

OVERALL STATUS	Business as usual Requests of the OV Board have been made below
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## ACTIVITIES & PLANS

### 1. Sprint into Spring series

The completion of the very successful 2014 series sees the conclusion of the grant funded phase of the project. The series is now well established and participants have already requested its return in 2015 and beyond. The series once again received fantastic support from clubs.

#### Request

The SIS organising committee requests to discuss the funding of a 2015 series with the board.

#### Highlights of 2014 SIS:

- ❑ average 130 participants per event (increase from 98 in 2013)
- ❑ continued high quality of maps and courses
- ❑ established map library will enable series continuation without high mapping costs
- ❑ paperless registration using touch screen; streamlined and consistent procedures were easy for competitors and volunteers
- ❑ better budgeting enhanced through an increased entry fee and no permit fees
- ❑ Mo Farah course attracted a very high calibre of entrants, including internationals (10 countries represented), current and former Australian WOC and JWOC reps, state and national Schools team reps, World Masters sprint medallists
- ❑ High number (50+ per event) of street orienteers attended regularly, and some showed a marked improvement in performance
- ❑ High number of juniors (24-25 per event) including schools team members and hopefuls; and they competed at a high level – some moved up to course 2 this year
- ❑ Cross fertilisation between these three target groups all competing and socialising together
- ❑ High number of regulars - 50 season tickets sold and many others attended 5-6 events
- ❑ Flow through to Vic Champs at Geelong with 111 official entries and a further 10-12 EODs
- ❑ Increased social media presence – dedicated Facebook page

A separate report compiled by the project officer is attached

### 2. PAS Finances - Summary

The 2014 Winter series EOD and 2014/15 Summer series season ticket distributions, totalling \$18,800, has now been finalised and ready to be made, with the distribution approved by the UOC.

As agreed with OV Treasurer, the catering costs will be taken from levies before sending levies to OV.

## PAS Enter on the Day (EOD) Prices

The UOC has agreed to retain the current EOD prices of senior = \$4; Junior = \$2 for the Winter 2015 series.

### Request

A robust discussion was held on entry fees and the cost of running events at the UOC committee meeting held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, and it was clear that OV finances are not well understood.

As a result the committee has requested the following:

(i) The committee requests a breakdown of the PAS costs covered directly by OV that the UOC committee does not have direct access to. This includes the cost of the cards and other collateral printed, web site and elements of promotion.

(ii) When clubs canvased their members about the EOD fees, some negativity to OV was apparent, with a number of members not understanding the role of OV and how it utilised the levies.

As a result the committee has requested that OV help the clubs to dispel the growing negativity, by explaining and promoting in plain language how the PAS levies are utilised to support and develop Orienteering in Victoria across all disciplines.

Please note that the issue identified was not how OV utilise the funds, but the need to better promote how they are used in simple every day terms.

Discussion was also held about the proposal from the OV Treasurer to change the way season ticket levies are calculated, and several concerns were raised. The sampling done does not provide a complete picture of the situation, as the impact of schools participation and financing over summer series was not considered; and an accurate assessment cannot be gained without also examining the various winter series. The UOC will provide a detailed response to the Treasurer's proposal in time for the next Council meeting.

### 3. 2015 Winter Series Fixtures

A meeting is scheduled for Friday 18 December to set the program for the 2015 Winter series. This will be undertaken on a business as usual basis.

Note: due to an increased loading of participants running the A course and subsequent decline in participants in the B & C courses within the Wednesday Autumn and Spring night series, the committee has decided to combine B and C courses into a new B course with a completion time of 45mins. This is solely for these series and other series remain unchanged.

## ISSUES, CONCERNS AND RISKS

Please view requests in the body of the report.

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