

AOA President's Report

Hello and welcome to the AOA AGM, on behalf of all Board Members!

Our Executive Director, Bogi Gyorf, has prepared a thorough review of initiatives and accomplishments in 2025. Of course, the highlight was the success of the Canadian Orienteering Festival. It showed what we can do with the combined efforts of FWOC, EIOC, and the AOA!

The ED report will detail AOA activities in 2025. Of note are the development of policies related to Air Quality during orienteering events, and the rollout of the Safe Sport reporting mechanism.

Each of our clubs has contributed hugely to our sport in 2025, and their reports will highlight their accomplishments.

About the AOA...

As most of our members are aware, the Alberta Orienteering Association is a necessary and vital tool to help us to grow and maintain our sport in Alberta.

- **Our mandate is to serve our membership – all of us orienteers in Alberta!**
- We are the connection to the Government of Alberta, which provides significant funding, through SPAR (Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation) and requires extensive accountability to sport delivery.
- We are the provincial link to Orienteering Canada, and we support its national role.
- We provide information, services and funding to our member clubs, and to members.
- We help to fund and organize mapping, officials' training, and competitions.
- We fund and organize provincial orienteering outreach to communities in Alberta.
- We create and maintain policies in response to the changing environment of sport in Alberta.
- We maintain a Strategic Plan for all aspects of orienteering in Alberta.
- We employ an Executive Director, with funding from Casinos and Spar Grant. Bogi Gyorf is our master organizer, with more than 9 years of service to our sport. She provides critical support to all Board members, and she keeps driving the initiatives which the Board identifies as being important.
- We recognize and honor the incredible contributions made by individuals with our Hall of Fame and Honorary Memberships.

Recruitment for the Board

Having a fully staffed Executive Board, with members from both clubs, is an ongoing priority. Currently, we have open positions, Mapping Director and Treasurer. We encourage any member to step forward and take a role on the Board.

Our provincial meetings take place every month, on a weekday evening, via Zoom, and they rarely last longer than 60 minutes. We have face-to-face meetings, at the Red Deer Sports Hall of Fame, in the spring, to review our Strategic Plan and Budget, and in the autumn, to recognize and honor provincial Volunteers.

The Executive Board

Our AOA Board is currently made up of four members from Edmonton, and four from Calgary.

President – Clarence Kort

Past-President – Kim Kasperski

Secretary – Marsha Fehr

Treasurer – **Vacant** (Peter Gwinner has stepped down)

Mapping Director – **Vacant** (David Campden has stepped down)

Member at Large - Dorothy Penner

Member at Large – Wayne Best

Member at Large – Jane Rowlands

Member at Large – Gabrielle Savard

Board Health and Future

Current members of the AOA's Board have many years of service in many roles in orienteering. We value each member's contribution, and we recognize their many hours of committee work. We are committed to excellence in our sport, and to supporting our membership. We work together with pleasure! Our successes drive us forward, and our Strategic Plan illuminates our path. We have been fortunate to work with Bogi, our Executive Director. Her many years in this position give her the experience and knowledge to identify needs, opportunities and solutions.

Our financial health is optimal, with ample resources which support outreach programs, officials' training, mapping initiatives, training camps, etc. We are also able to provide financial support to Orienteering Canada and to our member clubs.

In 2026, our challenges and initiatives include:

A new and improved Membership Drive, to bolster our decreasing numbers. This is a vital issue, as our provincial funding depends on our membership numbers.

A mapping training camp in Camrose, in June, followed by an inter-provincial event in August.

Continuing our outreach programs in Red Deer.

Supporting outreach efforts in Canmore.