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FROM THE GM'S DESK – MARCH 2012

NEW NZOF COUNCILLOR

This month we welcome **Dennis de Monchy** (BP) as the new Central Districts area representative on the NZOF Council, replacing Mathew Smith, who moved to Australia at the end of last year.

Dennis was introduced to orienteering about 25 years ago when Michael Wood, who lived nearby, took Dennis and his brother to an event on the Orongorongo map in Wellington. When Dennis returned to orienteering many years later, he noted with interest how much Michael was still involved. That re-introduction to orienteering was in Christchurch, where after running a lot of trails with Rob Jessop, Dennis wanted a bit more than just following tracks. So, seven years ago he joined PAPO and within two years he was World Rogaining Champion in 2006, with Chris Forne!

After being involved with PAPO while living in Christchurch, and having the chance to run with and learn from some very good orienteers, Dennis found it an interesting step to move to Tauranga where there is a very small group of people interested in the sport, and a lack of good maps to get the public involved. So with the help of the Rotorua based elites he began learning what is involved in building up a club from a small base. Not having a lot of admin experience, this has been a steep learning curve. All this, while being self-employed as an electrician part-time and looking after his first child, with another on the way.

While developing orienteering in the Bay of Plenty it seemed like a good time to become more involved nationally. Being on the NZOF council will mean he can bring some ideas from the rogaining/trail running side of our sport with its increasing popularity, while also learning what he can do to increase the profile of orienteering locally.

With volunteer burnout becoming a major problem for some clubs, and affecting most sports in NZ, Dennis believes we need to ensure that the skills and information are not lost with departing members. "We need to set up more formal means of passing on those skills," he says. "Whether this is best done through clinics or webinars will be decided by cost. I'm sure this already happens in the 3 big centres, but I think it is important that the smaller clubs do not miss out and get left behind."

Finally Dennis thinks it is an exciting time for NZ Orienteering with our current crop of talented elites and juniors, which he believes will lift New Zealand's profile in the Northern Hemisphere over the next few years. "We just have to make sure they get the support they need."

NZ JWOC TEAM 2012

The New Zealand team to compete at the Junior World Orienteering Championships in Slovakia, 7 – 14 July is. *Men:* Ryan Batin (Peninsula & Plains), Nick Hann (Wellington), Duncan Morrison (Hawkes Bay), Matthew Ogden (North West), Liam Paterson (Taranaki), Tim Robertson (Hutt Valley). *Women:* Selena Metherell (Peninsula & Plains), Laura Robertson (Hutt Valley), Cosette Saville (Counties Manukau). The team will be managed by Derek Morrison (Hawkes Bay).

WOC OFFICIALS 2012

Dieter & Ursula Wolf (Switzerland) have been appointed coaches/in-country managers for the 2012 NZ WOC team. **Jamie Stewart** (Wellington) has been appointed NZ (pre-tour) manager.

OCEANIA-WORLD CUP 2013 CARNIVAL

As you will be aware, New Zealand is hosting the Oceania Championships next January, 4th to 13th, in the lower North Island, including three World Cup events. Event Director, Graham Teahan, now advises that entries can now be made on-line; visit www.oceania2013.co.nz.

And in other news, **Malcolm Ingham** was interviewed about the events on Radio NZ National's Nights programme on Monday 19 March.

WORLD CUP 2012

In the meantime the 2012 World Cup rounds (1 – 3) commence 14-20 May in Sweden. NZ will be represented in these rounds by **Ross Morrison** (Hawkes Bay).

NZOF DEVELOPMENT SQUAD 2012

The Development Squad for 2012 is: **Women:** Sarah Anderson (Hawkes Bay), Helena Barnes (North West), Renee Beveridge (North West), Holly Edmonds (Hawkes Bay), Rebecca Gray (North West), Jula McMillan (North West), Selena Metherell (Peninsula & Plains), Erin Paterson (Taranaki), Laura Robertson (Hutt Valley), Cosette Saville (Counties Manukau), Kate Smirnova (Auckland), Lauren Turner (Wellington). **Men:** Ryan Batin (Peninsula & Plains), Eugene Campbell (Peninsula & Plains), Thomas Eatson (Taupo), Nick Hann (Wellington), Cameron Massie (Hawkes Bay), Tane Moore (North West), Duncan Morrison (Hawkes Bay), Matthew Ogden (North West), Liam Paterson (Taranaki), Ben Reynolds (North West), Alistair Richardson (Peninsula & Plains), Tim Robertson (Hutt Valley) Kieran Woods (Auckland). The squad is co-ordinated by Sarah Gray (Nelson).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to **Angela Simpson** (BP) and **Cosette Saville** (CM), recipients, through the University of Waikato, of Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarships for 2012.

CONTROLLER CLINICS 2012

The second clinic for 2012 will be held in Auckland on the 29 April and will be conducted by Graham Teahan. The clinics are for those interested in becoming licensed as a controller, but see also the item on accreditation following. If you have controlled some events at OY standard and would like to progress, then we recommend your attendance. To register, contact Diane Taylor, secretary of North West OC (nwocnz@hotmail.com).

CONTROLLER ACCREDITATION

Please note that the application form for controller accreditation on the NZOF website is no longer the operative one. The current one is available from the NZOF General Manager on request. The major change is that attendance at a controller's clinic is no longer mandatory; it is simply recommended. Instead, an applicant for A-grade accreditation must be buddied by an A-grade controller who signs the application form, along with the club secretary.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ORIENTEERING MAPPING

The IOF Map Commission welcomes participants to the 15th International Conference on Orienteering Mapping that will take place in conjunction with the World Orienteering Championships in Lausanne, Switzerland, in July. If you would like to attend, propose subjects for discussion, offer a presentation or just see further details, please contact the NZOF General Manager.

NZOF AGM 2012

The 2012 Annual General Meeting of the NZOF will be held at 5:30 pm on Friday 6 April in Auckland (in conjunction with the national championships). The venue will be the Pavillion Café, Kristin School, 360 Albany Highway, Albany. This is adjacent to the venue for the Sprint championships.

TROPHIES

And a reminder to holders of national trophies from the 2011 championships to please ensure that these are returned at this year's nationals in Auckland, for presentation.