

TOP OF THE SOUTH ORIENTEERING CLUB



April 1992

Vol II No 4

THE NEXT EVENT !!

AT

LAKE ROTOITI

Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd May

Further details inside

YOUR COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Ian Blackman	544 8670
SECRETARY	Doug Mackintosh	548 9314
TREASURER	Anne Stanton	547 9947
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Doug Mackintosh	548 9314
PROPERTY	Ian Paterson	546 4100
MAPPING	Ian Blackman	544 8670
PUBLICITY	Anne Stanton	547 9947
COACH/TRAINING	Ian Blackman	544 8670
JUNIORS REP	Paul Harrington	548 8801
KIWISPORT	Doug Mackintosh	548 9314
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	Doug Mackintosh	548 9314
MEMBER	Tim Harrington	548 8801
MEMBER	Bill Howat	546 7410
MEMBER	Sandy Paterson	546 4100
MEMBER	Don Stanton	547 9947
Appointment outside Committee		
MEMBERSHIP	Sue Martyn	544 4728
(Now you know who to ring with suggestions or questions)		

COMING CLUB EVENTS

- Nil Apr With Easter and two events in May the committee has decided to take a breather.
- 1/3 May LAKE ROTOITI We are using the Lodge as a base and there are still some vacant beds. Start times will be restricted and will be advised the night before at the Lodge.
- Sun 17 May NELSON CITY Using the Fairfield map with its many parks and reserves
- Sun 21 Jun RABBIT ISLAND The planner promises something different
- START TIMES Between 10am and 2pm at Club events unless otherwise advised
- HELPERS Members are expected to help about every third event for 1-2 hours either before or after you compete. Ring planner about 7 days before

EVENTS OUTSIDE NELSON

- 17/20 Apr WELLINGTON/WAIRARAPA Easter 4 days, entries closed.
- 30 May/1Jun WOODHILL (AUCKLAND) 3 Day Badge event. Full details of courses and entry form with Doug. Entries close 12 May 1992
- 24/26 Oct CANTERBURY 1992 **National Champs**

OTHER HAPPENINGS

- Mon 4 May Committee meeting 7.30pm at the Harrington's
- Sat 18 Apr NZOF Annual General Meeting - Wellington
- 6/7 Jun The NZOF Technical Officer will hold an instructional mapmaking weekend in Nelson. Dates are confirmed. Sat evening will be devoted to course setting.
- *****

RESULTS - TAHUNA BEACH 22nd MARCH

GREEN Course 5.5km 21 controls

Tim Harrington	TOP M40	46.20
Rob Kay	TOP M35	47.00
Colin Hope	TOP M35	49.09
Bill Howat	TOP M21	58.05
Herman van Gessel	TOP M35	58.10
Graham Moorey	- M20	58.58
Eric Verstappen	TOP M35	61.56
Kevan Gregory	TOP M35	67.49
Crampton&Marriott	TOP Gp	69.40
Jo Kay	TOP W21	70.00
Scott Nicol	- M21	73.28
Ian Blackman	TOP M40	82.00
Ben Ayre	- M	87.10
Gary Renwick	TOP M40	93.00
Fran Andrews	TOP W35	114.25
Newlove & Ferry	- Gp	150.20
Rob Douglas	TOP M40	56.03*
Paul Harrington	TOP M16	64.45*
Malcolm Pasley	- M21	M2C

YELLOW Course 1.7km 10 controls

McEwan Group	- Gp	11.00
Paul Wastney	- M21	12.00
Rob Douglas	TOP M40	12.13
Fenney/Taylor	- Gp	15.11
McGettigan Gp	- Gp	15.45
K Paterson	TOP Gp	16.25
Stephens Family	- Gp	16.30
Greers	- Gp	17.25
Ben McEwan	TOP M12	18.43
Pamela Atkinson	TOP W45	19.28
Gray Family	- Gp	20.00
Angela Walls	W21	20.05
Rachel Stringer	- W45	20.56
Rene Bennett	- M12	21.25
Claire&Kate Gavin	- Gp	24.20
A & J Studer	- Gp	28.00
C Huygens	- M70	29.45
Mary Ayre	- Gp	39.25
Jeremy D'Herville	TOP M16	8.48*

M2C = missed 2 controls

ORANGE Course 2.7km 14 controls

Paul Harrington	TOP M16	25.12
Chris Mackintosh	TOP W40	30.19
Carol Hulse	- W21	30.58
Dan McGettigan	TOP M40	35.15
Ian Paterson	TOP M40	35.53
J & Thomas Upton	TOP Gp	36.27
Andrew Harrington	TOP M12	38.13
G Jani	- M50	40.53
Tim Stringer	- M21	45.40
Heather Verstappen	TOP W35	48.50
Jeremy D'Herville	TOP M16	49.52
N & Rene Bennetts	TOP Gp	51.20
Julie Reid	TOP W35	52.09
Jeremy Hillier Fam-	Gp	52.30
Brewer Group	- Gp	52.40
Edna McNabb	TOP W56	63.07
Grant & Basil	-OP Gp	76.16
Marshall Family	- Gp	78.40
Christine Gregory	TOP Gp	84.45
McEwan Group 2	- Gp	21.50*
Rob Douglas	TOP M40	28.44*
Paul Wastney	- M21	34.05*
McEwan	- W	37.30*
J Greer	-	38.53*
P Greer	- M14	41.00*
Fenney/Taylor	- Gp	41.30*
Claire&Kate Gavin	- Gp	66.10*
C Huygens	- Gp	77.00*
Cathy Harrington	TOP W40	M1C

STRING Course 0.2km 6 controls

Clare Andrews
 Bethany Andrews
 Hamish Kay
 Nathaniel Bennett
 Rene Bennet
 Sarah
 Claudia
 Ruth Kelly
 and many more who kept their cards

* = 2nd or 3rd course

COMMENT ON THE TAHUNA EVENT

This was the first club event where we have used a controller in addition to the planner. Most clubs try to do this all the time. Essentially the planner takes the overall responsibility, plans the courses and sites the controls, makes up the master maps, and description sheets and ensures all equipment is ready. The controller assists the planner by checking the courses several weeks before to see they are fair and appropriate for the type of orienteer, and also that every control site is correct, then ensures sufficient helpers are available on the day. This checking system should remove most potential slip-ups. If one person is left to do it on their own, no matter what their experience, it is asking for trouble.

After Graeme had planned the four courses with their 51 legs, Doug suggested 4 changes, 47 legs were kept unchanged. Graeme then visited every control site, sometimes twice and marked each one with a small piece of plastic. Next weekend Doug checked each site, disagreed with one which was 10 metres out, and another where the map was 5 metres out. A third site appeared to be too difficult and a fourth was too open to public interference. Again just 4 minor changes out of 51.

We both thought the Yellow was about right, and the results of no DNFs and timings ranging between 11 and 39 minutes confirms this. We also thought the Orange was of the correct difficulty but a bit short, and could not find a good way to lengthen it a bit, looking at the results indicates it could perhaps have been 10% longer. The Green was as long as it could be on Tahuna without using a second map. Only 3 beat 55 minutes so perhaps it was about right. Counting the string course we have only four courses, so there will always be a quite a gap in difficulty between each course. On every course, a few should find it too easy, the majority about right, and a few too hard (except for the yellow, where everyone should finish, but not too easily). Of course controllers and planners will think they are right, but a look at the results is a good guide, and also a cross-section of comments from the members is helpful.

If every control had been found they would have been punched a total of 1,043 times, as it turned out it was 1,040. So we think you are all pretty good. Some of you may say it was too easy, if you think so, ignore the first three on each course, and have a look at the majority, it looks like most of them had some problems on the way, which is the way it should be. Some of the longer times also belong to our walkers, and therefore it is harder to judge how good their navigation is. I think the planner did a good job, but I did not see many of you tell him so at the end, perhaps you did and I was too busy gossiping.

Andrew Harrington M12 turned in a very good time on the Orange, as did the McEwan Gp with the fastest time, even if it was their second course. Rob Douglas finished all three courses with a remarkable 3rd, 3rd and 4th out of 67 registrations.

THE TAHUNA EVENT or (A BANDIT AT THE EIGHTH CONTROL!)

With a cool breezy morning ensuring a brisk start I was off on the yellow course. Controls all in the right places until I approached control No 8 - the description being a drain pipe on the side of the skating rink building. An elderly figure (apparently the caretaker) appeared from a doorway with a "what are you doing?" "Orienteering" says I, "What's that?" says he. "Mapsport" I answered, "there should be an orange control here on a drainpipe". "Oh THAT" says he "We were broken into last night and I've put it inside". "Quick, quick, where is it" I replied and hot on his heels I followed as he ambled inside through a couple of doorways, unlocking his inner sanctum where I quickly clipped my card and asked him to put the control back on the drain pipe pronto!

(I always considered I looked a fairly innocuous character, but maybe the vision of a middle aged woman running along with a sheet of paper flapping in her hand looked rather suspicious and just could be assumed to be holding a master burglary plan!)

I must have lost a few minutes over this interlude and as I shot off to an uneventful completion of the course I wondered just what sort of burglars apparatus he imagined an innocent looking piece of orienteering equipment to be!

I duly informed Doug and hoped the control was returned to its rightful position for those other yellow course people following in my footsteps.

Pamela Atkinson W45

Ed: If we had known this story before, perhaps we would have knocked off 5 minutes and Pamela would have come in third. Maybe we were also lucky that this control was not on the green course. I can well imagine some of those types clipping the control, then with an evil grin leaving it behind two locked doors, after all they could always claim they were told never to move a control.

LAKE ROTOITI WEEKEND 1 - 3 MAY 1992

There are still plenty of vacancies at the Lodge. A number of members have access to baches at Lake Rotoiti and the charge for those not staying overnight at the lodge will be just \$8 for seniors and \$4 for juniors. Pre school children stay FREE at the lodge. It would be good if we could fill the Lodge as the club would get a rebate. The Lodge will be open from 5pm on Friday.

The programme will be fairly free and easy, you can join in orienteering activities or do your own thing. Both evenings should include some indoor O activities and also a chance to mingle with other orienteers. Saturday afternoon and late Sunday morning will be two O events starting and finishing about 10 minutes from the Lodge. Saturday morning and after breakfast Sunday will be allocated to the introduction and practice of orienteering techniques. If you haven't sent in your entry form yet, please get it in quickly to make the organisers job easier. If the weekend is similar to the one we had there last year, it will be quite an experience. If change your mind and arrive at the last moment we will fit you in somewhere.

TOP of the SOUTH
 ORIENTEERING CLUB
 INVITES YOU TO AN
 ORIENTEERING WEEKEND 1-3 MAY 1992
 AT
 NELSON LAKES

ACCOMMODATION. Room for 80 orienteers at the Rotoiti Lodge Outdoor Pursuit Centre located at ST ARNAUD on the shores of Lake Rotoiti. There is space for three caravans outside the Lodge and a good camping ground 10 mins away (Department of Conservation, West Bay site).

SECONDARY SCHOOLS. A special invitation is extended to members of the five secondary schools in the Nelson Province, who may wish to learn more about orienteering.

THE PROGRAMME. Two separate orienteering events, various training activities, and a good chance to meet other orienteers. All activities will be run on different levels to cater for beginners to experienced orienteers. The map is black and white produced by Baxter and Martin and has been enjoyed twice by the club. Children are welcome, pets are not permitted. Arrive after 5pm Friday and depart before 3pm Sunday.

BRING. your own food (there is a good kitchen), sleeping bag, some warm clothing, and slippers. Fees cover accommodation, entry to events and training costs. \$28 each for adults and \$14 for schoolchildren, free for pre-schoolers if no bed required

OWN ACCOMMODATION. We think you will enjoy the lodge, mixing with other orienteers of varying experience. This experience may vary from nil to over ten years, but a common bond of interest in this sport or recreation joins us together. If you have your own accommodation in St Arnaud the costs are reduced to \$8 for adults and \$4 for schoolchildren for the events and training.

BOOKING. Receipt for your payment and confirmation of reservation will be returned promptly. To help the organisers adjust the programme to suit those coming it would be appreciated if replies were received very soon.

Any queries to Doug Mackintosh (03) 548 9314

-----Tear Here-----

Reserve places for 1-3 May at Rotoiti Club.....
Surname First Name O Grade Address and Tel Number

Cheque for \$..... in full payment is enclosed
 Return to 230 Collingwood St NELSON, cheques crossed and payable to 'Top of the South Orienteering Club' ..

SNIPPETS

A warm welcome to new club members, Colin Hope ex PAPO now in Blenheim and in to map making. Rob Douglas who is new to orienteering, so at Tahuna it was suggested he do the Yellow course, which he did, then the Orange, then the Green. He did not do the string because he was driving to Christchurch that day. Also to Christine Coshan, Janis Crampton and Ian Marriot

We hear the Andrews, Harringtons and Renwicks, went down to the Canterbury Champs in mid March. It was a two day event on the Butler's Bush and Chaney's Forest maps.

At least one of them got his money worth. To save weight he did not take his watch, and as you know when you are enjoying yourself time flies. So the minutes ticked away and before you know it was past the time that the course was closed and controls taken in. Along comes a vehicle with a question "are you a Nelson orienteer?" and "do you know where you are?" "Yes" to both. Then back to the carpark, but only one lonely organiser was left, and she went too after checking he was the 'one'

We only have the results for the first three places -
M40A Tim Harrington 3rd M16A Paul Harrington 1st
W35B Fran Andrews 3rd M12A Andrew Harrington 1st

General Alert! Ten of our icecream carton controls have gone missing. Numbers 30 to 39 inclusive. Their absence was noted at the Matai event, and number 30 at least was used at Rough Island. So Sherlock Holmes suggested they went walk-about in January or February. Have they been lent to a school or youth group? any suggestions of there whereabouts to Ian Blackman please.

In the last Newsletter we did not thank our helpers at the Maitai event. Sorry about that, much thanks to Anne S, Graeme M, Ian P and Doug M.

We recently had a visitor to Nelson from the top of the ladder. Alistair Landels who was visiting relatives and is currently the No 1 male NZ orienteer, dropped in to get a couple of our maps for a training run. (We are not sure if he ever returned)

Paul Harrington has been busy, another report -
On Tuesday 24th March I held a small event on the Maitai map for the Nelson College 3rd Form field day. It was very basic, following tracks and roads, and all finished. (Ed: well done Paul, you set the course at the right level)
There was a mixture of responsibility shown - at the end when I brought the controls in - every one had been moved! Sometimes, only a metre from it's original site, sometimes thrown down a bank. But often kids came back saying they had found the controls down banks and put them back in the correct position, There was some good leadership shown too, with each group of 4 having at least one person who know exactly what he was doing.

MORE SNIPPETS

The Andrews and Mackintoshs and maybe the Harringtons are crossing the strait for the Wellington Easter 4 day.

Another Kiwisport orienteering course was put on by Doug Mackintosh, this time for the Nelson Intermediate. The Tahuna map was used and 23 youngsters went round the yellow course used the Sunday before. Another clipper was removed but the school has replaced it. No DNFs, but all had at least one previous orienteering experience with their primary schools during the Baxter/Martin visit 12 months ago.

Averil West of NelsonSports put on a Kiwisport Display during the recent Youth Display at Tahuna. The Orienteering input was very low key from us. Just some maps and one photo with a one page explanation. A well made display board is something to think of for the future. A few good photos, example maps, simple explanation, who to contact, all on a decent board. I imagine it could be used several times a year.

Nelson College had its Sports Day on Saturday 4th April. Using the Fairfield map Paul H planned the course, Anne Stanton put out the controls, and Anne with Gary Pettersson looked after the start/finish. About 20 tried the course, some on mountain bikes.

The Stantons have been working overtime with major renovations to their house. It was noted that Anne did not have time to run a course at the Matai, but did come out and run the registration table for half the day, thanks Anne.

Thanks also to the large band of helpers at the Tahuna event. Fran A, Chris M, Anne S, Neville B, Herman VG, Rene' B, Bill H, James U, Jeremy D'H, Thomas U and Pamela A. A copy of a roster list has been included elsewhere in this letter which should explain what all the jobs are. You should not be asked to help more than once every three events.

You should have received a free 'Orienteering' bumper sticker after paying your subscriptions. If not, pick yours up from Doug at the next event, (folding in the post is not good for them)

The mapping weekend is getting closer, this is likely to be the only opportunity we will get of having the NZOF Technical Mapping expert visit us to pass on the best of techniques from throughout NZ. If you hope to help make a map sometime in the future, or just simply improve your understanding of Orienteering. This is a chance you should not miss, put the date in your diary and let Ian know NOW you want to come.

Copy for the May Newsletter to the Editor by 7 May please

TOP of the SOUTH ORIENTEERING CLUB
EVENT ORGANISATION ROSTER

At... PICTON On... 30 FEB 91

Planner: JACK

Controller: JILL

Registration

0945 - 1100 ARTHUR

1100 - 1230 BETTY

1230 - 1400 CHARLES

Starter

0945 - 1100 JUNE

1100 - 1230 KEITH

1230 - 1400 LIZ

Finish

1015 - 1145 DORIS

1145 - 1315 EDWARD

1315 - Finish FELICITY

Finish Assistant

1015 - 1145 MIKE

1145 - 1315 NELLIE

1315 - Finish OSCAR

Public Relations(1)

0945 - 1100 GEORGE

1100 - 1230 HARRIET

1230 - 1400 IAN

Public Relations(2)

0945 - 1100 PENNY

1100 - 1230 QUILLAM

1230 - 1400 ROSE

Job descriptions

Planner: Mr Fix-it, not pinned down to one job, helps anyone

Controller: Fits in anywhere which is unmanned or overworked

Registration: Checks clip card, records entry, issues map and description sheet, takes money for entries and subscriptions

Starter: Gives out start times and gives "Start"

Finish: Records finish time, enters time taken on both stub and clip card, get results displayed within 10 minutes

Finish Ass'nt: Helps Finish, collects stubs from Starter, checks maths of time taken and puts up results

Public Relations: Assists all newcomers from arrival, gives advice and guidance through all stages incl clip card, and master maps, may be required to go as far as first control. You will help the newcomer enjoy the event, and made at home in a strange world.

An efficient and well run event will make it more enjoyable for all. Thank you for making it a better club.

Notes

Helpers can start on their own course before 10am if it is ready.

THE OTAGO CHAMPIONSHIPS: 4-5 April 1992

Being an ex-Southlander, I thought I was prepared for the chilly Otago mornings. I wasn't, after a fairly lengthy drive in a 'low-to-the-ground' packed car (with a stop over in Temuka), Dad, Andrew, Lars Hanssen and myself stepped out of a nice warm car into what must have been about the temperature of the average refrigerator. The cold seemed to hit us like a wall and after about half a minute you were shivering like jelly. We had arrived early at the MATARAE map area, and our start time was in two hours. What were we meant to do for two hours in a remote Otago back country area at about 500 metres above sea level in what seemed to be sub-zero temperatures? My hands were tinted blue in about 10 minutes and I wandered over to the caravan. After a while we managed to get hold of a copy of the map. If you have been on FLOCK HILL, you will know what lots of rocks are like. The map was plastered with black spots - big and small. Every where you looked on the map the terrain was different, Steep, rugged, cliffed - rimmed - gullies, gently rolling, pasture, forest - it was all there. The features ranged from, caves to railway lines but the most predominant was 'rock'. I was racing against about seven others, Except for me, all were from either Canterbury, Otago or Southland. Many familiar faces appeared whom I had met at the Training camp at Naseby. One, Roland, was there too. As far as I was concerned he was my 'main target'. If I beat him - I had it made. Last year in the Canterbury Champs he thrashed me by 10 minutes on a half hour course on both events. Luckily, in this year's Canterbury Champs he decided to run M17 and I was saved! But now, he was back in my grade and he was a major threat! The worst thing is that he is only a fourth former, has been orienteering for just one year and is about 20 cm shorter than me!

My course finally drew nearer and after a fairly big warm up, I was ready to go. 5..4..3..2..1 and I was off.

I had eleven controls. Nine of them were "Rock", and two were "Cliff". First I went down hill them it turned round and ground back up, twice as far as it went down, then descended to the finish. The whole course was on fast open farm land. I was pleased to come second, (only beaten by Roland).

The next day was just over the other side of the road to MATARAE the maps nearly joined up. This map, 'GLADBROOK' was roughly the same as the previous days map - but it was flat. The characteristic of GLADBROOK was that it had gently rolling 5m high, parallel ridges, with marsh between them. On each ridge were clusters of rocks. Which ridge you were on was often impossible to tell. I took the course slowly with only one major mess, I hit control 4 before control 3. This cost me about 5 minutes - and 1st place. A Southland orienteer beat me by 4 minutes, But I beat Roland! He lost two extra minutes than he had to by abusing control 6, both physically and verbally. Apparently, after spending 20 minutes looking for it, he spent another two kicking it and telling it off! He even considered dragging it through one of the swamps! But a group of W55's were making their way towards it so he thought not.

The first day was the Otago champs but that was all for them, the second day was part of the South Island Challenge. Miraculously, I came away with two 'seconds', which I am very pleased with. Paul Harrington M16 (Otago still grade odd numbers so also M15).

HINTS FOR NEWCOMERS - I

BEFORE YOU START -

1. Fill in your control card completely. Each section has a different purpose and all the boxes must be filled even if some of the information is repeated. If you are not sure of your grade put your sex and age i.e. M33 or W28 or if there is more than one person put Gp for group.
2. Check that you have the correct control descriptions for your course. Some people write their control numbers and descriptions in the appropriate box on their control card to save carrying and referring to another piece of paper.
3. Study the map and legend thoroughly. Discover what is high and what is low, which are tracks, are there any streams, are fences marked? Check the symbols used for terrain features and locate any unfamiliar ones on your map. Note the scale of the map and contour interval. On a black and white map some people like to colour in with a crayon the high ground (don't use red).
4. Make any map corrections necessary, these may be displayed near registration. Sometimes these will only be necessary for the longer courses, so only make the changes needed for your course.
5. Staple your control descriptions to a corner of the map where it does not hide part of your route (registration can tell you where) or fix it to the back. If you hold your compass on the map use tape not staples. Attach your control card to your wrist by elastic, or to the corner of your map, or put it in a small plastic bag pinned to your shirt at waist height. It should be easy to punch but secure so it can't be lost.
6. Put your map in a plastic bag for protection, put your whistle around your neck, attach your compass to your wrist (if you use one) and you are ready to go.
7. Go to the starter and get a start time. The Starter will return your card to you and retain the stub end. Take your map halfway out of the bag then keep an eye on the starter's clock and GO when told.

AT THE MASTER MAPS

1. Take your map out of the plastic bag, ensure you go to your course master map AND take your time to accurately copy the course onto your map. Ensure the centre of the circle is correct and that each and every number is there, do not draw the circles too small as you could obscure some of the detail near the control site. Put in the lines between controls which will help you avoid missing one out.

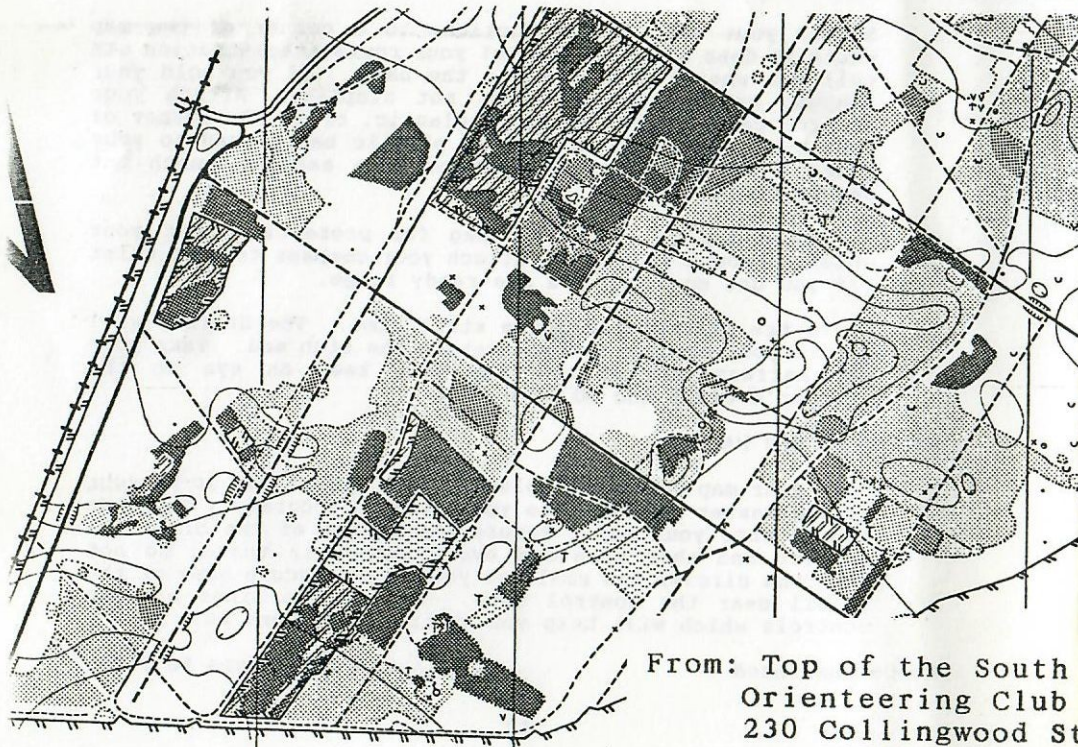
To be Continued

(Acknowledgements to PAPO)

HINTS FOR NEWCOMERS

IN your control card (especially) KEEP NOTHING BUT A
control card and will the cover sheet be lifted over it
to the Federation of the New Zealand Orienteering
Federation and will the cover sheet be lifted over it
to the Federation of the New Zealand Orienteering
Federation and will the cover sheet be lifted over it

THE NEW ZEALAND ORIENTEERING FEDERATION
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From: Top of the South
Orienteering Club
230 Collingwood St
NELSON