



Report to the Orienteering Australia Annual Conference: 2-3 December 2017

Coach Development

I took on the national coach development role late 2016. This was on the basis that I would not take up the paid employment opportunity but would instead undertake the role in a voluntary capacity, time permitting. Funds that would otherwise be directed to my salary were requested to be available as a budget for the financing of coach development and resources for coaches.

Since that time, action taken has included:

1. State coaching directors (or equivalent) were contacted so that any issues that they may have in delivering Level 0 or 1 courses were understood and so that they are aware that assistance is now available.
2. Approval was sought and obtained from OA for a one-off extension in the renewal period of coaches. This was due to a catch up being required following past administrative delays from reaccreditation capacity issues as well as uncertainties and ultimately changes to the OA/ASC agreed accreditation process. Coaches with recently expired Level 3, 2 and 1 accreditation were followed up and, where interested in renewing, encouraged and assisted to renew their credentials. Reaccreditation standards were unchanged.
3. A Level 2 course was arranged. This was the first Level 2 or higher course conducted by OA in a number of years. Opportunities to complete the Intermediate Coaching General Principles course were identified and Level 1 coaches were invited to participate. The sport specific components of the course were delivered via pre-work and face-to-face sessions during the Australian Orienteering Carnival. Presenters included Gareth Candy (Level 3 coach), Nick Dent (Level 3 coach), Hilary Wood (Level 2 coach) and Wendy Read (Level 3 coach).

Coaches that attended the some or all of the Level 2 course were:

Bridget Anderson (since accredited as L3)	Krystal Neumann
Toni Brown	Jack Neumann
Jenny Enderby	David Poland
Barbara Hill	Matthew Schepisi
Natasha Key	Paula Shingler
Brodie Nankervis	

Coaches must now complete post-course practical elements to complete Level 2 requirements and meet minimum competency standards.

4. The OA website Coaching Accreditation page has been updated and an additional page included which contains a comprehensive library of coaching resources as well as links to useful material for coaches.
5. A Facebook group has been established for Level 1 and above coaches. This is intended as a forum for coaches to chat, share and support each other. It currently has 54 members.
6. Both the UK and Swedish orienteering governing bodies have been contacted regarding resources to support coaches. Coach resource books from Sweden appear to be very comprehensive however would need to be translated and a licence fee of SEK7500 (per title) (approximately \$1200) payable upon signing plus other conditions has been requested. UK material is to be investigated further, time permitting. However indications are that the British Orienteering Federation is willing to share material on a not-for-profit basis and subject to appropriate acknowledgements.
7. The next priority that the OA Executive Officer has requested that I progress is a progressive multi-week program that can be used by inexperienced coaches of high school aged students as part of the Sporting Schools program. A number of States already have excellent material which is likely to be able to be consolidated into an appropriate package. States will be contacted and hopefully a unified base resource developed in the New Year.

Between November 2016 and October 2017, Level 1 and above coach numbers have increased as follows:

	<u>November 2016</u>	<u>October 2017</u>
ACT	8	9
NSW	9	20
Qld	34	39
SA	18	22
Tas	9	10
Vic	7	8
WA	<u>9</u>	<u>22</u>
	94	130

Barbara Hill
Manager Coach Development