

February News

Kia ora,

2024 is well underway now, and has not disappointed following on from a busy end of 2023. In December, some club members travelled to Tekapo for the Australasian 24 hr Rogaining Champs, while it sounds like there were some battered bodies by the end of the race, the courses looked challenging and rewarding. Check out the end of the newsletter to see a copy of the maps. Over Nelson anniversary and Waitangi weekend, a small group of club members travelled north to race in the Oceania Champs which was two action packed weekends and saw some very exciting head to head racing.

Looking to the year ahead the club has an exciting orienteering to look forward to, with a range of after work sprints and rogaines, training days and OYs and events on new maps. Be sure to check the upcoming events below and keep an eye out on the club website or facebook page to ensure you don't miss them. If you can help out in any capacity at any of the events please reach out to [us](#).

I hope to see you at the Summer Sprint Series tomorrow night!



Zefa storming home in the individual sprint at the Oceania Champs



Upcoming Events

Event	Distance	Location	Dates	Time	Categories	More Info
Summer sprint series	Sprint	Nelson Girls College	Wednesday 28th February	5:45-6:45pm	Public	More info including pre-registration here
		Broadgreen Intermediate	Wednesday 6th March	5:45-6:45pm	Public	
		Nelson College (TBC)	Wednesday 13th March	5:45-6:45pm	Public	
		Motueka High School (TBC)	Wednesday 20th March	5:45-6:45pm	Public	
Canterbury Champs	Middle	Craigmore	Saturday 9th March	From 10:30am	All classes listed here	More info here
	Long	Kakahu	Sunday 10th March	From 10:30am		
West Bay OY	OY	West Bay (TBC)	Sunday 24th March	10am-12pm	White, Yellow, Orange, Red (short, medium and long)	More info here Requires a planner and controller
National Orienteering Champs	Sprint	Crown Park, Taupō	Friday 29th March	TBA	All race classes listed here	Enter here. More info
	Middle	Crater Block, Rotorua	Saturday 30th March	TBA		
	Long	Crater Block, Rotorua	Sunday 31st March	TBA		
	Relay	Crater Block, Rotorua	Monday 1st April	TBA		
Club training	Training	TBC	Sunday 14th April	10am-3pm	Training	More info here
Karanga	Standard	Kananga (88 Valley Road)	Sunday 21st April	10am - 12pm	White, Yellow, Orange, Red	More info here

Rabbit Island OY	OY	Rabbit Island	Sunday 5th May	10am-12pm	White, Yellow, Orange, Red (short, medium and long)	More info here
Club training	Training	TBC	Sunday 19th May	10am-2pm	Training	More info here
Kings Birthday Weekend	Middle	Canaan Downs	Saturday 1st June	From 1pm	All race classes listed here	More info here
	Long	Kaihoka Lakes	Sunday 2nd June	From 10am		
	Sprint	Golden Bay High school	Monday 3rd June	From 9am		

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.

Membership

Emails regarding 2024 membership were sent out in early February, with the invoice attached. Please check your spam folder if you did not receive it. Please also ensure you use your MR number as a Reference in your bank transfer as it makes our job much faster.

Summer Sprint series

Our summer series kicked off last Wednesday, and continues until the 20th March. Check out the [website](#) to find out more.



King's Birthday in Golden Bay (1 - 3 June 2024)



Nelson Orienteering Club has volunteered to organise this year's King's Birthday Orienteering Weekend, also incorporating the following additional competitions:

- Pinestars versus Bushrangers Test Match;
- Trials for the New Zealand Secondary Schools' team to compete for the Southern Cross Trophy in Australia;
- New Zealand Secondary Schools Regional Challenge;
- Final round of the National Orienteering and Sprint Leagues (NOL & NSL);
- Race 7 and 8 of the National Orienteering League (Middle and Long);
- Race 8 of the National Sprint League (Sprint).

The team of setters and controllers have already started their work to deliver great courses in one of the most beautiful locations of this already pretty stunning country, an area which has not hosted a similar size orienteering event before.

We would love as many Nelson Club members as possible to participate in this unique event! Entries open 1 March, via [EnterO](#). Everybody registering, including payment, in the month of March will go into the draw to win one of five \$50 hospitality vouchers, courtesy of the [Mussel Inn](#), in the heart of Golden Bay.

KB2024 venues

Saturday 1 June 2023 - Middle: the venue is **Canaan Downs**, located on top of the Takaka Plateau, on the way to Golden Bay. Amelia Horne is the planner for this event, with Calum Coombs the controller. The first starts are scheduled from 1 PM onwards.

Sunday 2 June 2023 - Long: the venue is near **Kaihoka Lakes**, a brand-new map on the West Coast, almost exclusively on private farmland near the Whanganui Inlet. This event will be planned by Neil Murray, and controller by Julian Maclaren. The first starts are scheduled from 10AM onwards.

Monday 3 June 2023 – Sprint: the venue is 'in town', as locals would say: Takaka's Golden Bay High School and Takaka Primary School. Riley Croxford has put his hand up to be the planner, with Richard Greatrex volunteering as the controller. The start window will be between 9 -11 AM, with course closure at 12 noon.

Volunteering




An event this size can only be organised with the support of many, many helping hands. If you'd like to participate in KBGB2024 *and* volunteer on one or more days, please get in contact with event coordinator Annemarie Hogenbirk, ideally via email (kbg2024@gmail.com). We're looking for experienced and novice volunteers alike, for jobs like set-up, registration, start team, timing team and control collection. Volunteers will run for free on the days they are helping out!



Symbol of the month

Open Land

An area with no trees e.g. grassland, a meadow or a field.

Map	Example Control Description	Text description	Terrain
		<p>Open land, east corner (inside)</p>	

Australasian 24 hour rogaine champs

The Australasian 24 hour Rogaine Champs were held in December last year down in Tekapo. Some club members traveled down and all did really well and we caught up with Emma who did the 6 hour with her teammates Sigfrid and Lilou and Roland who did the 24 hour with his teammate Kat. Be sure to read to the end, where you can find a copy of the maps.

We asked Emma some questions about her race:

Q: What is it about this sport that keeps you coming back and going bigger?

A: *Doesn't matter if you are fast, slow, young or old, running or not, everyone can enjoy rogaines.*

- *What keeps me coming me back? the challenge (here the area covered by the maps!!) and find the optimal loop, without losing points coming back late.*
- *Why going bigger? A great way to discover new areas that we did not even think about and that are sometimes not usually accessible to the public.*



Q: What was a challenge you had at this event or getting to it?

A: *The challenge at this event was definitely the distances to cover; it was difficult for us to visualise / evaluate the distance and terrain. We did a mistake going to Point 65, way too far from our main loop. Anyway, a good lesson for the next one.*

Q: What did you enjoy most about it?

A: *The scenery and the amazing organisation! We all enjoyed the scenery of the Glenmore Station but 6hr option was definitely too short to discover the area. Hope the Wicked Rogaines will be back there again. Wicked Rogaines apparently spent 2 years to organise this event and I think it was a real success. 5 stars for them and thanks to the family owner who opened their gates for the event this weekend.*

Q: What's one thing you learned for next time?

A: *We learnt now why experienced orienteers are wearing gatters... we still have prickles or should I say 'souvenirs' from the Glenmore Station.*

Q: What's one thing you want to learn for next time?

A: *How to use a compass accurately; we need more training for this. Many teams were quicker than us going straight to the points.*



And Roland provided us a report of his race with teammate Kat:



“After enjoying some local rogaines, Kat and I decided to step up to have a go at the Australasian 24hr Rogaine Champs in December as team “The lost beekeepers”. Given we had done one previous 24hr rogaine between us, we went into the event not quite knowing how we’d go compared to more experienced teams but excited for the open terrain and night nav. The rogaine was based out of Glenmore Station on the west side of Lake Tekapo, with some spectacular tops and low rolling hills down to Lake Alexandrina and Mt John. On getting the maps, the key choice to make was how to split our effort between the tops at the northern end of the course and the flatter rolling country to the south. Our plan was to shoot up the Cass River first and work our way back along the tops, skipping some controls requiring significant elevation gains. This worked out well, allowing us to escape most of the heat during the first afternoon and leave the easier terrain for the night. By sunset, we were descending back towards the event base, with our only issue being an ambitious matagouri thorn that managed to pierce all the way through my shoe.

Our enthusiasm stayed high once the light faded as we continued to tick off controls. The high of nailing a hidden control in the dark was eventually replaced by the frustration of moving on from a control after looking around the wrong tarn and a lengthy feeling detour

around a deep swamp to get back to the event base. After a quick midnight feast and change of socks, we were into the second part of our figure-8 plan. Despite stocking up on food, our speed soon started to fade and by 2am, a lakeside bench was looking very appealing for a stop. We managed to keep chipping away and morale improved once daylight started to appear. After a quick rejig of our plan based on our slowing average speed, we worked out which controls we still had time to get before heading for the finish. By this point, a NWER was starting to howl down the lake so the last few hours were a bit of a slog into a dust-blasting headwind. My legs were starting to fade big time so I was very much head down and following Kat. We made it back with enough time to spare to pick up a couple of small controls on the way and finished tired but happy to have pulled off most of our plan. Once the results were in we were stoked to see we finished top 5 in the open mixed category. Nora and the Wicked Rogaines team ran a fantastic event so safe to say we'll be back for more."



The 24 hr map
Australasian
- what would your

from the
Rogaine Champs
route be?