

## **Report on Orienteering Australia Annual Conference 6-7 December, 2014. Canberra**

**Victorian representatives: Dennis Mews (both days), Ruth Goddard (Dec 6 only)**

**ASC Sporting Schools:** ASC is now part of the Health Department and the focus is now on health of students, in particular their participation in Sports. Funding will be made available to schools starting in July 2015 to run short courses of 4-8 weeks concentrating on one of 34 sports (including orienteering). Important for orienteering to develop a plan to attract schools to choose orienteering. Much work to be done.

**Action: wait and see how the project develops before committing too much effort**

**Bequest money available for major carnivals** approx \$10,000 available to fund particular requirements (WA had funding for unique expenses concerning OLynx and setting up state shields).

**Action: Mark Valentine notified for 2015 carnival**

**Risk management** each state should have a policy (see OANSW policy on their website) which should include conditions under which events should be cancelled. Risk waivers and warnings should be implemented in each state for every event (Craig has obtained the NSW examples). Legal advice is that these are important.

**Action: OV should act on this after advice from Warwick Williams**

**Finance** surplus in past year although expecting a slight loss but levies brought in \$5,000 more (so will not be increased in 2015), lower expenditure on office and high performance. Public liability will be lower next year due to competitive offer from insurer. Assume that Whole of Sport funding will continue in 2015 – losing \$86,000 will cause problems.

**Not for profit status of orienteering associations** is shown in three ways – a statement in the Constitution, procedures listed in the Constitution about how assets would be disbursed if the Association was wound up, and what is done when funds are accumulating (they are put back into the development of the sport)

**Action: OV should look take some action on spending some of the reserves after establishing the level to retain**

**Cost allocation** between states. All the recommendations were passed. Ruth did explain Victoria's changed situation to the meeting but no concessions were made. State registration fee will be split between states on basis of membership of clubs (not of the Association) – that means social members of a club will be included (if we know how many there are).

**OA Hall of Fame** The OA had received no nominations from any state for the Hall of Fame. The meeting asked (again) for nominations from states. The Board might wish to consider, as a starting point and bearing in mind the criteria, the list of OV life members. These are: Robert (Bob) Millet, Alex Tarr, Tom Andrews, Ian Baker, Barry McCrae, Peta Whitford, Kathy Liley, Peter Searle, Blake Gordon, Wally Cavill, Tom Norwood, Ken Moore, Laurie Niven, Lindsay Thomas, Blair Trewin, John Sheahan, Jenny Sheahan

**Major Events** New Zealand will stage Oceania2017 over the Easter weekend and immediately prior to WMOC2017. This has prompted Tasmania to withdraw from organising the scheduled Easter 3 Days, which will be unassigned in 2017. NSW have offered to stage a low-key 3Days over the QB weekend instead, and this was gratefully accepted.

**Communications Strategy** Dennis was particularly interested to hear Craig's Media & Communications Strategy which seeks to harmonise our approach to websites and email, and looks at the future of the OA magazine, Eventor and our use of social media. Eventor discussion (predictably) took up much time as did the future of the Magazine and OA Enews. The OA questionnaire supplied many polarised and conflicting views, difficult to reconcile.