

**Orienteering Australia  
Annual General Meeting 2020  
16 April 2020 8.00pm to 8.45pm  
by ZOOM teleconference**

**MINUTES**

The AGM papers can be found at <https://orienteering.asn.au/index.php/hidden/2020-agm/>

**1. Attendees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role (where applicable)</b>
Blair Trewin	OA President (Chair)
Bruce Bowen	OA Director (Finance)
Jenny Casanova	OA Director (Technical)
Stephen Craig	OA Director (High Performance)
Mike Dowling	OA Director
Bill Jones	OA Director
Prue Dobbin	OA Director (minutes)
Paul Prudhoe	OA Executive Officer
Valerie Barker	Chair Schools Committee
Craig Steffens	MTBO
Simon Uppill	Athlete rep
Robin Uppill	OSA
Erica Diment	OSA
Anna Sheldon	OQ
Tony Bryant	OQ
Anna Napier	OWA
Phil Walker	OACT
Ann Scown	OACT
Sally Wayte	OTAS
Julian Roscoe	OTAS
Robert Spry	ONSW
David Jaffe	OVIC
Carl Dalheim	OVIC
Adrian Uppill	Observer
Richard Matthews	Observer
Kathy Liley	Observer

Marina Iskhakova	Observer
Ian Rathbone	Observer
Bridget Anderson	Observer
Stephen Collins	Observer
Margi Freemantle	Observer
Brett Weihart	Observer

### Apologies:

Jim Russell	OA Head Coach
Greg Barbour	ONSW
Eddie Plummer	OWA

## 2. Minutes of the 2019 Annual Conference

### 2.1 Votes

The OA President clarified each state had two votes and the Athlete rep and MTBO rep had one vote each.

### 2.2 Minutes of the 2019 Annual Conference

Anne Scown (OACT) noted an amendment required for 2.1.b-2, where the last paragraph should read:

‘One option considered is to include the primary Oceania events during the Australian Championships week (Sept/Oct 2022), with other national events (unrelated to Oceania) being held during Australian 3-days (**Easter 2022**).’

**Motion:**     *The amended minutes of the 2019 Annual Conference be accepted.*  
                  *Bill Jones/Sally Wayte (OTAS)                   Carried*

## 3. Briefing on the Covid-19 situation

The President noted:

- Many things were currently unclear about the impact of Covid-19 on orienteering – in particular the impact on the sport and how that impact will be distributed between state associations and OA.
- Local events may be able to resume mid-year. National events are likely to take longer to resume, and international events are likely to take even longer to resume.
- OA is in a fairly strong position to withstand the impact and all state associations are also in a similar situation.
- Thanks were due to the state associations for cooperating with the rearrangement of the major event schedule and for providing other information.
- OA event levy revenue will be down, but there will be probably be little or no expenditure on overseas teams and these are likely to balance out, taking into account the likely \$20K PAYG allowance.

- Any organisation that employs staff and pays tax through the PAYG system is eligible for a minimum \$20K PAYG allowance, regardless of whether this is the amount normally paid.
- There is less clarity around the Job Keeper subsidy, available to organisations with at least a 30% drop in turnover. This reduction in turnover may be difficult for organisations to show, especially where grant monies etc are involved.
- State governments may be offering other relevant subsidies – it would be worth state associations investigating this.
- Major events:
  - Easter event calendar has been shuffled back a year.
  - The situation with the Australian Championships in 2020 is unclear.
  - Oceania 2021 is being planned on the basis of it taking place, but this depends on the lifting of border restrictions between Australia and New Zealand. If the event cannot take place in 2021, a potential option is deferring it to 2022, with Australia's next turn then being deferred to 2024.
  - 2020 WOC, JWOC and (in effect) MTBO WOC have all been postponed (the scheduled MTBO WOC has been cancelled, but the option is still being considered of upgrading the European Championships to a WOC).
- There is variation on the impact of Covid-19 on state associations. OA will reassess the monies collected from state associations in the second half of the year, once the impact is a little clearer.

Robert Spry (ONSW) commented that ONSW qualified for Job Keeper payments and was applying for this. The President encouraged all state associations to investigate this.

Bruce Bowen (OA Treasurer) noted that the impact on the OA budget, taking into account both the drop in revenue and the drop in expenditure, was expected to be neutral, and OA was intending to spend the time delivering planned projects, if possible, such as the Core Funding projects, Eventor and website upgrades.

The President noted that he, the Treasurer and the Executive Officer had participated in several teleconferences run by Sport Australia and noted:

- Orienteering is in a far better position than many sports. This is partly because orienteering has few fixed costs, no infrastructure to maintain, and there is no reliance on ancillary income such as from bars etc. that has dried up with Covid-19. National and state level have also taken a conservative approach to risk over the years.
- Keeping the existing membership engaged with virtual activities through the shutdown period was important for state associations in order to minimise losses, especially since it was difficult to recruit new members at this time.
- Most national sports organisations were not intending to refund membership fees, except in hardship cases. Orienteering traditionally has low membership fees, with the bulk of income from participation fees.

## **4. Annual Financial Report**

### **4.1 Annual Report 2019**

The President noted the draft Annual Report was not posted on the website in time for the meeting, but would be posted as soon as possible.

Key achievements for the year were:

- Performance – Aston Key became Australia's second junior world champion, and also won a bronze medal during the same championships.

- Australia conducted an exceptional Oceania carnival – the first event for a long time with more than 1000 entries (outside of World Masters competitions).
- Increased participation in local events in many states.
- State level events have seen less success.

These achievements would not be possible without the tremendous efforts of volunteers from across the country.

## 4.2 Annual Financial Statement 2019

Bruce Bowen (OA Treasurer) presented the audited Annual Financial Statement to 31 December 2019 to the meeting.

The accompanying annual accounts for Orienteering Australia Inc. show a Profit and Loss surplus of \$31,475 in 2019. This surplus represents around 7 per cent of 2019 revenue and mainly arose because of one-off factors. On the revenue side these factors were a higher than expected donations via the Sports Foundation of Australia, including an anonymous donation of \$10,000; and, additional event levies largely due to the highly successful 2019 Oceania carnival (\$5700). In terms of expenditure there were under spends on coaching (\$5500) and a delay in the planned website upgrade (\$10,000).

The auditor also made a one-off adjustment to the accounts for 2019 to bring the stock of uniforms for sale in line with the value of the end of year physical stock- take. As a result, the Purchases for Resale item in the Profit and Loss needed to be adjusted. This anomaly occurred because over recent years previous sales of uniforms to Australian team members had not been simultaneously deducted from the value of stock recorded in the accounts.

The accounts also show that the main areas of Orienteering Australia gross expenditure in 2019 were: high performance (23%), the Sport Australia participation grant (20%), the Australian Orienteer magazine (10%) and national administration of the sport (17%). The main sources of Orienteering Australia revenue were receipts from State Associations' (47%) (made up of close to equal share between the State Registration Fee and event levies) and the Sport Australia grants (20%).

The balance sheet shows Orienteering Australia ended 2018 in a strong position with net assets of \$247,748. Cash in hand at 31 December 2019 accounted for \$352,743 of which around \$143,569 was accounted for by unexpended grants. That is, a sizable portion of cash on hand can only be expended within the conditions set out by the respective grants.

During 2019 it was confirmed that Sport Australia will continue to maintain its recent funding level to Orienteering Australia with a \$100,000 grant for 2019/20 financial year. However, the grant has changed from one supporting increased participation to instead a focus on Core Funding projects. Expenditure on these projects is expected to commence in the first half of 2020.

Finally, at the time of writing this report (late March 2020) it is uncertain as to how long the unprecedented suspension of orienteering events across Australia as a result of COVID-19 will last. However, going forward it is very likely to present a major short to medium-term financial challenge for all levels of orienteering, including Orienteering Australia Inc.

**Motion:** *The 2020 AGM accept the audited Annual Financial Statement to 31 December 2019.* **Bruce Bowen/ Anne Scown (OACT) Carried**

## 5. Election of OA office bearers

### 5.1 OA Board

These elections are for a two-year term. One half of the Board is elected each year.

Five Director positions were up for election. These were:

- OA President (Blair Trewin)
- OA Treasurer (Bruce Bowen)
- Director High Performance (Stephen Craig)
- Director Technical (Jenny Casanova)
- Director at Large (currently vacant)

No nominations were received prior to the meeting and the four directors indicated their willingness to stand again.

Position:	Nomination:	Nominator:	Seconders	Outcome
OA President	Blair Trewin	Sally Wayte (OTAS)	Carl Dalheim (OVIC)	Re-elected unopposed
OA Treasurer	Bruce Bowen			
Director High Performance	Stephen Craig			
Director Technical	Jenny Casanova			
Director at Large	Nil			Position remains vacant

The President noted that he intended to step down at the 2020 Annual Conference (postponed from 2020 AGM) and anyone with an interest in standing for the Presidency was encouraged to express an interest in the vacant Director at Large position.

## 5.2 OA standing committee chairs

The President noted that the Chair position for two standing committees remained vacant: Technical and Development & Participation. The Chair Technical Committee was particularly important

The Chair of the Events Committee (Greg Hawthorne) and the MTBO Committee (Craig Steffens) had advised of their willingness to stand again. The President had not confirmed whether Neil Barr was willing to stand again as Chair of the Mapping Committee. No further nominations were received.

Position:	Nomination:	Nominator:	Seconders	Outcome
Chair Events Committee	Greg Hawthorne	Erica Diment (OSA)	Sally Wayte (OTAS)	Re-elected unopposed
Chair MTBO Committee	Craig Steffens			
Chair Mapping Committee	Neil Barr			

## 6. Announcement of OA Awards

The President announced the following awards (normally announced at Easter presentations):

New inductees of the Orienteering Australia Hall of Fame:

- 2019 Athlete Division - Geoff Lawford
- 2020 Athlete Division - Hanny Allston
- 2019 General Division - Hugh Cameron and Peta Whitford
- 2020 General Division - Kathy Liley and Ron Pallas

Eligibility for the Athlete Division only occurs in the 5<sup>th</sup> years past the last appearance at world championship level.

Other awards:

- 2019 Orienteering Australia Athlete of the Year– Aston Key
- David Hogg Award for Services to Event Management – Andrew Lumsden
- Silva Award for Services to Coaching – Paula Shingler
- Silva Award for Services to Orienteering – Greg Bacon

The President made particular mention of Greg Bacon (Newcastle Orienteering Club) who had made an outstanding contribution over many years to local events in both foot orienteering and NSW MTBO.

The President will contact the award winners and an announcement will be made on the OA website.

## **7. Other business**

Phil Walker (OACT) noted that the Constitution was not on the agenda. The President commented that this was because the AGM was being held by teleconference and the Board had decided it would be better to restrict the agenda to those items legally required (and this was noted in the pre-AGM material) and defer other matters to a later date.

The discussion regarding the proposed Constitution has been deferred to either a special general meeting during the Australian Championships week or, if these are not held, to the 2020 Annual Conference. Key matters to resolve prior to then are some specific concerns raised by state associations (ONSW), which may require the draft Constitution to undergo some minor redrafting. However, the contents of the Constitution are not expected to alter significantly from those previously circulated.

**Meeting closed 8.45pm**