

OVERALL STATUS	Business as usual
----------------	-------------------

ACTIVITIES & PLANS

1. PAS Winter Series 2014

The winter program comes to a close this Wednesday with the last Winter series Saturday event completed. The preliminary statistics for the winter series are listed below. As there is still one event in each of the Monday and Wednesday Spring series, the figures below include an attendance at each of these events based on the series average.

Night Series	2013	2014
Monday	1612	1452
Tuesday	708	558
Wednesday	2758	2738
Saturday	1203	1325
Total	6281	6073

Notes:

1. The 2014 Tuesday night series attendance was affected by 2 elements:
  - there were a high number of very wet nights that limited attendance
  - Western attendee numbers are still feeling the effect of the stabbing attack that occurred on one of the series maps (numbers have been down since this occurred)
2. The change to the Saturday format where this year only 2 running courses + 1 power walker course were offered has been very successful.

Overall attendee numbers have been relatively stable although the slight drop in the overall attendance rate is an indication that the attendee numbers at Park Street events are very dependent on the weather. This year saw a higher number of very wet days which had lower attendance rates.

The Urban Orienteering Committee has committed to a full Summer programme based on the same number of events as the 2013–14 program. However the committee is in agreement that the clubs have no capacity to increase the number of events run, or to increase the complexity of the events.

2. Sprint Into Spring series

Planning for the 2014 Sprint into Spring series has been completed with the first event scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup> at Newport Lakes Park. All maps have now been selected and the club running each event confirmed. Shane Mallia, Series Project Officer has commenced his duties, including advertising through social media.

This year the scoring of the series has been refined, particularly with the Jersey scoring where only the top 10 men and women will gain points for each jersey. This change has taken place as the scoring last year was not manageable.

Additional rules have also been put into place this season, particularly ones to try and address complaints of "lack of fair play" in the jersey competition last year.

Should Sprint into Spring continue into a third season, it is important that the format retains its simplicity. Even with the current format the series does require a high volunteer input to make it successful.

The UOC has made an active decision that the Sprint into Spring series should not focus on family/school groups. The style of orienteering is not suited to people taking part in groups, particularly as it was identified last year that people standing around controls or strolling through narrow pass-ways was a hazard to faster runners (and vice versa), and actually had the potential to create a negative environment.

The inclusion of schools would add a level of complexity that the UOC is not prepared to invest in. Should the OV board wish to extend Sprint orienteering to schools then the UOC requests that this take place via the current schools program.

#### ISSUES, CONCERNS AND RISKS

Nil.

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