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## A Challenging Adventure-Based Sport



## ORIENTEERING AUSTRALIA

# On Track: An Orienteering in Australia Update

Volume 1, Issue 5, November 2007

## 2007: A BIG Events year in Australia

For all but a few minor events, and the social Christmas 5-Days (this year being held near the beaches south of Newcastle) the competitive season in Australia is over. 2007 has been a huge year of events for Australian orienteering. Since the last e-bulletin, Australia has held the Junior World Orienteering Championships, the Oceania Championships and the Australian Mountain Bike Orienteering Championships. These events also incorporated Australia-New Zealand Challenges in both foot and mountain bike orienteering. This issue reviews some of these events and highlights more online developments, and a sprinkling of news from around the states.



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Nick Andrewartha, JWOC Sprint



## Junior World Orienteering Championships

The Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC) were hosted outside of Europe for the very first time. Orienteering New South Wales, with the assistance of many clubs and individuals put on an outstanding event that has since received world-wide acclaim. The event was highly commended by the International Orienteering Federation (IOF) and Australia showed how capable it is at putting on world-class events. The JWOC carnival also incorporated numerous public events including the Australian Championships. Highlights from the events included:

- The JWOC sprint race inside Dubbo Zoo!
- Highly enjoyable, runnable and technical granite maps and terrain
- Entertaining and informative commentary at the event, and webcast live to the world
- Clear Networks satellite broadband and radio control technology
- Large cheering crowds soaking up the highest quality competition
- A sprint finish in the women's relay
- Podium finishes for Aussies Simon Uppill (SA) and Vanessa Round (SA)
- Australian team support from [Skins](#) (compression garments) and [High5](#) (sports nutrition).

Further information about the JWOC can be found [here](#), and the accompanying public event [here](#).

## Oceania Championships

In the IOFs revised international calendar, the Oceania Championships are our regions premiere event. In a busy 2007, Canberra put on yet another outstanding event for Australia. The event featured some of Australia's best known, and brand new granite areas. A large contingent from New Zealand provided strong competition in the Australia-New Zealand but Australia wrapped up the Oceania Championships week with a strong win in the Australia-New Zealand Challenge Relays claiming 20 victories to New Zealand's four to win the Alan Brown Memorial Trophy.

In the elites, the Australian Bushrangers also defeated the New Zealand Pinestars and Julian Dent (NSW) dominated with a clean sweep of victories in the Oceania Championship week. Grace Elson (Long Distance - TAS) and Natasha Key (VIC - Sprint) took a share of Oceania titles.

New Zealand took out the Schools Test match against Australia after clean sweeping the relay events. The test match had been all level after the individual day.

Further information on the Event [website](#). Results are on the [Orienteering Australia Result database](#).

## Australian MTBO Championships & ANZ MTBO Challenge

New Zealand has retained the Australia New Zealand MTBO Challenge trophy after completion of the Australian MTBO Championships at Cessnock. The Kiwis took a close 11 to 10 victory after the dust had settled in the seven hotly contested age classes over the weekend races that included Middle, Sprint and Long Australian Championships.

The Middle and Long Championships were both World Ranking Events and saw Adrian Jackson take maximum points in the men's elite class winning all three races with Alex Randall second. New Zealand's Marquita Gelderman similarly dominated the women's elite class with three good victories.

All states scored points in the State Shield trophy based on results from the Long Championship with Victoria taking top place with 30 points from NSW on 24, Qld 18, SA 10, ACT 5, Tas and WA 1 point each.

Full results can be found on the Big Foot [website](#).

## 2007 National Orienteering League – VIC Domination

The Victorian Nuggets have won three of the four divisions of the 2007 National Orienteering League after a tumultuous day at the Australian Relay Championships. Though it wasn't as easy as it sounds, many of the titles were decided on the last weekend of the season with 3 teams with a realistic chance of winning the men's, and the highlight of the women's season seeing a sprint finish in the last race of the season, the Australian Relay Championships.

Teams						
Men	Victorian Nuggets	127	NSW Stingers	122	Southern Arrows	121
Women	Victorian Nuggets	129	Southern Arrows	108	Queensland Cyclones	85
Junior						
Men	Victorian Nuggets	81	Tassie Foresters	71	Queensland Cyclones	59
Women	Queensland Cyclones	81	Victorian Nuggets	62	Tassie Foresters	61
Individual						
Men	Matt Crane	GB	Simon Uppill (Junior)	SA	Kerrin Rattray	SA
Women	Grace Elson	TAS	Kathryn Ewels	VIC	Jo Allison	ACT
Junior						
Men	Kieran Sullivan	QLD	Tristan Lee	SA	Bryan Keely	VIC
Women	Heather Harding	ACT	Belinda Lawford	VIC	Bridget Anderson	QLD

More information and full results of the National Orienteering League [here](#).



Tom Carter, Brea Pearce behind. Australian Schools Team



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

Orienteering Australia is proudly sponsored by the Australian Sports Commission



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## Website Developments



You may have noticed the small image on the right on the Orienteering Australia homepage. Clicking on the image takes the browser to a searchable and categorised travel website. The page is designed to show travel packages that are likely to be of interest to orienteering.asn.au browsers. Requesting a free no-obligation brochure from any of the packages on offer provides Orienteering Australia with a small commission.

There is a new Australian Orienteering community **forum**! You can visit it at: [www.maptalk.org](http://www.maptalk.org) We encourage all members and orienteering participants to get on board, share views and create a strong community. You can even use it to provide Orienteering Australia with feedback. The forum has been set-up by the guys in NZ that run the NZ equivalent Maptalk.

A photos and profiles system is coming! Stay tuned to the Orienteering Australia over the Summer for its launch.



## Navsport Promotion

Navsports is a sports news aggregation site, you can submit articles, videos and picture links on various sports topics and Navsports members can cheer them to make them popular. The

website includes a section of Getting Started videos and now orienteering is featured. Orienteering Australia hopes its inclusion will further assist the sports exposure to sports minded people in Australia.

You are also encouraged to check out the website, become a member and submit stories and websites. If there is anything "orienteering", make sure you *cheer* it, enough cheers and the story website stays up on the Navsport homepage for extra exposure. Go to: [www.navsport.com.au](http://www.navsport.com.au)

## Annual Conference

The Orienteering Australia annual conference will be held over the weekend of 1-2<sup>nd</sup> December. Among other topics, workshops have been designated to discuss the rotation of national events and attracting sub-juniors to orienteering.

## Around the States

### Orienteering on TV

Orienteering was a topic of a short feature (4mins) that went to air on Network Ten's "Scope" program on Monday 17th September as part of a segment on "Adventure Science". It featured two of the Queensland members of the JWOC team, Bridget Anderson and Rachel Effenev, and gave a brief overview of the map and compass skills required for orienteering.

### Grant for NSW (story from OANSW)

OANSW has been awarded a grant of \$24,560 under the Healthy Active Australia Community and School Grants Program (Commonwealth Department of Health).

The grant will be used for three development projects:

- Establishment of a new orienteering club in Dubbo
- An enhanced schools development program
- Introducing orienteering to the local community through local events

The grant application was prepared by Barbara Hill (new PTDO), Mike Weller and Lyn Malmgron assisted by Dave Lotty and Colin Price. Congratulations to all involved!

### Sponsorship

Orienteering Australia is currently on the hunt for sponsors of the National Orienteering League for



**2008.** A naming rights as well as prize sponsors are on the hit-list. Some enquiries have taken place but if anyone knows of potential sponsors we would greatly appreciate hearing about it.



**Simon Uppill, Podium - JWOC Long**

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Questions or comments? E-mail us at [orienteeing@netspeed.com.au](mailto:orienteeing@netspeed.com.au) or call 02-6162-1200