

Orienteering Canada

Annual General Meeting

President's Report

August 22, 2015

This past year has been a year of great learning for me in my new role as President of Orienteering Canada. I continue to learn about the work of the committees of Orienteering Canada, the politics of sport and sport funding, the international orienteering scene and much more. It is a very interesting – and very enjoyable - journey.

In January of this year the Orienteering Canada Board created a list of priority projects to focus on through the year. This exercise was invaluable to me in sorting out where I need to focus my learning and my energy. I have included the Priority Projects document as an appendix to this report. I have based the rest of my report on this document, picking a few of the highlights to elaborate on.

Sport Canada Funding

We work hard and draw ever closer to meeting the eligibility requirements to apply for Sport Canada funding for Orienteering Canada. Charlotte MacNaughton has been the lead on this, and we look forward to when all the hard work she and Tracy Bradley have done will pay off with seeing some national level funding for our sport.

Sponsorship and Fundraising

Charlotte has also taken the lead on increasing revenue for Orienteering Canada. She has been able to secure a partnership with Icebug Canada that continues to grow. This is only the start, and we look forward to seeing increased revenue options for Orienteering Canada in the future.

Mapping Project

With an enormous amount of work on the part of Barbara Scheck, who took this project on for us, none of us realizing how much it would end up entailing crossing all the t's and dotting all the i's to meet government approval, we were able to secure the work of four foreign mappers this year, to map areas in Manitoba, Whitehorse, Edmonton and Calgary. This started as a pilot project this year, to assist clubs with mapping, after hearing from clubs of the struggles they have had getting mapping done. The project has proved successful so far, and is a service we believe Orienteering Canada can continue to offer on an annual basis.

LTAD (Long Term Athlete Development)

The LTAD guidelines that were developed for orienteering a number of years ago is now being embedded more and more in much of the work we do. It has a major impact on the work of the High Performance Program, the Sass Peepre Junior Development Committee, the Technical Committee, the Officials Committee and the Coaching Committee. We have recently created an LTAD Liaison Committee, yet to have its first meeting, with representatives from each of these committees, to work together as we integrate the LTAD model into orienteering in Canada. Junior programs, coaching, the high performance program, course setting, age classes, competitions, and map printing are all influenced by the LTAD model. In fact, it is hard to name an aspect of our sport that is not influenced by it.

Strategic Plan

Orienteering Canada has a Strategic Plan that was intended for the years 2011 to 2015. This fall, we will start to develop a new Strategic Plan and will be seeking input from the orienteering community across Canada. There are many ways we can spend our resources – time, money, people, energy – and it is important for us to know the direction we want to be heading and to focus on projects that will help us get there. Time to choose our route to the next control!

Committees

Over the past few years Orienteering Canada has created a number of new committees. There are currently 11 committees working tirelessly to support orienteering in Canada, some at an administrative level, and many on the technical side of the sport. They include (in alphabetic order)

- Celebration, Awards and Recognition
- Coaching
- Finance and Audit
- Governance
- High Performance
- Human Resources
- LTAD Liaison
- New Participant Recruitment
- Officials Committee
- Sass Peepre Junior Development
- Technical

The strength of these committees continues to grow, and we strive to support the work of each in their areas of expertise. We are, of course always looking for new people to get involved, and welcome inquiries regarding any of these groups.

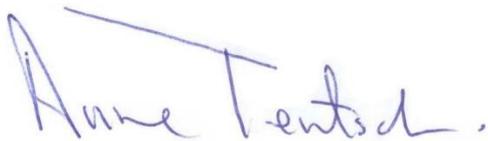
Communications

Communications is a priority for Orienteering Canada. We continue to work at building strong communications with all the Provincial and Territorial Associations, with clubs, and with orienteers across Canada. We want to both keep the orienteering community informed and to stay informed from the community. This year we held our first two Club Connect Calls – a conference call with all those interested in a specific topic (National Orienteering Week; and Junior Programming). We plan to make these calls a regular thing - a chance for all of us to share and to learn. We always appreciate connecting with orienteers - I am at president@orienteering.ca or 613-226-4677, or at an orienteering meet and would be glad to hear from you!

In Conclusion

As I started this report by saying, it has been a great year of learning for me, and I feel privileged to be working with a wonderful group of people in this most wonderful sport. I look forward to the coming year, my second as President. I want to thank all the Board members for their patience and support, and in particular Charlotte MacNaughton for her hand-holding and mentoring throughout the year, and Tracy Bradley for putting up with me as we work through the year together – two newbies learning the ropes at Orienteering Canada.

And most important, a big thank you to all the orienteers who are such wonderful, amazing, friendly, supportive people and who do so much volunteer work for our sport. Stay in touch!



Anne Teutsch
President
Orienteering Canada