

## Urban Orienteering Subcommittee Report – April 2016

### Orienteering Victoria Board Meeting

<b>OVERALL STATUS</b>	Business as usual
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#### ACTIVITIES & PLANS

##### 1) Park Street summer participation rates

The average attendance across all the summer series just completed was 475.4, versus 468.4 the previous year, a small gain of 7 attendances.

The Monday and Tuesday series have each shown a small increase in average attendance.

The Wednesday series still is the main drawcard of the week, however attendance has fallen this past season. In 2015/16 Scotch College has a reduced number of students attending plus it is possible that the Scout Adventure series held on Tuesday nights has drawn some people away from this series. Also traffic congestion is becoming a real issue in accessing the events.

The Thursday series attendances have remained reasonably steady over the last few years, and the dip this year can be attributed to extreme weather affecting the series.

Macedon remains consistent and both Geelong and the Surf Coast series have seen an improvement in numbers.

Series	Av attendance 2014/15	Av attendance 2015/16
Monday	68.7	72.4
Tuesday	88.8	93.0
Wednesday	143.7	130.6
Thursday	58.4	56.5
Macedon	16.2	20
Geelong	48.1	50.4
Surf Coast	44.5	52.5

The key concern for attendance numbers is the Wednesday series. It is planned to discuss this issue and potential strategies at our next meeting. Input from the OV Board would be appreciated.

##### 2) Park Street Awards night

The 2015/16 Summer Series concluded with a very well attended Awards Night in March. Park and Street Championship medallions were presented, along with Millennium Club Legend certificates, and the Course Setter of the Year Award.

The UOC would like to acknowledge the ongoing work by Ray Howe in coordinating the Championships, tracking the Millennium Club participation statistics, scoring the Eastern Summer Series, and arranging the various awards. Ray's contribution is highly appreciated.

##### 3) Melbourne Sprint Weekend wrap up:

This event was very successful with 300 unique entries, and a high level of positive feedback obtained.

The event attracted quality course planners and advisors and the Urban committee thanks them for their support of the event.

Overall the event made a small profit. A portion of this has been distributed to the clubs who provided on the day resource for the event, plus a portion held by the Urban committee in a Sprint project fund. The funds retained in the Sprint fund will be used both to provide a contingency fund for future events, plus undertake mapping of new areas. The amount to be retained as a contingency will be decided at the next committee meeting, but does need to be able to cover a shortfall if attendances do not match budget, plus cover planning fixed costs. This year these were covered personally by the core organising team.

After the large turnout of juniors at the Victoria Sprint Championships last year, there were surprisingly few who continued on to compete at the MSW. Comment on possible reasons would be appreciated.

When planning this event the aim was to base it on the NZ "Sprint the Bay" event format, holding 6 events over 3 days and we liaised with the Sprint the Bay organisers to get their input on what worked well and what to be careful about. We believe that our aim was met and the team succeeded in presenting the weekend as a single multi day event with consistency across all the individual events.

We would like the OV Board to consider providing their backing in making this event an annual event over the Victoria Labour weekend and keeping the same format of 6 events over three days. Some aspects of the event would change, the key one being to reduce the number of grades and courses offered.

#### 4) Sprint into Spring planning:

Early bird planning has commenced for the 2016 Sprint into Spring series.

- Started identifying course planners. Two planners have already been identified.
- Selection of maps. Again the series will include a mix of Eastern and western maps, both existing and new. We are hopeful in getting permission to use Yarra Valley Grammar for one of these events.
- The series will again conclude with Victorian Sprint Championships. The location of the championships is yet to be finalised.

#### 5) Other:

- A vacancy still exists for a Park Street Northern Summer Series Coordinator. The 2015/16 series scoring was covered by a number of people. Not having a single scorer created issues within the database meaning that accurate tracking of attendee numbers will not be available on the web site for the last summer.

### **ISSUES, CONCERNS AND RISKS - nil**

Margi Freemantle & Debbie Dodd  
Co-Chairs of Urban Orienteering Committee