

OBC-AGM2019 VicO President's Report

(framed as responses to specific questions from OBC)

How satisfied are you with your club's present trajectory, and how might you wish to change it, if you could? Broadly speaking the club is sustainable, we have a committed core group that ensures a full events program each year, and enough help for putting those on, although of course it is often a bit of a struggle to actually get people to commit. We have struggled in recent years to identify new people to join the core - mainly in terms of confidence to put on events, but I think we are working through that to some extent. I am not sure I would describe the direction of the club as a trajectory so much as a club working to maintain its status quo when the trend has been in recent years to fall back.

Has your executive identified and prioritized tangible goals? No we don't. I think we generally take our lead from the Provincial association, but in general I think we operate more as a social group than an organization with an agenda (this is maybe a fault of ours). If we have goals, then that is simply to ensure a program of orienteering events get put on from year to year, and that we attempt to develop members who can participate in the sport as fully as possible - which I take to mean comfortable to travel to events elsewhere and put on events locally. In this latter point, Linda is almost entirely the champion of the task.

What do you see as potential opportunities your club might like to pursue? I think there is a general sense that we could create more maps, but we struggle to identify practical areas (i.e. they would be good areas but access is problematic.) We have, for a number of years, wanted to develop up-island orienteering more than currently, again something that Linda has mostly championed. The attempt to create a new club a few years ago fizzled - but there are opportunities. We have members of the club who are avid mountain bikers and there is occasional discussion of creating links with bike clubs.

What organizational or environmental challenges are you facing, or anticipating? Getting off-trail permissions gets harder to obtain, and in general, land use arrangements are getting more complicated, bureaucratic and expensive. Getting club members to the place at which they might be willing to become officials and put on events is always a challenge, but I think development of the on-line officials training modules will help here. Succession is always an issue.