

2026 ORIENTEERING

ELIGIBILITY: Years 7 to 13

Orienteering is an exciting outdoor sport that challenges both mind and body. The goal is to navigate between control points shown on a detailed map, choosing the fastest route to complete the course. It can be a competitive individual sport or a fun recreational activity for families and friends and is suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Orienteering events can include sprint, forest, relays and rogaines.

EVENTS, VENUES & TRAININGS

Please refer to the calendar below for key dates of school events. Orienteering events consist of school and club events.

1. **Term 1 – College Sport Auckland Sprint Series**

This series takes place on Wednesdays throughout Term 1 from 18th February – 18th March. Students are expected to compete in all five events, unless they have a clash due to a sport trial that they must attend. Two training sessions will be held prior to the series (see below).

2. **Club events**

These are held on Sunday mornings at various venues around the greater Auckland region. These events are used as an opportunity for coaching and upskilling. It is expected that your daughter attends these, as they form an important part of our training programme.

3. **Major school events**

These include Auckland Secondary School (AKSS) Individual and Relay events, as well as the North Island Secondary Schools (NZISS) and New Zealand Secondary Schools (NZSS) Championships.

We also encourage members of the Orienteering group to join the Baradene Distance Running group in Terms 2 and 3 (sign-ups are open now), as this offers valuable additional running preparation.

PRE-SPRINT SERIES TRAININGS and PARENT AND DAUGHTER MEETING

Please note that we will be holding a meeting for all parents and Orienteers at the start of the year to provide a full overview of the upcoming season. We strongly encourage at least one parent to attend.

As shown on the Orienteering calendar, the first event of the Sprint Series is on **18th February**. In preparation, our coaches will be running two training sessions for all members of the Baradene squad:

- **Wednesday 4th February** – Introduction and training 3:30–4:45pm at Baradene, followed by a **Parent/Orienteer Meeting** from 5:00–5:30pm in Room E307, in the Gymnasium
- **Wednesday 11th February** – Sprint training across Baradene and St Kentigern Boys School, Shore Road.

Please mark these important dates in your diary. We look forward to seeing you there.

TRANSPORT

For the Term 1 Sprint Series, buses will transport the girls to each event venue. Please note that parents will need to collect their daughters from the venue by 5.15pm. For other one-day events throughout the year, we will request parent assistance with transport closer to the time.

UNIFORM: An Orienteering top is available for purchase through the Uniform Shop, and we encourage you to buy one for your daughter to compete in. Alternatively, students may wear their PE uniform to events. Sports shoes and white sports socks should be worn for sprint events, while long black socks are permitted for forest runs. Girls must travel to and from the events in the school tracksuit, and sports shoes.

COST: An annual fee of \$280, this covers:

- College Sport Auckland sprint series including transport to each event and coaching throughout the year. This is required to be paid in full prior to the first event.
- For students participating in Sprint Finals, Zones, AKSS, NISS or NZSS events, additional charges will be applied to your daughter's portal each term to cover these costs, incl accommodation and travel expenses for the away trips.

IDENTS AND COMPASSES: If your daughter does not have her own, idents and compasses will be provided at each event. Please note that lost items will incur a replacement fee of \$90 for an ident and \$60 for a compass.

COMMUNICATION: Orienteering use the app Team Reach for the majority of its communications. Once registrations are received we will send the relevant information to access this app.

Please note:

Withdrawing from a team once named is not acceptable at Baradene. If this occurs your daughter will not be permitted to represent Baradene in any other code for the season, so please ensure all commitments are considered prior to committing to teams.

If you have any question or queries regarding Orienteering please do not hesitate to contact either of the following:

- Llew McGivern, Head Orienteering Coach: llew008@gmail.com
- Belinda Reeves, Assistant Coach: binsreeves@gmail.com
- Catherine Ratcliffe, Director of Sport, Baradene: cratcliffe@baradene.school.nz

In the meantime please ensure your daughter's online registration is completed by **Friday 30th January 2026**.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Ratcliffe
Director of Sport



Alexandra Russell
Principal

2026 BARADENE COLLEGE ORIENTEERING

KEY DATES FOR SCHOOL EVENTS

TERM 1		
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Wed 4 th February	3.30pm – 4.45pm: Introduction to Orienteering and training. <u>Note:</u> There is a Summer Nav (Public event) at Ambury Farm, Mangere Bridge afterwards (see below for details)	Baradene. Meet by BARAT tennis courts
Wed 4 th February	5.00pm – 5.30pm: Parent and Student Meeting	Classroom E307
Tues 11 th February	3.30pm – 5.00pm: Sprint training	Baradene and St Kentigern Boys School. Meet by BARAT tennis courts
Wed 18 th February	Sprint Series #1	TBC
Wed 25 th February	Sprint Series #2	TBC
Wed 4 th March	Sprint Series #3	TBC
Wed 11 th March	Sprint Series #4	TBC
Wed 18 th March	Sprint Series #5	TBC
Mon 23 rd March	Eastern Zones (Year 7/8 only)	TBC
Sun 29 th March	Sprint series final (For those who qualify)	TBC
17 th – 19 th April	NISS Champs (School holidays)	New Plymouth
TERM 2		
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Thurs 30 th April	AKSS Relays	TBC
Thurs 7 th May	Inter Zone Finals (Year 7/8 only) (For those who qualify)	TBC
Tue 12 th May	AKSS Individual	TBC
Sun 7 th June	AKSS Rogaine	TBC
16 th – 18 th July	NZSS Champs (School holidays)	Christchurch
TERM 3		
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Mon 7 th -Tues 8 th Sept	AIMS Games (for those who qualify)	Tauranga

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SPRINT SERIES

The sprint series events will take place on Wednesdays after school, starting at approximately 4.15pm and finishing by 5.30pm. The exception to this is the finals which are held on a Sunday.

Students will travel by bus directly from school to each event venue. However, pick up is from the venue by approximately 5.15pm is the responsibility of parents/guardians. Each race will be at a different school in the Central Auckland area and once the venues are confirmed these will be communicated to the students and parents.

Age Groups:

Senior (Year 12/13)

Intermediate (Year 10/11)

Junior (Year 9)

Year 7/8

TRAINING

Orienteering training sessions are primarily held on Sunday mornings. We use Orienteering club events for training whenever possible. It is expected that your daughter prioritises these Sunday trainings. A calendar will be published soon, if you anticipate any scheduling conflicts, please contact Llew or Catherine.

OTHER MAJOR EVENTS (CLUB EVENTS)

In addition to the above school events, there are several excellent club events which we highly recommend.

EVENT	COMPETITIONS	DATE	LOCATION
Club Nationals	Sprint, Middle, Long, Relay	3 rd -6 th April	Masterton
King's Birthday Regional Challenge*	Sprint, middle, long	1 st – 3 rd June	Auckland
NZ Junior Development Camp	Year 9 - 13	10 – 15 December	Nelson

*This is the selection trials for the NZSS team that will compete in Australia later in the year (in the Term 3 Holidays)

There are three orienteering clubs in Auckland and we highly recommend that you join, either as a student or as a family. Membership includes trainings and discounted event entries. Please speak to either Llew or Belinda for further information.

SUMMERNAV SERIES

SummerNav's are a fun way to get out into the parks of Auckland, experience the sport of orienteering, practise map reading and navigation, improve your fitness, and explore areas you may not have visited before. They are held on various days, starting anytime between 5.00pm – 6.45pm. There are courses from absolute beginners upwards, and helpers available (as well as Baradene coaches) for those who are new.

They are great events to get to if you can!

For more info visit <http://www.orienteeringauckland.org.nz/>

DATE	LOCATION
JANUARY 2026	
Wednesday 21 st	Macleans Park, Eastern Beach
Wednesday 28 th	Western Springs Park, Western Springs
FEBRUARY 2026	
Wednesday 4 th	Ambury Farm Regional Park, Mangere Bridge
Thursday 12 th	Phyllis Reserve, Mt Albert
Thursday 19 th	Auckland Domain, Grafton
Thursday 26 th	Panmure Basin, Panmure
Saturday 28 th	Hammins Hill, Penrose (night event from 8.30pm)
MARCH 2026	
Tuesday 3 rd	Owairaka Park, Mt Roskill
Tuesday 10 th	Craigavon Park, Blockhouse Bay
Tuesday 17 th	Cornwall Park, Greenlane

Aside from these dates, there are also maps available online (via the link below) at numerous local sites which you can do at any time using the phone app "MapRun". These are great for training or extra practice.

<https://orienteeringauckland.org.nz/resources/training/training-using-maprun/>