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FROM THE GM's DESK – JUNE 2012

HIGH PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR APPOINTED

NZOF is pleased to announce that **Duncan Morrison** (HB) has been appointed as NZOF High Performance Director as from 1 July. Duncan's initial major priority will be putting in place a high performance strategy for 2013 and the ensuing high performance timetable.

PINESTARS WIN

The NZ Pinestars comprehensively won the Australia-New Zealand Test Match against the Australian Bushrangers, 195-104, at the Wellington Queens Birthday 3-Day. The Pinestars won all three days including a clean sweep (maximum points) in the middle-distance event, where all team members, both men & women, placed ahead of the Bushrangers.

NZOF COUNCILLOR PROFILE

Last month we welcomed **Phillippa Poole** (NW) as the new Auckland area representative on the NZOF Council, replacing John Robinson (CM).

Phillippa writes: "An enthusiastic Rob Garden introduced me to orienteering in 1981. First event was on the easier part of the Beautiful Hills map in Woodhill where I took over 2 hours on W21B! After a myriad of NZ events, three World Masters, and five ANZ challenges, I still love being out in the forest as a way to unwind, keep fit, and remain humble.

"Best results: winning the Nationals Mixed Long relay in 2008 with North West members Mark Lawson and Thomas Reynolds; being on the winning side in the ANZ relays."

Married with one daughter, Phillippa is currently in her third term as president of North West (still alongside an enthusiastic Rob Garden as Club Captain). She is also an Associate Professor in Medicine at the University of Auckland and a specialist general physician at Auckland City Hospital.

Phillippa continues: "(In North West) we are seeing growth in numbers and in the depth of talent, especially in the junior grades. These are returns directly linked to the club's support of the schools programme led by Mike Beveridge, and in part funded by KiwiSport. Furthermore, we have diversified our events to appeal to mountain bikers, rogainers and multisporters, some of whom have joined the club. A resurgence of orienteering has occurred in Whangarei, and the three Auckland clubs are working very well together at several levels.

"In recent years, NWOC has learned greatly through running the Oceania carnival in 2005 and the Nationals in 2012. Looking forward, The World Masters Games – an event larger than the Olympic Games - is to be held in the Auckland region in 2017. If orienteering is

confirmed as one of the sports, we will need all the administrative strength we can muster to mount this event.

“Some of the other challenges in the Auckland region and elsewhere are:

- negotiating and retaining access to quality maps,
- balancing ‘high performance’ with ‘participation’ aspects of the sport,
- transitioning from a baby-boomer-dominated sport to one that meets the needs of Gen X, Y, Z. This includes developing younger A grade controllers & mappers, plus communicating in a way that appeals to a broad range of ages and backgrounds.”

SILVA SUPER SERIES WINNERS

The 2012 Silva Super Series wound up at Queen’s Birthday weekend with the final three races. Several runners still had a chance of winning in both men’s and women’s, resulting in some tight racing as runners prepared for European campaigns. Greta Knarston completed an impressive return to form in 2012, closing out her account with a win in the final race. She scored consistently through the season and was the clear winner in the women’s field. It was a log jam for 2nd, however, with Laura Robertson and Kate Morrison, respectively, split only by a countback on wins. Georgia Whitla was a close 4th just 3 points behind.

The men’s grade came down to the wire. Toby Scott had lead for most of the series after some very consistent early season form. In the loops race on the Sunday only Tane Cambridge had a chance of unseating him. Tane needed to win, and for Toby to place worse than 8th. Toby did but, after tussling for the lead, Tane could only finish 3rd, missing the title. Thomas Reynolds held off a late season surge from Chris Forne to take 3rd.

The Junior Super Series was a little truncated this year, with some races doubling up with school events. Tim Robertson took out the junior men’s grade, with Cosette Saville winning women’s. As a sign of strength in the juniors, both runners have more years to go before stepping up to seniors.

Team abbreviations: N = Northerners, C = Central Scorchers, S = Bivouac Southerly Storm.

Men: Toby Scott (N) 97 points 1; Tane Cambridge (S) 90 2; Thomas Reynolds (N) 83 3.

Women: Greta Knarston (N) 117 points 1; Laura Robertson (C) 82 2; Kate Morrison (C) 82 3.

Junior men: Tim Robertson (C) 45 points 1; Nick Hann (C) 38 2; Alistair Richardson (S) 28 3.

Junior women: Cosette Saville (N) 45 points 1; Selena Metherell (S) 42 2; Laura Robertson (C) 40 3.

Teams: Northerners 835 points 1; Central Scorchers 724 2; Bivouac Southerly Storm 599 3.

The series kicks off again later in the year, resuming the September-to-June format.



SUPPORT FOR PAPO

Although the Central Otago MTBO Carnival in January was a great success, it did run at a loss for principal host club, Peninsula & Plains. Given that the carnival was a major innovation for mountain bike orienteering in NZ, with new maps, development of people skills and the first A-NZ MTBO Challenge held in NZ, as well as being driven by a club which, because of earthquakes, experienced huge disruption during the planning period, the NZOF Council has underwritten the loss, with a grant to PAPO of \$2,211.

WORLD MTBO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The NZ team for the World Mountain Bike Orienteering Championships being held in Veszprem, Hungary, 20-25 August 2012 is:

WOMEN: Christine Browne (BP), Marquita Gelderman (NW). **MEN:** *None*.
Manager: Rob Garden (NW).

SITUATIONS VACANT: NZOF ROGAINÉ COMMITTEE

Applications are sought for positions on the NZOF Rogaine Committee (Rogaine NZ). The committee, among other things, is responsible for promoting rogaining throughout New Zealand, especially in those areas which have not previously conducted rogaining, ensuring that training and information is provided to clubs conducting rogaining events – when required, encouraging regions to develop coordinated calendars of events and ensuring an annual national championship, in rotation with the NZ Rogaining Association, is held. Positions on the committee are voluntary. A job description is available from the General Manager. Applications close 20 July.

CONTACTING THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The NZOF Technical Committee, via convenor, Greg Flynn, now has a dedicated email address, namely, nzof.technical.committee@gmail.com. Enquiries about rules, A-level event applications and controller accreditation applications should be emailed to this address.

WORLD CUP 2012

In the 2012 World Cup round 4, events 9 to 13, being held in Norway, Sweden & Finland, NZ will be represented by Ross Morrison (HB).

'FLAVELL BILL'

The NZOF has supported a collective submission by National Sports Organisations (NSO) opposing the Gambling (Harm Reduction) Amendment Bill. Key reasons for our support include:

- The purpose of the Bill is worthy yet misdirected by targeting the funding mechanism for sport as a means of delivering gambling harm reduction.
- The proposed mechanism for the distribution of net proceeds from class 4 gambling will end the current practice of making grants of net proceeds available to national sports organisations on a national basis.

Nevertheless the NZOF would support efforts to review the effectiveness of the current Gambling Act 2003 in order to strengthen protections for gamblers and their families in order to genuinely minimise harm.

North West OC also sent a submission opposing the bill.

ADASTRA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Adastra Foundation awards scholarships to talented young musicians and athletes and is calling for nominations for this year's scholarship round, closing on 13 July. Interested young orienteers should check out www.facebook.com/TheAdastraFoundation.