NZOF Update for March 2014

The New Zealand Orienteering Federation National Championships 2014 are being hosted by Wellington Orienteering Club. This year they welcome us to the Manawatu for 4 days of competition over Easter.

The event will place across farms and forests and Ohakea Airforce Base for the sprint event.

As well as the usual Sprint, Middle, Long and inter-club Relay events, this year we will also be holding the New Zealand National Night Championships. This event will be on the Sunday evening after the NZOF prizegiving.

Entry Form available on the event website. Entries must be sent to the organiser no later than 6 April 2014.

WOC TEAM TRIALS – will also be held during the National Championships 2014. The team will be selected to compete in Italy in July [www.woc2014.info](http://www.woc2014.info).

WOC MANAGER – Applications are now invited for the position of WOC Manager. Information on the position can be found on the NZOF website. Applications to be sent to the General Manager, and close on 1 April.

AGM
Clubs are advised that the Annual General Meeting for 2014 will be held in conjunction with the New Zealand Orienteering Championships

**Friday 18 April 2014 6.30 pm**
Venue: Mt Biggs School, 707 Sandon Rd, Feilding 4702

North West Orienteering Club are running the North Island Orienteering Championships (28-30 March). The event also incorporates the Junior World Orienteering Team trials who will compete at the 2014 Junior World Orienteering Championships in Bulgaria.

Anna Roberston has been appointed Team Manager, and Rob Jessop Coach.

WORLD CUP SELECTIONS
Ross Morrison has been selected for the World Cup Round 2 in Spain and Portugal, and Matt Ogden for the European Orienteering Champs in Portugal.
NZOF ANNUAL AWARDS 2014
Nominations for all awards may be made by any individual affiliated NZOF member or a club, and are to be sent to the General Manager Friday 4 April 2014.

- **Services to NZ Orienteering** - Our premier service award honouring an individual who has contributed in a most deserving manner to the development of orienteering in New Zealand.
- **International Performance Award** - For achievement by an individual or team in international competition in year preceding.
- **Kapiti HAVOC Trophy** - For international performance in year preceding by a junior.
- **Coach of the Year** - For outstanding contribution in coaching during year preceding by an individual.
- **Mountain Bike Orienteer of the Year** - For meritorious performance by an individual or team in mountain bike orienteering during year preceding.
- **Rogainer of the Year** - For meritorious performance by an individual or team in rogaining during year preceding.
- **Administrator of the Year** - For outstanding contribution in administration for either a club, NZOF or a special project during year preceding by an individual.
- **President’s Award** - For outstanding volunteer contribution to a club (or clubs) during year preceding by an individual.
- **Brighouse Trophy** - For the best combined performance by an affiliated NZOF member in national and provincial long-distance events during year preceding by an individual.

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2014 AFFILIATION FEE AND EVENT LEVY
A reminder the Annual Affiliation Fee and first Event Levy & Participation Return are due on 20 March 2014.

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Visit Canberra, Australia and orienteer! 2014 – 2015. $2,500 Scholarship available to enjoy orienteering and coaching in Canberra Australia. Visit Australia in our Summer and join in World Cup events. Teach our club how to orienteer.

To apply please email your details, a brief CV, a photo and a short letter to Orienteering ACT. orienteering.act@webone.com.au. Applications close April 25th. Earlier applications are encouraged.

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PATHWAY TO PODIUM
The creation of New Zealand’s first nationwide talent development programme, called Pathway to Podium, has been announced today. The programme will identify emerging athletes and ensure they’re better prepared to enter the demanding high performance sport system.

Through Sport New Zealand and High Performance Sport New Zealand (HPSNZ), the government will initially invest $1m in the programme, which aims to provide a step up for talented young athletes and their coaches.

HPSNZ Chief Executive Alex Baumann says it is part of the government’s commitment to helping more Kiwi athletes win on the world stage.
“We have many talented young athletes and coaches throughout New Zealand, but we lose some of them along the way because the pathway to high performance is not clear, or they were not well prepared for it,” he says.

“Pathway to Podium will help ensure talented young prospects around New Zealand get the support they need to have their best shot at success. We expect some of the athletes selected in the initial 2014 intake to go on to win medals at the 2020 and 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games or at world championships.”

Selected athletes and their coaches will receive wide-ranging support and guidance, including in the areas of performance planning, training regimes, strength and conditioning, and nutrition. About 220 to 250 young athletes are expected to be selected in the first year of the programme, and around 150 coaches.

Sport New Zealand chief executive Peter Miskimmin says the programme will be delivered through a number of regional talent hubs around the country.

“Through Pathway to Podium, the athletes will be able to access local facilities and train in close proximity to their homes, families and peer support until they’re ready to enter the formal high performance system. High performance sport is mentally and physically tough. So the more we can do to prepare our young people the better. This is an exciting development, as it will help close a previous gap in our system, between community and high performance sport,” Miskimmin says.

As well as government funding, the regional talent hubs will be supported by key local stakeholders from within and outside the sports sector. Details of which sports will be part of the programme and the location of hubs are still being finalised. The programme will commence in April 2014.