSW already are committed to its use.

Several changes to the Board structure and budgeting at Orienteering Australia level have occurred as predicted last year and the Board of OA now is able to set levies without recourse to the Annual General Meeting. This change is one of the reasons for the proposed alteration to our constitution to cover the setting of membership fees without recourse to our AGM.

Performance

As mentioned previously and detailed in the performance report below, Tasmanian athletes performed exceptionally well at national and international level during 2014.

I would particularly like to congratulate the Juniors who represented Tasmania in the **Tassie Foresters** for their efforts in winning the National Orienteering League for both Junior men and Junior women. They also contributed to the excellent win in the Australian Schools Championships.

Also special congratulations to Hanny Allston who continues to perform so well at international and national level. Just as impressive was her contribution as National Team Coach of the Junior World Championships team, a role which I understand she performed admirably. There would not be many athletes of her calibre and still competing at top level internationally who willingly spend so much time helping in such a demanding role. I know her coaching is greatly appreciated by the juniors in her care.

It is great to have four World Championship representatives, Hanny Allston (WOC), Brodie Nankervis, Anna Dowling and Ashley Nankervis (all JWOC) and to have Hanny, Brodie and Anna ranked number one in Australia for 2014 – three out of a possible four number one rankings in the high performance classes!

It is a major responsibility to manage a team of young people travelling on extended trips to the mainland and it is, at times a thankless, time-consuming, and demanding task. I would like to thank Kim Nankervis and Gayle West for their work with the Schools Team and Dirk Nankervis for his continuing involvement with the NOL teams' management. Kim in particular has been Manager for a number of years and steps down at the peak of the programme's success. Team members and parents owe her a debt of gratitude for a job well done. Dirk and Gayle plan to continue their involvement this year and we wish them continued success with the management of the teams in their care.

Sue Hancock and Mike Dowling provided the coaching of the successful Schools Team as well as some individual coaching of juniors. Both are held in high regard by team members and other juniors alike, and they have a great ability to get the best from their athletes. They will be sadly missed this year.

Congratulations to all those who represented Tasmania at national and international events during 2014 (and including Oceania).

Following this Annual General Meeting we will be presenting our awards. Many of these awards are based on the detailed statistical data which, for better or worse, pervades our sport. I would like to express our thanks to Karl Bicevskis, our Statistician, to Roger Harlow, and to Ian Rathbone who have done a wonderful job in collecting and, dare I say, "massaging" the statistics to identify the winners according to the, often complicated, formulae.

An interesting development during 2014 was the appointment of an "Orienteer in residence". Henrik Knudsen made a significant contribution in many ways, not least by running much appreciated training activities in the lead up to Oceania. The second appointee, Richard Parkin, has continued the programme during February and March this year. New ideas and new faces have been a welcome boost to our regular calendar of events.

International Contributions

Mike Dowling has been re-elected to serve another two-year term as one of three Vice Presidents of the International Orienteering Federation (IOF), the peak body of the sport.

Oceania 2015

While the Oceania Championships and Round 1 of the IOF World Cup was conducted in 2015, and so strictly speaking belongs to the next annual report, I am including it in this report because it was the culmination of two and half years of preparation by Bernard Walker and the Organising Committee, as well as most members of our orienteering community, and because most of the work occurred during 2014.

By all measures the Championships were a great success for Tasmania. All events were conducted extremely well with not a single protest. International visiting orienteers, coaches and media were glowing in their praise for the variety of the event terrain and the technical quality of the courses. Visitor services, such as Registration and venue parking, were very well presented and received many positive comments. In my speech at the media launch in Launceston, I indicated that orienteers would take up 10 000 bed/nights of accommodation, thus contributing greatly to the Tasmanian economy. With the excellent level of entries for the Hobart Shorts, and the longer stays by many visitors, including members of World Cup teams, I am sure that this statistic has been surpassed.

A further boost to Tasmania's image overseas was provided by the many blogs and Facebook comments provided by the international visitors which included some great photos of Tasmania's iconic tourist centres.

The Future

I believe our sport in Tasmania is in a strong position but there are some concerns.

I commented last year on the age of the main organizers of many of our events and major carnivals. We must continue to work hard to recruit younger members to take on an increasing share of the management of the sport and the heavy workload of event organization.

There is a significant decline in full members this year after several years of steady membership statistics. As I reported last year, there is a well-documented and increasing tendency for people to become consumers of sport (pay the entry fee, compete, go home) rather than members who contribute to the sport. Whatever the

reason pressure is mounting on the key people. One alternative solution is to consider paying people to run events or deliver aspects of the services we offer. I raised this at a Board meeting in 2013 and there was considerable debate about how this could be reconciled with the work of our many volunteers. It is a question we may need to answer sooner rather than later.

I also noted last year the megatrend, identified nationally, that would see sport increasingly commercialized. The Australian Sports Commission is heading in this direction. How can we package our sport into a form that would become financially self-sustaining.

As predicted, the Australian Sports Commission has cancelled the Active After Schools Programme. We did not become involved in that programme having limited resources and believing it would not be appropriate. It has been replaced by the Sporting Schools Programme that will commence in the third school term this year, though details are

sketchy at the moment. The ASC is directing \$100 million to this programme but the money will go to schools so that they can “purchase” sporting activities that they choose. Orienteering has a good record with the ASC and has been chosen as one of the trial sports. Orienteering Australia has received a grant that will be put towards developing programme materials and that will enable us to become involved in Sporting Schools. However, we will be in competition with other sports that are more popular and better resourced, our provision will need to fit with the school’s wishes and we will need to have personnel trained for programme delivery. In the end we (in Tasmania) will need to evaluate whether we have the resources to participate at all and whether or not it is a priority for us.

An underlying concern is that once this programme becomes established, major grants to national sporting bodies may be cut, which would jeopardize the future of the national office of OA unless states can find sufficient funds.

On a happier note, our turn to host the Australian Three Days looks likely to be pushed back one year to 2018, at our request (2017 clashes with New Zealand hosting the World Masters). The probability is that our next turn to host the Australian Championships would be in 2020. We will soon need to begin thinking about hosting these two national carnivals.

Conclusion

Throughout this report I have mentioned the particular contributions of a number of people. The following Directors' reports will mention many more.

However, it is always a risk mentioning individuals, as so many others willingly contribute to our sport in all manner of voluntary activities that make our unique sport so enjoyable and enable it to function so efficiently. Club committees, social event organisers, event planners and controllers, mappers, coaches, team managers, BBQ chefs, uniform designers, toilet towers, all come to mind. To everyone who has made a contribution, however small, I pass on to you the sincere and grateful thanks of the Board and the orienteering community.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board for their on-going work, support and guidance, and extend our thanks to you, the members, for the support we have received during the year.

I wish everyone a successful 2015.



Warwick Moore
President

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Development is a broad portfolio which requires contributions from a large number of volunteers. At the outset I would like to thank all those volunteers, not only the ones named in this report but everyone who has given time to development matters in Orienteering in Tasmania.

In general terms participation remained high during the year but a worrying trend is a general drop in full membership numbers, particularly in EVOC and WROC.

Considerable work was done during the year on reorganizing the membership database and bringing it more in line with the national system, Eventor. With a number of key personnel highly involved in preparations for the Oceania and World Cup carnivals there was a slight drop off in development efforts towards the end of the year.

Membership:

MEMBERS	2014	2013	2012
FULL MEMBERS	257	287	295*
CASUAL MEMBERS	518	454	389
TOTAL	775	741	684

PARTICIPATION	2014	2013	2012
	5797	6322	5030 + 3054 Aus Champs

* This figure came from the old system – the old system was carrying a number of members who had retired from the sport, left the state or passed away!

We have reverted to an in-house database with reports on the website available to key club representatives. There have been some issues with families renewing membership through Eventor and these are being resolved by Ian Rathbone. While renewing through Eventor is very beneficial for orienteers who compete in major events we must ensure it remains easy for more casual orienteers.

Website

The website continues to be our principal contact with members and the wider public. We are particularly indebted to Ian Rathbone as webmaster for his ongoing development work and for posting news and other information on a regular basis. The website regularly receives positive feedback from users.

Publications

O Know: I am indebted to Mary Hawthorne who has continued to edit our bimonthly magazine, *O Know*. We now distribute this predominantly by email but still print a limited number of copies for those requesting these.

Australian Orienteer: During the year we received and distributed 4 editions of Australian Orienteer.

Email Bulletin: The weekly email bulletin remains a key means of communication with members and casual orienteers. The bulletin goes to everyone on our circulation list, both full and casual members, and is currently sent out to over 600 people each week. Our thanks to Jane Cusick who edits the bulletin each week.

Media

The Hobart Mercury continues to be difficult to get articles published in though EVOG members have more success with the Examiner. During the year we also had success with radio broadcasts – generally on ABC local radio.

Other Development Activities

Many other jurisdictions have full time (paid) development officers. As all our Development work is done on a voluntary basis we tend to take opportunities as they arise on an ad-hoc basis. In many cases these are driven on a local level and again I am indebted to Launceston orienteers who continue to be proactive in this respect.

2014 saw Australopers appoint a European coach in residence, Henrik Knudsen. This was a successful venture and OT has agreed to assist clubs in gaining the services of similar coaches in residence in 2015.

The Future

As was stated last year there are just so many things we would like to do if we had sufficient funding and manpower. In reality it is a juggling act to achieve what we can and to constantly prioritise opportunities.

This year will see the introduction of the Federal Government's "Sporting Schools" program. Orienteering must compete with many other sports for a share of this funding and this will be a significant challenge in the future.

Bert Elson
Director, Development

PERFORMANCE REPORT

I'm pleased to report that Tasmanian orienteers have enjoyed another very successful year on the Performance front. It's very encouraging to see such terrific results and, not to take away from the enormous sacrifices and training that individuals have to put in to achieve outstanding results, I like to think that we as an orienteering community can and do contribute by providing a very cohesive and supportive base.

It is great to see that we have such an active membership, from whose ranks people continue to volunteer their precious time and considerable energy to coach, manage, organise, assist and support our State representatives. Somehow, each year, training camps are organised, teams selected and managed and our elite athletes continue to put in some amazing performances. We are very grateful to all of those who play a part in this, both as athletes and organisers. Keep it up!

First let me highlight some of the achievements of our representative Tasmanian orienteers in 2014:

Schools Team

This year our Schools Team won the Australian Schools Orienteering Championships, for the third time in four years. That is a huge achievement, particularly in view of our population size relative to those of our competitors. While Tasmania has traditionally punched above its weight in Schools competition, it is still very hard to take the overall win. So congratulations to all those involved.

I think it is important that, results aside, we also take pride in the way our juniors conduct themselves at these events. Orienteering has its ups and downs – as we all know, it doesn't always go according to plan. Once again it was a pleasure to witness how positive and inclusive our team members are in wholeheartedly supporting one another.

Congratulations to the athletes, but also special thanks to their management & coaching team of Kim Nankervis, Gayle West, Mike Dowling & Sue Hancock. Thanks also to our State selectors – Judy Davis, Kim Nankervis and Jan Hardy. Once again team selection was no easy matter, due to a pleasing depth of field.

Jarrah Day, Anna Dowling, Hannah Goddard and Rachel Allen particularly excelled in their races and were named as members of the 2014 Australian Schools Honour Team. That is four Tasmanians in the top 16 – well done!

National Orienteering League

Here again we had some fantastic results, notably in junior ranks, where the Tassie Foresters won both the Junior Men (ahead of Victoria & NSW) and Junior Women (ahead of NSW & Qld) divisions. A great outcome!

There were some outstanding junior individual performances also with Brodie Nankervis 2nd, Jarrah Day 6th, Ashley Nankervis 8th and Oisin Stonach 14th in the overall Junior Mens results. In Junior Womens Anna Dowling was 2nd, with Nicola Marshall 9th, Hannah Goddard 10th and Bec Butler 11th. That's eight Tasmanians right up there in the top 30 Australian juniors.

Alas, due to demographic factors, in Seniors we are short on quantity if not quality. Our sole regular NOL competitor, Hanny Allston, took out the Womens individual award. Great work, Hanny!

Grace Crane and Sarah & Amy Buckerfield all put in cameo performances in the NOL to place us ahead of Western Australia (and not too far behind NSW & SA). We do appreciate our expatriate Tasmanians continuing to run for their home State, rather than their States of residence. Brodie will join their ranks next year and provide some much-needed strength in our Senior Men's.

Thanks to Dirk Nankervis who provided great ongoing support as the 2014 NOL/JNOL Team Manager, and to Chris Brown who helped out at the Australian Championships Carnival.

Thanks also to Liz Butler for her ongoing role in acquiring and distributing the Foresters uniform.

International Representation

Hanny Allston represented Australia in the 2014 **World Orienteering Championships** in Trentino, Italy, in August. She achieved a 13th placing in the Long, a 15th in the Middle and 24th in the Sprint – the best Australian result.

At the end of 2014 Hanny was ranked 1st W21E in Australia, with an overall World Ranking of 30th.

In the **Junior World Championships** in Bulgaria in July, Brodie Nankervis represented Australia in M20. Brodie also achieved a best Australian result with three top-20 results in the individual disciplines. Brodie was 19th in the Sprint, 16th in the Middle A Final and 13th in the Long – a truly sensational performance!

Hanny also deserves particular mention in her role as the JWOC National Coach, providing the benefit of her experience to all our up-and-coming Australian juniors.

Coaching and Training

Unfortunately Tasmania still has relatively few accredited coaches. While we had hoped to provide some further coaching accreditation opportunities in 2014, this hasn't happened. In part this is due to changes under way which mean that the current accreditation process is in a state of flux, with proposals to provide Level 0 courses in the near future, as well as the possibility of completing the theoretical components of the Level 1 course online. Hopefully this will be clarified during 2015 and we will then be encouraging as many Tasmanian orienteers as possible to take advantage of these new options.

We are fortunate that the coaches we do have, and others, are active in providing coaching and training opportunities. These occur during formal training camps (three were held in 2014, with excellent attendance numbers), in conjunction with regular events and as separate training sessions during breaks in the calendar. Particular thanks there to Mike Dowling, Sue Hancock, Mark West & Jessie West.

We've also been fortunate this year in having the benefit of two temporary coaches-in-residence in southern Tasmania, in the form of Hendrik Knudsen and (in 2015) Richard Parkin, who have significantly added to our coaching/learning opportunities. Thanks there are due to Bert Elson and the Australopers club who have seized the opportunity and piloted this program. Hopefully we'll have the opportunity to host other coaches-in-residence in 2015 and beyond.

We'd like to see further opportunities for attaining and upgrading coaching accreditation available in 2015, but meanwhile would like to thank those contributing at all levels.

In Summary

2015 has been another good year for (High) Performance Orienteering in Tasmania and we look forward to building on that, particularly at Senior levels, in the future.

Jan Hardy
Director Performance

TECHNICAL REPORT

A major focus of the Technical portfolio this year has been the development of the online theory course for Orienteering Controller Level 1. Besides the Director's incidental duties as OT Controller for the Oceania Sprint, there have also been initiatives in the mapping area, with the starting up of the OT Mapping Review Project.

Level 1 Controllers.

The onerous post-course assessment tasks have proved a major barrier for some in previous courses. The response was the development of an online course for this qualification, using MOODLE and CourseLab2.4 implemented on the OA web server. The Australian Sports Commission favours development of online courses for Level 1 officials and OA has expressed an interest in it.

The course is now completed and is being tested and refined. It will shortly be available to new candidates for this important role, as well as existing officials who are due for re-accreditation. If you attended a course in 2012 or 2013 and did not complete, this is an opportunity for you. Email technical@tasorienteeing.asn.au and request logon credentials for the course. Two of our Level 1 Controllers require re-accreditation this year.

Level 2 Controllers

We should see accreditations for at least four new officials at this level shortly. All our existing Level 2's are accredited until 2018. An increase in Level 2 Controller resources will help us to improve technical compliance and event quality at Badge and Championship events. We need to maintain our credibility and reputation at this level and to fill these roles carefully and early in planning.

Level 3 Controllers

All five of our Level 3 officials are due for re-accreditation this year and there is an OA Workshop coming up at Easter 2015 for this purpose. One of our very experienced Level 2 controllers attended the 2014 workshop and will be recommended by OT for accreditation, giving our largest club an official at this Level. Our successful Oceania and World Cup Carnival this year rested squarely on the depth of experience in our small organisation, including the many controllers and the key IOF officials we have on our strength.

Course Planners and Event Management

The Board also sees the need for a recognition process for Course Planners, who do most of the actual work in organising events and are often unsung and unrecorded. Addition of the names of officials to the results records in *Eventor* should assist this. The Board ran a successful Event Organisation workshop in the South to assist officials with CONDES, SportIdent and Autodownload, utilising course materials provided by Christine Brown for her parallel course in the North in 2013. Martin Bicevskis has continued as the key manager for Sportident equipment and Ross Kelly is also to be thanked for his diligence in coordinating the preparation of the Events Calendar for 2015. Karl Bicevskis continued his important and complex role in maintaining our event statistics.

In consultation with Clubs, the Board resolved to consolidate the course-based Tasmanian Orienteering Series and the State League age-based competitions into a single age-based statewide series to be called **Orienteering Series Tasmania (OST)**. This will remove a level of complexity from the calculation of individual excellence points and inter-club competition points. It will also re-align us with practice in other States. Ian Rathbone has been my patient and skilful collaborator in bedding in the courses and classes arrangements for this new series as they relate to entry processes in *Eventor*.

Mapping and Event Timing

Greg Hawthorne is again to be applauded for his strong work as Mapping Officer keeping abreast of new technologies like LIDAR imaging. He has also been a key player in the deployment of radio controls and Olynx, together with Bernard Walker, Andrew Barber and Ian Rathbone. A well-attended workshop was run by experienced national mapper Alex Tarr early in 2014 and many attending were stimulated to try their hands at this key activity for the sport. One such enthusiast has been young mapper Sebastian O'Halloran who created a new map of Friends School and ran an event on it. We certainly need youthful energy like this at all organisational levels in our sport!

The Board developed a new policy to manage official map corrections in a way which utilises digital drawing technology but respects mappers' intellectual products. New maps were prepared for the Oceania and World Cup events at Avoca (*Rajah Rock*), St Helens (*Transit Flats*) and Swansea (*Kelvedon*). Existing maps of the *University of Tasmania Launceston*, *Diddleum* and *Coles Bay* were updated for the Carnival. Mappers Paul Pacque, Mike Morffew and Alex Tarr again delivered wonderful service to our sport in preparing these maps.

The Board has now voted significant funds for mapping upgrades and new maps in the **Mapping Review Project**. This will run over the next two years, providing work for our mappers and a foundation for expanding participation in the sport. Funds will be allocated by the Board for a series of significant mapping activities in collaboration with the Mapping Officer, Mappers and Clubs.

I gratefully acknowledge the strong support I have received as Technical Director, from former Director Christine Brown, Event Officials, Board Members and our managers in this portfolio.

Roger Harlow
Director, Technical
February 2015