

March News

Kia ora,

Last week we concluded a fantastic summer series planned by Michael, Riley and Leo. Five events on gorgeous late summer/early autumn evenings on recently updated maps, what more could you ask for. We have also enjoyed two club events, Rabbit Island and then the infamous Wakapuaka. Personally I would like to apologise to all the young kids who had to endure one of the hardest "white" courses that has ever been set - it was unfortunate that the tracks were no longer present in the western part of the map. I found young Jasper Maclaren's response upon arriving at the finish particularly entertaining "I don't want to do this anymore". Orienteering is a great sport for developing both character and resilience.



The grass wasn't even that long, thankfully no children were lost.

On Sunday we had the first of the Pelorus Challenges on the Canaan Downs map, last used for NZOC2022. The Murray's did fantastic mahi planning the event and arranging the weather to be just perfect. We probably shouldn't become too accustomed to having such majestic days on the Takaka plateau, but may the awesome run we have had continue! It was great to see the incredible turnout and the many smiles around the NOC tent.

My mission now, as autumn sets in, is to help as many NOCians (*NOC members*) develop their navigational skills and to feel part of this awesome club, that I feel is growing organically into something truly special. Please don't hesitate to reach out through [email](#) or join me on a few legs out in the forest.

Matt Leo Ogden

Move Love O - a recipe for happiness.

Commented [1]: I will final review tomorrow (21/3). We should aim to issue Wednesday.

Commented [2]: I suggest including a few photos from recent events (available on Facebook) at the bottom of the newsletter.



Waimea Schools Summer Series Sprint - a huge thanks to Annemarie and Jan who have been just brilliant supporting the events with all things tech.

Membership

As per the last newsletter, [2023 membership](#)'s are still due with early bird prices still available until 31st March. If you were a club member in 2022, check your email for an invoice. If you weren't a member last year you wouldn't have received an invoice email recently, so head to the website to sign up. Prices are below.

	Junior	Senior	Family
Early bird (until 31st March)	\$25	\$35	\$75
Standard (from 31st April)	\$30	\$45	\$90

*A family is two seniors (21 or older) and any number of juniors.

Upcoming Events

See our [Events](#) or [Facebook](#) pages for all of our upcoming events and details (and results after each event). We endeavour to keep all details up to date, but please let us know if you have any questions or see any discrepancies.

- Sunday 2nd April - St Arnaud (Pelorus Challenge 2)
 - Registration opens 10am, last start 12pm
 - More information available [here](#)
 - Enter online [here](#)
- 7-11th April - Easter 4 day multi distance (Note: this is in replacement of NZ Champs, which have been postponed to labour weekend)
 - Distances: Sprint and multi-day
 - Check out the event [website](#) for more information, and entry details.
- 29-30th April - NZ Mountain Bike Orienteering Champs, Christchurch
 - Distances: Middle, Sprint and Long
 - Check out the event [website](#) for more information, and entry details.

News

- **GODZone and Summer Challenge**

Well done to all club members who raced at Godzone and Summer Challenge at the end of February, we hope the recovery is going well. A special congratulations to Nathan Fa'avae for winning Godzone with team Avaya, retiring from winning exhibition races in the only style he knows.

Club member, Tide Fa'avae, has written a short race report of her team's race at Summer challenge, where they took out the win for the 6 hour challenge in a time of 5:21:27.

"A couple of weekends ago I competed in the six-hour Summer challenge Picton with Nika and Bree. Navigation was easy although we did manage to miss our first kayak control and had to go back. We started mid-pack on the hike, scrambling past teams on the way up, it was not until we got back to the transition that we realised we were the first team back. We had a nice flowing Mountain bike track that followed the sea taking

Commented [3]: Probably should mention Nathan's result (and retirement from AR), also Georgia's performance in the RAB Wahines. Daniel/Kevin...anyone else from NOC took part?
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us into Picton. We finished with some orienteering, one control we had to swim out to get. We made it, it was fun.”



Lost Control consisting of Tide Fa'avae, Nika Rayward and Bree Fraser on course and in transition at Summer Challenge, with onlookers making comment afterwards “that is how you do a transition”.

- **Junior World Orienteering Champs trials**

Trials to be selected to represent at the Junior World Orienteering Champs have started with the first weekend on 18-19th March in Christchurch and the second weekend at the sprint and multi-day distance races over Easter weekend in the Manawatu. The multi-day distance races will also be trials for the World Orienteering Champs team. We wish all the best to the club members trialling Zefa Fa'avae, Tide Fa'avae, Riley Croxford, Eddie Swain for JWOC and Matt Ogden for WOC.

Stand-out performances at the Christchurch trials were:

- Zefa with a massive win in the Middle Distance at Butlers Bush, plus a second placings at the Sprint at Hillmorton High and also at the Long Distance at Laidmore Forest;
- Tide Fa'avae gained a 5th in the Middle and 7th in the Sprint. She recovered well from a bad first control in the Long Distance to finish 9th;
- Riley Croxford put in a solid effort with a 3rd in the Middle and 4th placings in both the Sprint and Long meaning he's well placed for selection;
- Eddie Swain finished 6th in the Long and 7th in the Middle after a 40 second error near the end of the Sprint meant he dropped from 6th to 13th.

All four are in contention for selection and represent us well! We're proud of them!

Competition is strong for the six men and six women to represent New Zealand in the 20 and under competition in Romania in July. Both the men's and women's fields had around 18 athletes running with places in the team hotly contested.



Club member Eddie Swain at the JWOC trials in Christchurch over the weekend.