

MIDDLE EARTH ORIENTEERING 2017

Oceania Orienteering Championships and World Masters Orienteering Championships

By arrangement between Orienteering New Zealand (ONZ) and Orienteering Australia, the Oceania Orienteering Championships will be run in the Auckland region over Easter (14-17 April 2017), the weekend prior to the start of the World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC) being held as part of the World Masters Games from 21-30 April in Auckland. The NZ Orienteering Nationals will be hosted by Hawkes Bay Orienteering Club and will take place at Labour Weekend 2017.

Early in 2015, an Orienteering Oversight Committee (OOC) was formed as a subcommittee of ONZ, to ensure the highest quality delivery of both the World Masters and Oceania Championships. The OOC is made up of the Presidents of Auckland, Counties Manukau, and North West Orienteering Clubs, co-opted members, and ONZ representatives. This group is working closely with the National Controller for WMOC, Gillian Ingham; IOF Senior Event Advisers, Nick Dent (WMOC) and Christine Browne (Oceania); and Orienteering Bay of Plenty.

For some months, the OOC has been working on a range of tasks, including confirmation of venues for Oceania. This decision has been challenging as there are multiple factors and proposals from clubs or individuals to take into account. The OOC believes the event schedule below serves as the optimum balance among IOF requirements; the agreement with Australia for Oceania to serve as a lead-up for WMOC; needs of competitors from Oceania and beyond; club and ONZ expectations for legacy benefits; as well as minimising demands on volunteers and reducing costs.

OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday 14 April 2017 (Easter)	Sprint	Unitec Campus, Pt Chevalier (Updated)
Saturday 15	Long	Northern Woodhill (New)
Sunday 16	Relay	Northern Woodhill (New)
Monday 17	Middle	Ponganui Rd, Onewhero (used for Nationals 2015)

MIDDLE EARTH EVENTS

Wednesday 19	Forest event	Rotorua (New)
Thursday 20	Urban Sprint	Rotorua (Updated)

WORLD MASTERS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS (WORLD MASTERS GAMES)

Saturday 22 April 2017	Sprint Model	Epsom Campus (Updated)
Sunday 23	Sprint Qualifier	Wynyard Quarter (New)
Monday 24	Sprint Final	University of Auckland (New)
Tuesday 25 (ANZAC)	Long Model	Woodhill (New)
Wednesday 26	Long Qualifier 1	Woodhill (New)
Thursday 27	Long Qualifier 2	Woodhill (New)
Saturday 29	Long Final	Woodhill (New)

An ANZ Challenge as well as Elite and Schools Test Matches may be held in conjunction with these events.

All venues should be regarded as embargoed. Specific embargo details for WMOC are on that website, with Oceania embargo information coming soon.

The Oceania 2017 website is currently being developed and will be advised via ONZ. All information on the WMOC can be found at <http://www.worldmastersgames2017.co.nz/en/sports/orienteering/> or via the ONZ website. Entries for both carnivals will open in early 2016. Entry to Oceania events will be open to all. Even though the minimum entry age for WMOC is 35, there will be public races run alongside the WMOC races on most days of the WMOC Carnival.

Event delivery will be overseen by the OOC, but delivered by local clubs collectively. Expressions of interest will be invited shortly for Event Managers, Controllers and Planners. Teams will be formed across clubs for key tasks such as starts, event centres, finishes, results and logistics. As well as preparing to compete, club members might start thinking of how they may best contribute to these events.

The OOC aims to do everything possible to make this an exceptional and enjoyable two weeks for everyone involved in orienteering in New Zealand.

For further information, please contact:

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