

2015-2016 Eureka Orienteers Inc
Annual Report to Eastwood Leisure Complex Inc – AGM (16 August 2016)

The Eureka Orienteers celebrated 40 years since incorporation in 1975 by staging the 2015 Australian Orienteering Championships in Ballarat and forests near Ballarat. Eastwood Leisure Complex was the registration centre for more than 950 orienteers from all states of Australia, New Zealand and overseas countries from the 25th September to 4th October 2015. ELC also hosted a mapping seminar (half-day) and the annual Sports Trivial Night for more than 140 junior orienteers at the conclusion of the carnival. President Mark Valentine played a major role in the organization and coordination of the 12 events in 9 days. This event, the largest Australian Championships in 50 + years of Australian orienteering, owes its success to the cheerful cooperation of ELC staff in the smooth running of the registration, mapping seminar and junior social event.

Improvements to facilities and events

- Eureka AGM and working bee sorted, discarded and stored equipment from the year's events (7 February 2016)
- Working bee at ELC removed old signs and flagpole from ELC front area and cleaned the floor in the men's toilets (6th March 2016)
- Series of local urban/park events (BUNS) staged during 2016 (starting Thursday 4.30 pm - continuing on Saturday at 11 am after daylight saving time ended); simple red-and-white tapes at 20 locations for 45-minute event
- Staged National Orienteering League Sprint Event at Deakin Campus, Geelong, part of 6-event series (13th March)
- Staged 25th Eureka Challenge on 20th March at Little Bendigo School, Nerrina
- Total remap of Canadian Forest tracks by Tony Keeble in preparation for 29th May Victorian Series #3 at Scout Hall, Mt Clear
- New maps created for BUNS events at Progress Park, Prince of Wales Park, SMB Campus, and Delacombe Parklands by Roch Prendergast with the financial assistance of Australian Sports Commission grant
- New splits printer purchased by Ian Chennell to enhance results processing

Plans for 2016 – 2017

- Re-map and field check maps for the BUNS series into the spring and summer of 2016 at the Botanic Gardens/wetlands, Black Hill/Brown Hill wetlands, Canadian Lakes area, and Yuille Homestead
- Stage the 10th aMAZEing event in Ballarat's urban area in December 2016
- Organize and stage the 3-event Victorian MTBO Championships in Canadian Forest and Barkstead area of Wombat Forest in March 2017
- Organize and stage the Victorian Middle Distance Championships in Creswick Forest in September 2017

Summary of 2015-2016 – significant events/honors

- Geoff Lawford – Gold Medal World Masters Sprint Champion – and Tony Keeble – Silver Medal in Masters MTBO Mixed Sprint Relay
- Jenny Bourne – inducted into Australian Orienteering Hall of Fame

- Event of the year – 2015 Australian Dr Blake Orienteering Spring Carnival
- 9th aMAZEing Ballarat donated \$1000 to Cancer Research (Belladonors) and gifts to ABC Giving Tree
- Ian Lawford represented Australia in the World Orienteering Championships in Scotland in the 2015 Sprint Distance qualification race
- Geoff and Jenny staged the 3rd Ultra Long event at Nerrina on 30th August and Warwick Williams set NOL Sprint courses at Damascus and Ballarat Grammar on the 29th August – 3 events in 2 days!
- Aislinn Prendergast did a superb job as Australian Schools Carnival Coordinator during the Dr. Blake Carnival
- 2015 Victorian Mountain Bike Orienteering Series 1st – Monica Dickson (W40-), Dale Ann Gordon (W70-), Blake Gordon (M70-)
- 2015 Victorian Foot-Orienteering Series 1st – Aislinn Prendergast (Course 2 Women); 2nd – Dale Ann Gordon (Course 4 Women), Blake Gordon (Course 4 Men); 3rd – Roch Prendergast (Course 3 Men)
- 2015 National MTBO Series 1st – Dale Ann Gordon (Women 70-)
- 2015 Australian 3-Days Orienteering (in South Australia): 1st Jenny Bourne (W55A), 2nd Geoff Lawford (M55A), 3rd Aislinn Prendergast (W21E)
- Aislinn Prendergast selected - 2016 Australian World Orienteering Team
- Belinda Lawford selected - 2016 AUS World Students Orienteering team

-----Blake Gordon, Eureka Orienteers Inc

24 July 2016