



Newsletter 20/1

January 2020

EDITORIAL

Welcome to 2020! We hope you have had a relaxed break over the summer and ready for another great year of orienteering.

This issue includes reports from the December 2019 as well as important events coming up early in 2020. The most important of these being the election of office bearers at the AGM on February 2 – see below for details. A new innovation for 2020 will be the introduction of SI Air+ at all our club events – not a dramatic change, but one that we need to be aware of. The change will ensure that we remain at the forefront of technological change in our sport. – again, see below for details.

Best wishes for season 2020

Dianne & Peter Searle

COMING EVENTS: February 2020

The listing below is a chronological listing of local, Victorian and other events in Australia that may be of interest. Course setters for our local events have been included. For full details of each competition please go to the Eventor website at: www.eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events

Bendigo Events

Sun	Feb 2	Fowl and Fizz*	Dead Bullock Gully	John Wilkinson
Sun	Feb 2	Annual General Meeting*	Dead Bullock Gully	
Sat	Feb 15	Bendigo ToDay**	Event cancelled	Jim Russell
Sun	Feb 16	Bendigo ToDay**	Event Cancelled	Jim Russell

* See details below ** See below

Annual Fowl & Fizz Event

Early morning score event. Enter on the day. See map and details on Eventor.

Start time is between 8.00 am and 8.15 am. Please arrive before 8.00 am. On arrival fill out the entry card, then collect your map and start. SI timing.

Find as many controls as you can in 45 minutes in any order (10 points per control, penalty for late back 5 points per minute). Distance travelled if all controls visited is 6 - 7 km. Prize for winning score (if two people get the same score the shortest time wins). Area of open bush with gentle hills, tracks and some gold mining. There is a water channel which may have water in it - crossing points are marked on the map, you can cross anywhere but may get wet. Over half the controls do not require crossing the channel.

Food and drinks provided at the end of the event, but **please bring your own cutlery, plates and cups**. Bring your own watch and SI stick. Usual entry fee.

The club's AGM will be held following the event. Please stay and help collect controls.

Directions: Start is at Crusoe Heights reserve, Kangaroo Flat. Parking and toilets available. Enter via Morrison St or Crusoe Rd and Pittaway St.

NOTE: If a total fire ban is declared on this day, the event will be cancelled / postponed.

President: Vacant

Vice-President: Julie Flynn

Secretary: Jenny Ball

Treasurer: Lorraine Leversha

Newsletter Editors:

Dianne & Peter Searle

pd.searle@bigpond.com

Website:

www.bendigo-orienteers.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bendigoorienteers

[UNSUBSCRIBE: If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please send a message to the editors.]

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2020 AGM will be held immediately after the Fowl and Fizz event on February 2. As well as reporting the 2019 activities of club and reviewing the financial health of our club, this is the meeting when club officer elections are determined.

Of the 2019 Committee, Julie Flynn (Vice President), Jenny Ball (Secretary) and Nigel McGuckian (General Committee Member) are not available for re-election. All three have done a sterling job over the last 12 months in guiding club activities. In particular, Julie as Vice President did the work of President (again!) as the post remained unfilled.

Treasurer Lorraine Leversha, and General Members, Jacqui Knee, Alison Radford and Peter Searle are available for re-election.

It is therefore critical to the club's future that we elect a President, Vice President and Secretary come February 2. Please give these roles your earnest consideration, keeping in mind that they are not as arduous as you may believe since the Committee works as a team and there is always plenty of advice and assistance when needed. Also, consider nominating someone for a position who may otherwise be reluctant to put themselves forward.

The roles of the Committee members have just been updated and if anyone needs a copy, or further information about the officer roles they are available on the club website.

Nominations should be with Secretary Jenny Ball by January 31.

Call for Organizer/Course setters

The calendar for our Club events for 2020 was released late last year, but there are still some positions available for Organizer/Course setters, particularly in the early part of the of the season. Vacant spots that need filling urgently are:

- May 9, Lyell Forest
- May 16, Virginia Hill
- June 6, Mosquito Creek

The Mosquito Creek event is the first day of a three-day Labour Day Weekend competition in conjunction with Orienteering Victoria.

Course setting is a way of learning more about orienteering and there are many experienced club members ready to give advice and support – so give it a go! It would be disappointing if we had to cancel any of these events due to lack of support. Contact Julie Flynn if you are interested.

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal for 2020 is now available on the Eventor website. Club fees remain unchanged from 2019 at Senior (\$50) and Junior (\$7).

Bendigo ToDay event cancelled

The Bendigo ToDay event that was to be held on February 15/16 has been cancelled.

Owing to a delay in receiving Insurance documentation from Orienteering Victoria and insufficient time for Parks Victoria to process approval for the event, the decision has been taken to cancel the competition. Lessons learnt from this unfortunate situation are that approval applications will need to be with the relevant land authorities prior to November of the preceding year.

2019 Vera Shelton Award

The Vera Shelton Award is given to members who have made a significant contribution to the operation of Bendigo Orienteers.

At the 2019 Presentation Day on November 30 the award was presented to Julie Flynn and Neil Barr. Julie and Neil have worked tirelessly for our club over many years and in various roles – administration, technical, coaching, mapping, schools and community engagement. Congratulations to worthy winners of the award.



Australian Schools Orienteering Championships 2019: The view from the Coach

[This article from Clare just missed the deadline for the final 2019 newsletter. Significantly, in addition to Coach Clare, five members of the Victorian team were Bendigo Orienteers.]

With memories of the previous year's tiredness having faded, I put my hand up again to coach the Victorian team for the 2019 Australian Schools Orienteering Championships in Wagga Wagga and Beechworth. Looking after a team of 19 enthusiastic high school students has its challenges, as well as its rewards.

Some of the challenges included:

- Surviving the busy week of 8 races (for the students) in 9 days, and trying to keep everyone fit and healthy, and fed on food groups other than sugar.
- Parking a minivan. The less said about that the better.
- Not only was the team's enthusiasm infectious, so too were their collective germs when everyone was run down towards the end of a big week.

But equally, the rewards were forthcoming:

- Singing along to 'Take on me' by A-ha on the way to the disco. Apparently still a big hit!
- Being redundant at the end of the hot relay race as all the team members were helping each other out.
- Seeing the enthusiasm for the sport from the team's newest members.
- Hanging out with the other coaches (and, yes, we did have the best accommodation in the Wagga Wagga camp). There were many other elites, and seeing how they do coaching/team meetings/washing was enlightening (although I'm sure we used to do our own washing when I was in the team. Or not do it.).

I also got the chance to reminisce about my last trip to the Old Priory, where the Victorian schools team stayed in 2003 for the last few days of the carnival. Being a coach has given me a much greater appreciation of the effort put in by my schools team coaches back in the day.

As was the case last year, everyone from the Victorian team had a great run at least one of the days of the carnival. The schools races were a technical school campus sprint at 1:2000, tough granite on a hot day for the long race, followed by

a hot and hilly spur gully relay, more reminiscent of Bendigo terrain.

The Bendigo team members, Lachie Feuerherdt, John Steer, Serryn Eenjes, Archie Neylon and Caitlyn Steer (team captain) performed well to bring the Victorian team home in 4th place in the Australian Schools Orienteering Championships. There were also some great results from other Victorian juniors who are regulars at Bendigo events, as well as great support from the accompanying parents.

Lachie debuted with a top 20 finish in the sprint, followed by a great run on first leg in the relay. John, Caitlyn and Archie had solid runs in the long race, showing consistency and persistence through the granite. Serryn put the senior girl's relay team off to a good start. Many from the team came home with team medals for their efforts.



2019 Victorian Schools Team at Australian Champs Carnival

We'll miss Caitlyn's calm leadership and ever-ready willingness to lend a hand next year as she graduates from the schools team, but I hope to see another big contingent of Bendigo juniors running for Victoria. For many students, it's their favourite week of the year – a chance to compete for their state, and hang out with new and old friends from across the country and New Zealand. To any Bendigo juniors thinking of trying out for the team, give it a shot! You might just have such a good time that you go back to coach many years later!

Clare Brownridge

SI Air+ at Bendigo events

At the January club meeting, the Committee decided that from the beginning of 2020, Bendigo Orienteers will use SI Air+ at all events.

What is SI Air+ you might ask? SI Air+ is the Sportident contactless punching system. It has been around for about five years and is used at many major carnivals and lots of sprint races. This change means that if you have a

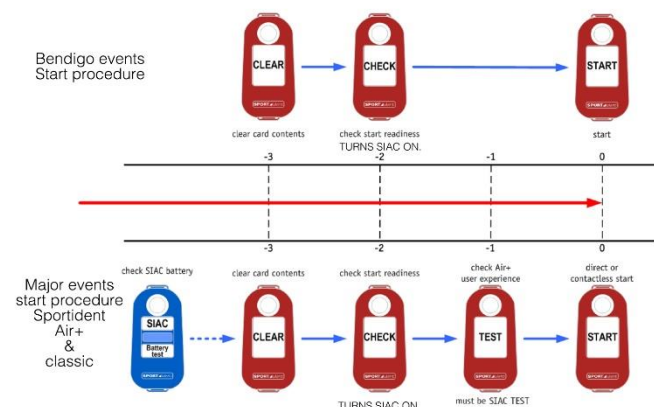
compatible SI stick - a SIAC (SI Active Card) - you will be able to swipe over each control within a 30cm range to record your visit to the control, you will not need to place the stick in the hole at each control.

Key Points and technical detail.

- All Bendigo event from 2020 to have SI Air+ contactless punching enabled at the controls on course.
- 'Old' SI sticks will still operate as normal using direct punching at controls
- Due to safety reasons the 'start' and the 'finish' controls will remain in direct punching mode.
- Each control will be programmed to have a 1 hour 'on time' (increased from the previous 5 min). The 'on time' is refreshed every time a direct punch is made.
- A 'Check' unit will be introduced in the start procedure to turn SIAC's on.

To a number of competitors the change may go unnoticed as there will be minimal difference to the previous set up of Bendigo events. The biggest change will be the introduction of a 'Check' unit which comes after the 'Clear' unit. Everyone can punch the 'Check' unit to see if their SI stick is cleared, but in this case the 'Check' unit is used specifically to turn a SIAC on. When you punch the 'Finish' control the SIAC is turned off.

The starting arrangements at events will look like the diagram below. The diagram shows two scenarios. The top option is currently how we plan to operate Bendigo events, the bottom option is how SI Air+ should be operated at major carnivals. Part way through the year we may introduce a SIAC battery test and a SIAC test unit to align our process better with major carnivals.



Frequently Asked Questions.

Q: I have an old SI stick (Versions 5,6,8,9,10,11 and p-cards) does this affect me?

A: No everything will operate as normal. At each control just direct punch as you always have.

Q: I have a SIAC but I don't want to use SI Air+ at Bendigo events, what do I do?

A: If for some reason this is the case (I don't know why you would want it this way) you can do one of two things.

- punch normally or,
- don't punch the 'Check' unit, this means the SIAC won't be activated and will act as an old SI stick.

Chris Naunton

Sprint into Spring 2019 winners

Sprint into Spring is a Melbourne-based competition over seven events with three courses [**Mo**, Long Hard; **Sally**, Short Hard and **Usain**, Easy] and using five classes. Furthermore, success is rewarded with coloured jerseys using a points system under three categories: Overall (yellow), Sprint (green) and Hill Climb (polka dot). Bendigo orienteers featured prominently in the 2019 results with yellow jersey winners Lachlan Feuerherdt (Sally) and brother Luke (Usain) as well as green jersey winners Joshua Feuerherdt (Usain) and mum Maree Platt (Sally). Congratulations to all!



Maree Platt, with sons Luke, Joshua and Lachlan

Frederic Tranchand, OV Coach in Residence coming to Bendigo

Frederic Tranchand is currently 6th in the world rankings for orienteering. He is from France and will be spending a couple of weeks in Bendigo in late March 2020 to provide some orienteering in interested local schools. Last summer, Frederic spent time in the ACT and did some really good work in schools, and we are hoping that we may be able to interest some students and their parents to try our bush orienteering events in 2020. Frederic is currently in Melbourne and our members who attended the Victorian sprint orienteering championships in Melbourne on 17 November would have met or at least seen him. Frederic will be staying with Neil Barr and Julie Flynn while he is in Bendigo.



[That's Frederic in the background after awarding Boys Grade 5 first prize to Joshua Feuerherdt at the 2019 Western Metro Primary Schools Championships.]

Breaking News: Frederic was the winner of the Two Bays Trail Run on the Mornington Peninsula on January 12. The run is between Port Phillip Bay and Westernport Bay. Frederic covered the 28km course in 1:44:30 – a course record! As well, Joshua's mum Maree Platt, completed the 56km course in 7:30:29. The three boys joined her for the last 5 km. A fantastic effort by everyone!

Only in 2020

On a recent business trip I stayed in an up-market hotel. As a driven executive type I took my laptop down to the bar to do some work. I sat at the bar and asked the bartender:

'What's the Wi-Fi password?

Bartender: You need to buy a drink first

Me: Okay [somewhat taken aback] I'll have a beer

Bartender: We have VB on tap

Me: Sure. How much is that?

Bartender: \$6.00

Me: OK. Here you are. What's the WiFi password?

Bartender: <youneedtobuyadrinkfirst> No spaces and all lowercase.