FROM THE GM’s DESK – JULY 2012

AND THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE JWOC MIDDLE – FROM NEW ZEALAND – GOES TO…

… MATT OGDEN. Yes, at JWOC in Slovakia, our first ever medal at a junior or world championship, and, as a bonus, it is Gold. Matt cut out the intricate 4.8 kilometre course with 225 metres of climb in 27 minutes and 55 seconds. Team manager, Derek Morrison reported, “It was clear that the crowd at the finish and at the medal ceremony was delighted at the success of one of orienteering’s lesser known countries.”

Matt qualified for the final with a 5th in his heat (cunning, eh?) and prior to that he had already achieved 10th in the sprint and 14th in the long-distance.

But Kiwi successes have not stopped there. At the World Championships in Switzerland a mere couple of days later, Lizzie Ingham achieved the best-ever New Zealand WOC placing with 9th in the sprint, after winning her heat. See items below for all our top results at WUOC, JWOC and WOC.

WEBSITE OPERATIONAL AGAIN

The NZOF website (www.nzorienteering.com) is once again functioning. It is being used for important information while the new website is being developed, under the management of Erin Roberts (BP) along with a working group of Duncan Morrison (HB), Martin Peat (CM), James Scott (HV) & Roger Woodroofe (AK). It is planned for it to go live in November.

THANK YOU TO ORIENTEERING Taranaki

A big thanks to Annie Sanderson and her team for a successful Silva NZ Secondary School Championships. With the Year 7/8 school championships also now being an official part of the event, more than 350 students competed. And with the sprint discipline now being an official part of the championships, they were held over three days, making it a major undertaking for a small club such as Orienteering Taranaki.

On top of that it rained (drizzled in 'naki language) all three days, meaning the competitors finished muddy and wet each day. But their spirits remained undampened. Great attitude from all. And while it is unfair to single out any part of the competition, the senior boy’s relay was extremely exciting with Westlake Boys’ HS (from Auckland) coming from behind to beat Onslow College (Wellington) by a single second.
THANK YOU TO THE ROBINSON FAMILY
And with the sprint event and all year 7/8 events being official parts of the schools championships, trophies for these competitions were donated by John & Val Robinson (CM). The very same John & Val who donated the original secondary school long-distance trophies. Thank you Val & John.

RESULTS FROM WUOC
The NZ team at the World University Orienteering Championships in Spain, 1-6 July, achieved 4 top 20 results, with Kate Morrison’s run actually being top 10. 
Women: Kate Morrison 10th (middle), Greta Knarston 12th (sprint), Angela Simpson 18th (sprint). 
Men: Toby Scott 17th (sprint).

RESULTS FROM JWOC
The NZ team at the Junior World Orienteering Championships in Slovakia, 7-14 July, also achieved 4 top 20 results, with, of course, one of those being Matt’s Gold. On top of that, there were a further 4 top 30.
Women – Sprint: Laura Robertson (27); Middle: Laura Robertson (27).
Men – Sprint: Matt Ogden (10); Middle: Matt Ogden (1st), Nick Hann (21); 
Long: Matt Ogden (14), Nick Hann (20), Tim Robertson (29).
And in the men’s relay, Tim Robertson, Nick Hann & Matt Ogden placed 8th, having been 4th after leg 2, in which Nick took 2nd fastest time.

RESULTS FROM WOC
Four of the NZ team at the World Orienteering Championships in Switzerland, 15-21 July, made A-finals with the best success being Lizzie Ingham 9th in the women’s sprint. 
Women – Sprint: Lizzie Ingham (9), Greta Knarston (24); Middle: Lizzie Ingham (39). 
Men – Sprint: Tim Robertson (32), Ross Morrison (36); Middle: Ross Morrison (39).

JALAS SPONSORSHIP
The NZOF acknowledges the continued sponsorship of the Development Squad by the MapSport Shop, provided through the sales of Jalas shoes.

SITUATION VACANT: AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND CHALLENGE TEAM MANAGER
Applications are still sought for the position of A-NZ Challenge Team Manager for the New Zealand team to contest the A-NZ Challenge to be held as part of the Oceania-World Cup 2013 carnival, 6-13 January. This is a volunteer position. A job description is available from the General Manager. Applications now close 15 August.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND CHALLENGE: CHANGE OF RULES
Some fine tuning of the rules for the ANZ Challenge have recently been agreed between Orienteering Australia and NZOF. The most significant of these are:
- The individual challenge will now be contested across three events (sprint, middle, long).
- Team members, however, will no longer have special starts.
- Reserves will now be able to be used where a team member is a planner, controller, etc in one of the events.
**GRANT TO ORIENTEERING WAIKATO**

The NZOF Council approved a project grant of $756 for Orienteering Waikato to hold a mapping workshop conducted by Michael Wood of Mapsport Services, on 23-24 June.

**SPORTS VOLUNTEER AWARDS**

New Zealand’s Regional Sports Trusts and Sport New Zealand (with the support of MORE FM) have announced the 2012 Sport Volunteer Awards, running from 18 June to 28 August.

At [www.sportnz.org.nz/volunteers](http://www.sportnz.org.nz/volunteers), clubs can thank a volunteer through the medium of an e-card and also nominate the person for a regional sport volunteer award.

Regional Sports Trusts will choose three winners after the campaign closes and present each winner with a $250 sport store voucher. One regional winner will also be crowned the New Zealand Sport Volunteer of the Year at the New Zealand Sport and Recreation Awards in 2013 (venue and date tbc). Sport New Zealand encourages all partners who value sport volunteers to promote the campaign through their various channels.

**AMP SCHOLARSHIPS**

AMP Scholarships applications are open once again at [doyourthing.co.nz](http://doyourthing.co.nz) - until August 31, 11.59pm - and are open to any New Zealand citizen and permanent residents.

Unlike other scholarships, the only conditions are a willingness to succeed, determination and commitment to a person’s chosen field. AMP are looking for Kiwis with amazing ideas for a community project, business idea, education, or a dream to represent their country - and more! Kiwis who are dedicated to "*doing their thing*" with an extra helping hand.