

## Mapping Committee Meeting, Easter 2007

Present: Alex Tarr (Chair), Peter Hoban, Paul Hoopman, David Shepherd, Barbara Junghans

### Topics covered

#### 1. Print technology

Peter Hoban reported on the IOF Map commission PrintTech Project and distributed copies of their Test Sheet 2006. The problem identified is that CMYK results are very variable even when the colour settings are the same. It has been found that whenever a file is manipulated via any software or hardware (commercial digital printers, personal printers, scanners, etc.) there is a probability of the results not representing the original CMYK settings.

The IOF test sheet is printed in the ISOM spot colours and the Ocad file for the sheet can be downloaded from the IOF web site. The file with the test sheet should be used with the desired software / hardware combination to check colours and print quality before competition maps are printed.

Peter is following through on the project and can be contacted at [hoco@tassie.net.au](mailto:hoco@tassie.net.au)

#### 2. Base maps

The problem of chemical based aerial photography being replaced by digital is ongoing. At present South Australia is most seriously effected with older photography being archived and unobtainable and new only being available in digital format that Chris Wilmott cannot use. Older photography seems generally available in the other states, also special flight photography using chemical film is still currently available and used.

South Australian experience with digitally produced base maps shows fieldwork ranges from some extra difficulty to being severely compromised. Other states may also be in this position as chemical photography is phased out in the future.

It is strongly recommended that states review their mapping programs and tie up supply of existing photographs. Also special flight photography should be bought forward and completed while aircraft are still equipped with older style cameras.

#### 3. GPS mapping in the field

At present use of GPS for fieldwork is either taking readings for later download to a map file, or making a grid over the fieldwork and directly plotting the GPS result. At present the use of hand held computers in the field directly linked to GPS has not gone beyond the experimental stage. The Swedish system of palm or tablet computers, GPS linked with direct drawing of the map in the field is not used. At the Mapping Workshop Eric Andrews is running prior to JWOC it is hoped to have a demonstration of the integrated system.

#### 4. Colour blindness and map reading

Barbara Junghans gave a summary of the paper she has co-authored titled "Orienteers with poor colour vision require more than cunning running." The paper is based on testing with the highest quality optical equipment available in Australia. It will shortly be published in the scientific literature and sent to the IOF.

The paper includes software simulations of how the colours of orienteering maps appear to the most common types of colour blind people. In particular it demonstrates that yellow and green are difficult for the colour blind orienteer to differentiate. A wide range of possible solutions are offered from greytone maps to use of long wavelength pass glasses by the orienteer.

Colour blindness in orienteers is a genuine disability which our various parent organizations have traditionally put in the too hard basket. Barbara should be congratulated for reposing the problem in an accessible form. It would be useful if the Australian Orienteer was to publish a summary of the paper to make the issue of colour blindness more widely available. In addition Australia should be active at the IOF level to ensure future versions of the ISOM is colour blind friendly.

Barbara can be contacted at [b.junghans@unsw.edu.au](mailto:b.junghans@unsw.edu.au)

Alex Tarr (Chairman)

