

OA Mapping Committee Meeting

2010 Australian 3-Days, 4.45 – 6.00pm, Easter Friday, 2nd April, Sports House, 100 Maitland St, HACKETT, ACT

Present: Adrian Uppill (SA), Hugh Moore (ACT), Lachlan Hallett (NT), Paul Dowling (WA), Terry Bluett (NSW), Jon Sutcliffe (VIC), Greg Hawthorne (TAS), Eric Andrews (QLD), Steve Doyle (QLD), Jim Russell (VIC)

1 Revision of ISOM2000 - update

IOF Map Commission have considered the nation submissions with a questionnaire to be prepared inviting further comments and ideas, expected by mid 2010. A presentation is to be made at WOC2010, Norway.

2 Waterproof papers

During 2009 two water proof papers were used at major events:

- Easter carnival in Tasmania, WMG NSW – Teslin 110gsm
- Aust Champs carnival in Victoria – Pretex 50.120

Adrian reported that the downside with these two waterproof papers (being compatible for use with laser printers) is that they are off-white in colour hence do not give the best colour contrast for map colours as compared to bright white paper.

Several copies of “Pretex: A Fair Dinkum Synthetic”, March 2010, prepared by Ken Dowling of Eureka and Jim Russell of Bendigo, and map samples on Pretex (Chewton Diggings), were distributed. Thanks to Ken for supplying the map samples and copies of the report.

Map examples on Teslin (Cardwell’s Labyrinth) were distributed.

Discussion ensued on these and other waterproof papers ie Polyart 150 gsm & 110gsm.

Adrian advised that he received from Bob Mouatt a report “Orienteering ACT Trial of Waterproof Papers” that trialed Teslin 150 and Pico film during the 2009 Canberra 2 Days. Based on this trial Teslin 150 was selected for use at the Easter 2010 Carnival of events.

The two reports above to be posted on the OA web site, under mapping.

3 Review of print quality of maps used at major events in 2009

Adrian led a discussion about the quality of maps used for major events in 2009, such as print quality and the legibility of colours particularly when using CMYK process printing.

One of the main problems with laser printing and to a lesser degree with 4 colour offset printing is that the colour Brown is generally pale with a yellowish tinge (recommended setting is 56%Magenta, 100%Yellow, 18%Black) hence harder to read as compared to spot printing. To improve the legibility of contours, K is often increased to 30%, however for some printers perhaps K should be higher say 40%-50%.

An OCAD colour setting table for use with a Fuji Xerox DocuColour 5065 colour laser printer which gives good results was distributed, and is available on the OA web site.

4 Map requirements

Adrian reported an increasing tendency to ignore good practice in respect to maps having a legend, bar scale, credits (mappers name and date) etc. This is often the case for Sprint maps when available space on the map may be a limiting factor. Where space is a limiting factor, it is considered that some essentials must still go on such as a bar scale, mappers name & date and any special symbols that may be used. An associated problem is that when maps are printed at other scales to the original map, the north lines may not be at the correct spacing.

As an example, deficiencies on the Bryces Flat and The Blow Hole maps used for the recent NOL Sprint & Relay events at Hepburn Springs include:

- North lines at 50mm on the Sprint map, should be 20 – 40mm
- No bar scale
- No legend (and there is plenty of available space)
- No credits ie mappers name, date
- For the NOL Pairs Relay event where two different scales (1:5000 & 1:10000) were used, there were no bar scales. Although there is probably no good reason not to use two different scale maps for the one event, it may be better to avoid the confusion of mixed scales.
- Undersized symbols used (Rocky pit, Small depression and Pit) on The Blowhole map, scale of 1:10000.

Discussion ensued. Other problems raised included undersized control description boxes on the sprint map (with no separate control descriptions provided at the start) and the use of very small grey areas on some maps (not legible). Agreed that guidelines should be prepared on the content of orienteering maps in respect to scale bar, legend, credits, map date, copyright, use of special symbols, etc,

Comment on the sprint course. Adrian reported that although not a mapping issue, the sprint orienteering format 'is a fast, visible, easy-to-understand format' with the emphasis on 'high speed' and winning times of 12 – 15 minutes. The courses were therefore too long (18 minutes winning time for M21E) with too much fine navigation in complex, difficult to run, terrain, which is not in keeping with the principles of sprint racing.

There was discussion on sprint maps and the difficulty of mapping 3 dimensions to 2 dimensions. Jon talked about mapping split levels and the use of dashed lines, and indicated he would prepare some notes and suggestions on this topic.

5 Proposed Mapping Technology Workshop, Adelaide, Sept 2010

In conjunction with the Aust. Champs Carnival in SA, a Mapping Technology Workshop is planned for Monday 27 September 2010. Mappers & cartographers are invited to contribute and share their experiences on using GPS, digital data, OCAD, LiDAR etc for map making.

Guest speaker: Robert Rusk (or colleague) from AEROMETRIX PL, Adelaide

Time: 9am -

Venue: Sports House, Adelaide CBD

Please contact Adrian to register.

NB: At ICOM (Trondheim, Norway – 2010 WOC carnival) there will be an opportunity to have a LiDAR terrain visit. All the 2010 WOC maps use LiDAR contours.

In the course of general discussion 'Google Map Downloader', a tool that helps you to get small tile map images from Google Maps, was mentioned by Terry, while Paul mentioned 'Nearmap' which is an aerial photography service providing high resolution photographs. Paul will email information on 'Nearmap' and a procedure to download aerial photograph images. This is to be posted on the OA web site.

6 OA Map Statistics – Form 6

Revised form now requires statistics on new or major remaps produced during the year according to: (1) ISOM, (2) ISSOM, (3) ISMTBOM, (4) Other colour maps & (5) Other B&W maps.

Returns for 2010 have been received from SA (incl NT), WA, TAS and QLD.

Next year it is hoped that returns will be received and data analyzed by mid January and in time for inclusion into the OA annual report.

7 OA Map symbol and Control description, double sided sheet

Associations were provided during 2009 with a digital file of the OA Map symbol & control descriptions, to print on demand. Current version is out of date mainly due to the new sprint and MTBO specs.

Is the map symbol sheet useful, and for what purpose?

Time ran out to discuss this item.

8 Australian edition of MTBO map specifications

Last year the ISMTBOM 2007 (Aust Edition 2009) was recommended for use in Australia. This edition incorporates the 2 x 4 track classification as developed in Australia, but remains non compliant.

However following recent correspondence to the Chair MC, Adrian advised that the Australian suggestion of the 2X4 track classification is included in the current draft for ISMTBOM 2010.

NOTE: Has now been adopted and until the official version is released, an Australian version in OCAD format is available on the OA web for download

9 OA Digital printing policy

The 'OA Digital Printing Policy – Operational Manual 2.10' is out of date and is to be revised.

10 Map Evaluation Program, IOF Map Commission

For maps used in 2009, findings include:

- field work often good but spoilt by bad drawing and printing
- bad drawing due to lack of generalization and excessive use of detail
- misuse of form lines: more than one form line between contours and using form lines which add no additional information

Adrian Uppill
OA Mapping Chair