

# EDUCATION REPORT

*April 2023*

## Ready to Go

'Ready to Go Orienteering' is an Orienteering Ireland initiative, aimed at introducing and promoting the sport of orienteering into schools and to provide teachers with the necessary training and resources to successfully implement the programme in a school setting. The programme was initiated in 2018 with a grant from the Dormant Accounts Fund and continues to attract significant demand.

There are four aspects to the Ready to Go Orienteering (RTGO)

- One day Teacher Training course to train teachers to deliver Orienteering activities.
- Resource Folder and Equipment pack
- School orienteering maps
- Park orienteering for localised clusters of participating schools, in partnership with LSPs.

In 2022 we delivered 19 RTGO training courses in partnership with 13 Local Sports Partnership. Our capacity to deliver these courses has greatly increased with Déirdre and Mark working as Orienteering Co-ordinators.

## Instructor Training

Instructor training courses are now back up and running after a difficult few years.

This year training courses have taken place in Dublin and in Kerry.

We have experienced difficulties in filling all the places on scheduled courses.

There have been small changes to the course programme as we are retaining the online elements that have proven successful.

We are planning a Coaching workshop for September aimed at bringing together as many of our instructors as possible. Keep an eye on the website for more information on this.

## Leaving Cert PE

PE has been a fully fledged Leaving Certificate subject available to all secondary schools for the last three years. The inclusion of orienteering as one of the options on the PE syllabus provides us with a significant opportunity to increase the visibility and exposure of the sport.

To help promote orienteering, we have developed support materials and resources for teachers and students. Some of these resources have also been shared with the Department of Education and will be made more widely available.

Going forward we would like to be able to expand our support for schools in this area. This will involve

- Ready to Go Training targeted at teachers delivering Leaving Certificate PE
- Web page with resources for teachers and students.
- Specific events for LCPE student (if numbers permit)

## Other Training

We have continued to run online training courses

- *Accredited Orienteering Ireland Planner (Level 2) - November 2022*
- *Introduction to Mapping - October 2022*

We plan to run these courses again later this year and we are also working on a Controllers Course and training for event organisers

## Acknowledgment

I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and express my sincere gratitude to Aine Joyce who moved on from her role as administrator for Orienteering Ireland in December. Her expertise, proficiency, and commitment will be deeply missed and I extend my best wishes to her for all her future endeavours.

**Eoin Browne**  
**April 2023**