

OV State Series Standardisation - For Discussion

Background

At present there are no documented standards for State Series (SS) events in Victoria. While there are general guidelines (“norms”) each event organiser has full discretion regarding entry fees, entry deadlines and start windows. This flexibility (for organisers) creates uncertainty for entrants, specifically around entry fees and entry deadlines.

Other series (Park & Street) affiliated with OV have standardised their entry fees & start times. These standards have been agreed to by those clubs involved in organising events and as a result, entrants and participants know what they will get and what they will pay. There appear to be no compelling reasons to have significant variations in pricing, entry deadlines and event timing.

Objectives

The idea of defining a standard for State Series event is to:

- Create a standard event template in Eventor
- Reduce the effort of event organisers
- Provide a consistent experience for participants
- Avoid nasty surprises
- Agree the best timing around entries relative to the newsletter and other deadlines
- Make it easy for organisers and entrants to plan

Ideas (for discussion)

Pricing

- Define a Recommended Retail Price (RRP) for “regular” SS events
 - “Early” fee is \$20 and \$10
 - Family maximum of \$50
 - “Standard” fee is \$30 for an adult and \$10 for a junior
 - Family maximum of \$70
 - This fee also applies to non-members and EODs
- For events that attract a higher levy ie Long Champs an additional \$5 per adult is charged
 - Junior fees remain at \$10

Entry deadlines

- That entry deadlines be standardised across SS events
 - “Early bird” fee is available from the time the event organiser opens the event for entry until midnight on the Wednesday prior to the event
 - The OV eNews is sent out Wednesday
 - “Standard” fee is available from midnight Wednesday until a time which suits the organiser
 - The only real impact on organising clubs is organising map printing

Course start/close

- That start windows at SS events be standardised
 - Start window be 10-1pm with 3pm course closure
 - We could change it based on difference from Melbourne. So events within 1.5 hours of CBD have a 10 am start while more distant events go from 10.30-1.30?
 - Perhaps we should ask our members via a survey what times they’d prefer?
 - What would be the ramifications of reducing or extending the window?

Recommendations

It is recommended that the OV Council;

1. Agree to adopting pricing and timing standards
2. Set up a standard Eventor event template to be used for all SS events
- a. Include entry fees, event course/classes, start times, payment details etc
3. Agree in-principle to 10-1pm event window but investigate through survey
4. Update the event organisers toolkit¹
5. Publish the agreed standards with fixtures lists and print outs
6. Review the standards annually at October council

¹ <http://www.vicorienteing.asn.au/admin/organising/>