

Cariboo Chilcotin Orienteering Club

(formerly Williams Lake Orienteering Club)

Report for OBC agm November, 2021

Submitted by Bryan Chubb

In spring of 2020, the Williams Lake Orienteering Club was renamed Cariboo Chilcotin Orienteering Club (CCOC) with the intention of once again holding regular local events and building a sustainable membership. Due to the Covid situation, no events were held this year, with the resumption of local Orienteering events being delayed until the spring of 2022. By the end of October, plans were actively underway to resume holding of events and growing membership in 2022.

There have been a few related activities:

A Professional Development workshop held in October was attended by 12 teachers from 8 Cariboo Schools. The program was co-hosted by Scout Island Nature Centre. As a result, we will revise or make new maps of 8-12 schools in the Cariboo-Chilcotin.

'Learn to Orienteer' courses offered through the Williams Lake Activity Living program in the spring and again in the fall were cancelled due to insufficient registrations. It is hoped the course will be offered again in spring of 2022.

At the request of the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, an Orienteering session was included at Big Lake School as part of a WildBC workshop.

With the support of OBC, the Club acquired 20 SIAC Cards and has now applied for a viaSport Grant to assist with the purchase of 20 SportIdent control stations

We have developed an ambitious mapping plan which will commence over the winter. Lidar data has been obtained for all these areas and an application made to OBC for a supporting mapping grant.

Knife Creek and Bond Lake New ISOM maps will be made of the two areas used for the 2005 Canadian Championships.

Scout Island Nature Center: Mapping is underway and the Scout Island Board has given approval for the establishment of a permanent course.

Alex Fraser Research Forest (AFRF) property on Campbell Road: In support of their new Orienteering curriculum.

Bull Mountain XC Ski area: A top priority for holding local events. Lidar has been acquired and mapping will commence over the winter. This area has good potential for training, Ski-O and Rogaining.

Williams Lake: Lidar has been obtained for the entire City and several maps are planned.

CCOC currently has 8 members and over 20 people on our mailing list.

Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club – 2021 Report



The Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club (GVOC), like many organizations, faced significant challenges in 2021 in light of the COVID situation in BC. Overall, the club volunteers were able to turn this into a good year of orienteering with some creative events and lots of flexibility from our membership.

Impacts of COVID-19

In the early part of 2021 GVOC was unable to host our usual in person events which meant it was difficult to introduce beginners to the sport and to recruit new members. However, we utilized MapRun to carry out some “virtual” or “do in your own time events” which proved quite popular with our membership. Later in the year we were able to upgrade this to events with pin flags which were left out for a number of days for people to do in their own time. We all missed the social time with other club members and the executive faced some difficulties in planning due to the uncertainty around restrictions at future dates.

Due to the lack of social time at our events we saw an impact to our volunteer pool, particularly in our ability to attract new volunteers and we saw some of our current volunteers become stretched. However, due to the hard work of those volunteers we did manage to put on quite a few events and increased our membership.

Events

Due to the COVID situation it was not possible to undertake larger events (e.g. BC Championships) but the club ran a number of well-attended local events throughout the year. Our forest series, with events of increasing difficulty, was very popular, running through the spring and providing people with good training for bigger forest events in the fall. The *Lynn Valley Adventure Run* came with a bonus of new map areas this year and was well attended, with over 100 runners in individual and team categories. Alongside these events were numerous smaller training events which ran throughout the year and provided on-going activities for members. We also held our first bike-O event which we hope to build on in the future.

Membership

In spite of the challenges of COVID, GVOC was delighted to see our membership rise this year, up from about 400 in 2020 to around 500 in 2021. Our virtual events attracted some Scout and Girl Guide groups, which helped increase our membership and the ever-popular Lynn Valley Adventure Run also provided a welcome bump to our membership.

On the technology front, GVOC has plans in place to move the administration of our membership to the InterPodia platform – we are currently aiming for a 2022 roll out!

Mapping

GVOC benefitted from mapping grants from Orienteering BC to map additional areas of the Seylynn map in North Vancouver and the Lundbom map outside Merritt. These updated maps provided additional areas for events, and increase the variety of events which GVOC can put on. We hope to continue to update aging maps and develop new maps in the coming years.

Future plans

Going forward GVOG wants to build on the successes of 2021 and continue to innovate with our events to attract more people to our club and to the sport of orienteering. Of particular note this year was the forest orienteering series which proved very popular with our membership, and the additional mapping which provided new areas for long-term club members to orienteer in.

Additionally, we are working with the District of North Vancouver on a permanent O course, and hope this could be the first of many in the lower mainland. We anticipate that these courses will help to reduce barriers, and introduce people to orienteering right in their community.

Kootenay Orienteering Club - 2021 Recap



The Kootenay Orienteering Club had a moderately active 2021 to get out of the slumber of 2020. We currently have 111 members, with 30% self-reporting as renewals. Our numbers are lower compared to past years when Round the Mountain participants were members, but represents a good number of active orienteers within our club.

We started the year embracing Zoom with a series of Tech Talks to get folks re-engaged with such topics as the process for using MapRun6, Purple Pen, our map collection and revision controls, etc. This knowledge was used to put up a few very popular virtual ski orienteering courses with good uptake by the various groups within the Kimberley Nordic Club.

With relatively short notice, we put together a Junior Adventure Running program lead by one of the inaugural participants, Megan Howe and supported by myself and , with twenty 9-13 year old youth participating in 4 weeks of sessions around Kimberley. A COVID declaration system established and used for this program with good adherence by all.

Several forest orienteering events were organized virtually in the spring using MapRun6 and this fall with actual controls that were well attended by 20-40 participants. It was great to connect and see the folks in our club.

After several postponement, the club is starting to gear up for the 2022 Canadian Orienteering Championships (July 7-10). We look forward to hosting everyone next year at the Canadian Rockies Orienteering Festival (July 1 - 10, 2022).

Chris Bullock

Sage O President's report for 2021

The Sage club had successful year providing a combination of remote and in person events. There were 12 remote events held in Salmon Arm, 6 in Kelowna, 7 in Kamloops and 1 in Revelstoke. Salmon Arm had 2 in-person events, with all other areas having one in-person event. Sage Stomp XXVI had an attendance of 70 orienteers was held in Salmon Arm and Silver Creek.

The membership this year reached 317 members with almost an equal percentage of new and returning members and an even split between male to female participation. We reached a new high of 120 junior memberships this year!

SI Air sticks funded by OBC (thank you!) were successfully used and enjoyed by participants at Sage Stomp and Kelowna season finale at Spion Kop. The new Dilworth map in Kelowna funded by OBC saw its first training event, drawing significant participation. There were also new maps and updates with partial funding from OBC for the Larch Hills and Dirty Beetle maps used for Sage Stomp. OBC also funded school maps in Kamloops and Salmon Arm. A major competition-quality map of Thunder Mountain in the Kelowna Nordic area outside Kelowna, is 90% complete. The map will be completed next year along with a second but smaller competition-quality map of the core portion of the Kelowna Nordic Trails. The work this year was fully funded by OBC. Thank you!

Sage assisted Telemark Nordic Club who held a ski-O and a dry land foot-O activity for their juniors using maps and orienteering information in what we hope is the start of a fruitful relationship. Sage also provided a local Kelowna private school with some guidance and some orienteering-for-teachers books to help them introduce maps and orienteering to their students. This was fully funded by OBC. Thank you! Other organizations also reached out but their progress stalled due to health, environmental and other challenges this year. We hope to resume progress on this front next year. A beginner junior program was run in Kamloops in the spring and fall and we provided Kamloops teachers running after-school programs with school maps and general orienteering information.

Jackie Bonn

Sage Club President

VICO Club Report - 2021

Pretty much the mirror image of 2020. Whereas in 2020 we managed our first two events, in 2021 we finished the year with two regular events after a year of regular and popular MapRunF virtual O.

We have managed to move to a fully on-line registration system allowing for contactless registration at the events, which not only allows COVID friendly operations, but significantly streamlines on the day admin.

Chris Ling

VICO Club President