

## **SA Participation Project overview**

### **Permanent courses.**

The number of Permanent courses in SA continues to grow.

Another one has opened this year (Hawthorndene) , with 3 more to come in the near future (Oaklands, Lobethal and Shepherds Hill).

These give the opportunity to download maps from the Orienteering SA website and orienteer without coming out to formal events at set times.

We have downloads from individuals, Schools, Community groups such as CFS and SES, scout groups and defence forces.

When downloading the maps the user is asked to state how many maps they anticipate using.

Given this feedback we estimate that about 7000 uses of permanent course maps occurred in the last year, based on the download information.

Although many of the permanent course users will never come out to formal orienteering events, they are participating and getting a taste of the sport. We consider this to be a good investment in participation.

It also removes some load of school requests due to schools being able to access the courses themselves.

### **MTBO**

MTBO has continued to show poor numbers in SA despite the participation funding, which has allowed for promotion and some mapping.

### **Schools Equipment**

Our current set of schools flags and SI kit has been very well utilised to the point of difficulty at times as we are sharing it across the whole of Adelaide for both school work and training work.

We are keen to obtain at least another printer and set of flags to allow for another set (utilising loan SI sticks and current SI units from general use set) to allow for two groups to be using at the same time, and ease the logistics.

We consider that this has been an excellent investment and it has been well used in school clusters adding to their effectiveness, and with juniors in midweek training.

## **Schools Clusters**

Our funded school cluster programme was a trial programme that outperformed its expected result in the first year.

We targetted groups of schools near to each other where we knew there was an orienteering interest (child, parent or teacher) and offered shared after-school events for the groups of schools in local park areas.

Parents brought the kids to the events and there was a very small charge for participation to cover some costs.

We have seen flow on into our Junior Arrows squad of 10 kids from these clusters.

We feel that this has been a resounding success and are keen to keep it going into the new year.

## **Girls only coaching day**

We have also held a girls only coaching day, with girls encouraged to invite friends or people they know and think would enjoy the sport for a day of fun and coaching.

We were able access some freebies from the government programme which is currently encouraging female sport participation.

This was only held in late November, and it is too early to say whether this has been an effective strategy.