



04 Newsletter  **BENDIGO ORIENTEERS INC.** **June 2026**

Welcome to the June Newsletter

There is a feast of orienteering events coming up in the next month or so – see below and Eventor for full details. For those who would like a weekend away, Albury Wodonga OC are running a club event and Vic Series #6 on the weekend July 4/5. Also in this edition, hints for using PayPal, the latest on our new running tops, and information about Kid-O - an initiative of Orienteering Australia.

Dianne and Peter

President's Report

Hi Members,

Here it is June and our club has been full of activity running some terrific O events. Thank you to those members participating and welcome to our new members. Currently we have nearly 90 members which is good for this time of the year. We would like all members to check their contact details on Eventor – especially phone numbers and emergency contacts. These are important if we are trying to check on you after an event. Currently eight members need to do this.

At the recent AGM meeting of Victorian Orienteering Association, Neil Barr was given an award for Services to VOA for 2025 (volunteer) and also an award for Course Setter of the 2025 Year (Mt Korong). Congratulations to Neil – well done!

During May we ran events on our Black Jack Gully map (Barkers Creek), and Sedgwick South map – both course set by Colin Walker. Thank you, Colin. Both events were well organised and competitors appreciated your efforts. Parking at Sedgwick was made easy courtesy of the Broad family allowing us to use their paddock. Recently we also worked in with Central Highlands Orienteering Club CHOC to run an event on the “Crusoe” map (near Big Hill). Despite the wet condition the event went very well and we thank the Taverna family for course setting and organising things on the day. All these events attracted many newcomers.

We have a number of O events coming up during June as well as some state series events. Don't forget to offer your help at the end of an event – equipment does not just pack itself up – it needs to be collected from the bush and packed up. Thank you to those who help. There are a few other important items that require members attention and these are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

See you in the bush

John Wilkinson

COMING EVENTS

Local Bendigo and nearby Victorian events coming up in February/March are listed below. For full details, including directions to each event go to the Eventor website

Saturday June 13

Event type: Bendigo Bush #10
Map: Peter The Great Gully
Organizer: Charles Brownridge
Start: From 12:30pm

Saturday June 20

Event type: Bendigo Bush #11
Map: Lockwood Range
Organizer: David Jones
Start: From 12:30pm

Saturday June 27

Event type: Bendigo Score Event
Map: Coolibah
Organizer: Michael Tolhurst
Start: From 12:30pm

Saturday July 4

Event type: AW Club event
Map: Beechworth Gorge
Organizer: Albury Wodonga OC
Start: From 10.00am

Sunday July 5

Event type: Vic Series #6
Map: Kangaroo Crossing West
Organizer: Albury Wodonga OC
Start: From 10.00am

Saturday July 11

Event type: Bendigo Series #12
Map: One Eye East
Organizer: Louise Hall
Start: From 12:30pm

Saturday July 18

Event type: Bendigo Series #13
Map: Old Tom
Organizer: Neil Barr
Start: From 12:30pm

Saturday July 25

Event type: Bendigo Series #14
Map: One Eye West
Organizer: Colin Walker
Start: From 12:30pm

Sunday July 26

Event type: Vic Series #7
Map: Sailors Diggings, Daylesford
Organizer: Bayside Kangaroos OC
Start: From 10.00am

MTBO Events

Sunday July 10

Event type: Vic Series #4
Map: Smith's Reef
Organizer: Bayside Kangaroos OC
Start: From 10.00am

OV Awards to Neil Barr

At the Orienteering Victoria AGM in May, Neil Barr won two of the annual awards.

Firstly, he received the OV Services to OVic Volunteer of the Year award for his work coordinating the 2025 Australian Easter Three Days competition. The competition is regarded by many as the best Easter competition for many years with a variety of terrains and excellent administration.

The second award was for the 2025 OV Course Setter of the Year (Bush) for the courses set at the Victorian Long Distance Championships at Mount Korong.
Congratulations Neil!



Neil

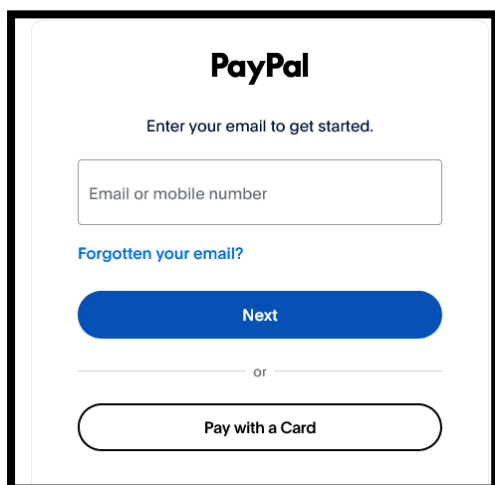
Reminders from the June Committee meeting

Event pre-entry. We encourage everyone to pre-enter events on Eventor. It is cheaper and makes the organiser's job much easier.

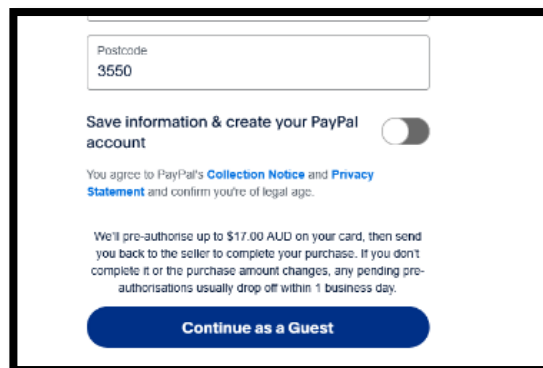
Event Payment. Payment can only be made via PayPal and can be achieved either by opening a PayPal account or by using the PayPal Guest checkout feature.

1. **PayPal Account method.** After you have set up an account, you need to enter each event individually and pay with PayPal (you need to have a credit card and can use this directly with PayPal). If you are having trouble with PayPal, still enter the event on Eventor and contact the organiser to advise you will pay on the day.
2. **PayPal Guest method.** Use this method if you choose not to open a PayPal account.

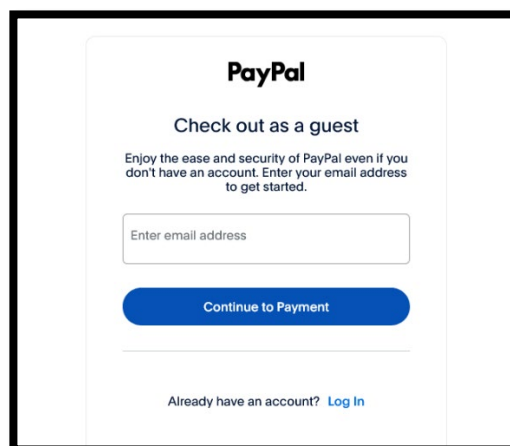
After entering your details on Eventor, go to the **'Payment Page at PayPal'** as below.



Click on **'Pay with a Card'** and fill in your credit card and address details. At the bottom of this page when asked to **'Save information & create your PayPal account'** turn the button to **OFF** as below, and then **'Continue as a Guest'**.



Then finally, **'Continue to Payment'**.



Club O-tops. Orders for the new running tops have now closed and the order has been sent to Oland for processing. An 'event' will be set up on Eventor to collect the money once the total cost is known - members will pay roughly \$25/top. Note that we will take orders for another batch later this year if you have missed out this time.

For course setters. At the start of the year, a Dropbox folder was set up for each event - with written instructions, a map and a linked condes map. Please use this information and save your work into this Dropbox folder, which is shared and facilitates easy printing. Please do not make your own Dropbox folder.

Kid-O Facilitator wanted



Bridget Uppill is the Orienteering Australia KID-O coordinator, and is keen to launch the KID-O program in regional Victoria. Included below is her letter that outlines the program. If anyone is interested in taking on the role for the Bendigo club please contact Bridget for further information and let President John know of your intentions.

“Hello regional Victorian orienteering clubs,

I am the OA coordinator for KID-O and we are looking for more clubs to take on the program for 2026. KID-O is a games based orienteering program for children aged 0-8 that can be run in conjunction with existing events or can be separate events.

<https://orienteering.asn.au/get-involved/kid-o/>

We are looking to launch KID-O into more regional clubs in Australia to help promote orienteering to younger orienteers and their families. We have found that regional clubs in Australia that have taken on KID-O have had a boost in membership numbers and participation numbers at events.

These clubs include Range runners in QLD, SHOO in NSW and Saltbush orienteers in SA.

Orienteering Australia is offering \$750 to help launch KID-O in your club to help you purchase any physical resources needed.

All we ask is that we have at least one individual to take on the facilitator training who would be enthusiastic about starting the program and the club fills out the funding form.

From there I will organise to send you the booklets, flags, sticker books and give you support to start your program.

We have found that the KID-O program works well in conjunction with urban events and is held once every month or two months and is heavily promoted on local FB groups to encourage attendance.

Attached is a link to the funding: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnEz1OMwe6DRc6mpcydne0qbTJbRjYrncBrwDHmw_o8d7w/viewform?usp=header

And please feel free to email me if you think your club would like to take on this initiative!”

Thanks!

Bridget Uppill

KID-O coordinator

Orienteering Australia

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Vic Series # 5: Eppalock South

Hosting club for this event was Nillumbik Emus, presenting us with some challenging courses in this scenic spur gully terrain. Information said subtle enough to require careful navigation!

Weather was chilly but dry and several club members enjoyed a successful day out.

First placings went to Ben, Lachlan, Patrick and Jessica, with Charles, Prue, James, Keely and Gus bringing home seconds.

Then again, some of us had a good long look around as we took the scenic route. Oh well, there is always next time!

New Members

A warm welcome to all our new members who have joined our club this year. We all have different reasons for being involved with orienteering – be it competition, the social aspects or just a walk in the forest with the added challenge of navigation. Orienteering is unique in being capable of satisfying all three at once!



Verna and Fiona at an unmarked hut at Sedgwick



Duncan and Associate Member Zena



Anne Robinson at a quilting exhibition

What do orienteers do when not in the bush?



CHOC members Sophie and Wendy carbo loading



Nigel McGuckian, Bendigo Symphony Orchestra