

O-Connect



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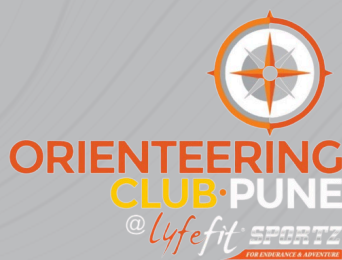


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O-Hi!

We welcome you all to the 2nd Edition of the “O-Connect”, our quarterly newsletter, where we share more about the sport, highlight the current developments, events, clubs and achievements of our own Indian Orienteers at national and international platforms. Do read and share your thoughts with us. Team has worked hard to curate something that you all will be proud off. Join us on next event or a meet-up and learn more about this “Thinking Sport”.

O Clubs India: The Growing Community



We are excited to welcome the Kolkata O-Club, Calicut O-Club and the Pune O-Club joining the network of O-Clubs. Their entry marks another step forward in expanding the sport across diverse terrains and communities. We look forward to their journeys in mapping, organizing, inspiring more people to take up orienteering and discovering the joy of navigation through their efforts.

Did you know?

- ▶ **World Orienteering Week (WOW)** celebrated every year around the globe from May 16th to May 24th with orienteering events and everyone gets to experience the beauty of this *Thinking Sport*.
- ▶ Orienteers navigate using only a specially designed map and a compass, no GPS is allowed in competition.
- ▶ Maps used in Orienteering are incredibly detailed, showing even small rocks, depressions, and vegetation types.



World Orienteering Week

16th May to 24th May

COMING

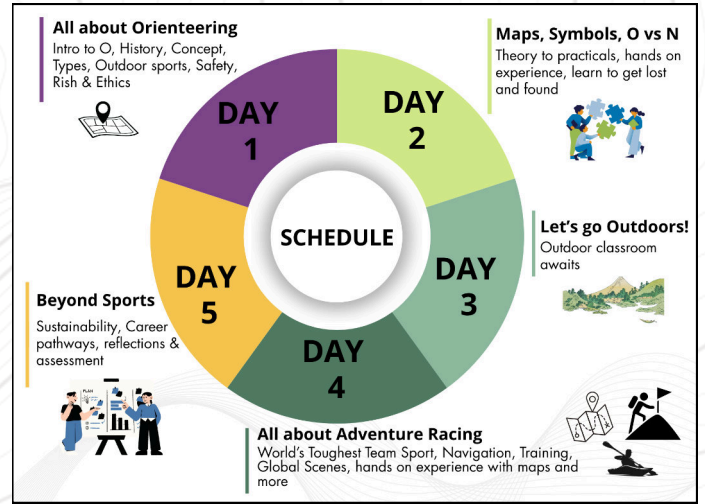
SOON

ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP

Launching during the World Orienteering Week, 2026

Lost on Purpose: Orienteering at KCLAS Liberal Edge Week

As part of KCLAS Liberal Edge Week, NthAdventure organized a comprehensive 5-day course Adventure Racing and Orienteering for students of Kumarguru Institutions from 16th Feb to 20th Feb, 2026. The program introduced Liberal Arts and Science students to the fundamentals of Orienteering and Adventure Racing sport, progressing from basic concepts to technical aspects. Through a series of interactive workshops, students gained hands-on experience in navigation, map reading, and route choice. The course concluded with both theoretical and practical assessments to evaluate the skills and understanding developed over the five days.



The 5-day orienteering course concluded as a meaningful and engaging journey that combined learning with real-world experience. As reflected in the students' feedback, the program not only



simplified complex concepts but also made the process enjoyable, interactive, and impactful within a short span of time. The enthusiasm expressed by students, including their interest in experience in outdoors, highlights the lasting impression the course created and its potential to inspire continued involvement in adventure sports.

NOC Community Meet-ups

Contour Orienteering



The Contour Orienteering Community Meet-up organised on 22nd March, 2026 brought together an enthusiastic mix of beginners, elites, kids, parents, runners, and adventure seekers for an engaging introduction to the sport of orienteering.

Participants got introduced on map reading, symbols, and basic orienteering techniques, understanding

the sport through detailed international and local orienteering maps. Participants then experienced contour orienteering to test their skills with different sets of maps - a Beginner and an Elite map finding the control points set against the boulders filled landscape of Akkayamma Betta at 991m elevation.



What stood out most was the energy and curiosity among the community. Questions, discussions, and shared experiences created a collaborative atmosphere where learning extended beyond instruction. The Contour Orienteering Community Meet-up contributed meaningfully to the growth of the orienteering community in Bangalore, encouraging greater participation while offering club ambassadors the experience to support their future community initiatives.

Orienteering Clinic

Continuing efforts to promote and strengthen the sport of orienteering in India, The Orienteering Clinic — an online webinar session was conducted with a focus on the technical foundations of the sport. Participants were introduced to the fundamentals of interpreting orienteering maps, understanding terrain representation, and recognizing standard international symbols used during competitions.

The webinar was led by Coach Sayeesha Kirani, who emphasized that orienteering is far more than just speed and endurance. He highlighted the importance of strategic thinking, navigation skills, route choice, and decision-making under pressure, which together form the true essence of the sport. Overall, the online clinic served as an accessible learning platform for athletes, and enthusiasts, allowing participants from different parts of the country to join from the comfort of their homes.



O-Mistakes

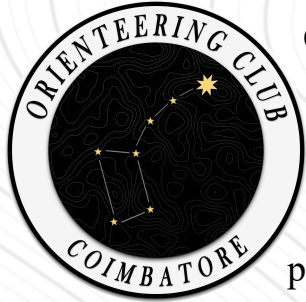
- ▶ ***Sprinting out of the start without a plan.***
- ▶ ***Going straight to the control from far away.***
- ▶ ***Holding the map loosely and re-searching your location in the map constantly.***

OOPS!

Driving the O-Clubs

Coimbatore Foot-O Meet-up

– Sakithya (Club Ambassador)



On March 8, 2026, coinciding with Women's Day, the Coimbatore Orienteering Club marked a special milestone by introducing Foot Orienteering (Foot-O) to the city for the very first time. Hosted at the popular Race Course well known for walking, jogging, and daily fitness activities which made it an ideal setting for this unique introduction.



Most participants arrived with little or no prior knowledge of orienteering. However, as the session unfolded, they began to understand it as a “thinking sport” that combines physical movement with map reading, decision-making, and navigation skills. Interestingly, many participants realized that they had already been using similar skills in their daily routines, just without recognizing it.



Regular visitors at the Race Course initially drawn by curiosity, joined the activity and quickly connected with the sport. The event turned into more than just a sport introduction. It became an

experience that highlighted how awareness, observation, and movement work together. Overall, it was a meaningful and impactful first step in creating orienteering awareness in Coimbatore.

Orienteering in Academics

Orienteering Sport & the New Age CBSE Curriculum 2026

Experiential Learning



Real-world navigation builds problem-solving & decision-making skills.

Critical Thinking



Route planning enhances analytical thinking & spatial intelligence.

Holistic Development



Combines physical fitness with mental agility—aligned with NEP goals.

Environmental Awareness



Encourages connection with nature & sustainable outdoor learning.

- An academic milestone for the Orienteering community, the **first International Orienteering Scientific Conference (O-Conference 2026)** has been announced and will be held in Sweden from **18th to 19th July, 2026**, focusing on research and education in the sport.
- With **CBSE 2026** emphasizing competency-based assessment, experiential learning, and real-life application, these guidelines strongly align with the sport of Orienteering as an interdisciplinary and skill-driven educational tool.

NthAdventure Orienteering Club Representing in International Races

Chasing control points in Malaysia: Team Lakshya N.O.C's Rogaining Story

With immense pride we announce Team Lakshya NOC secured **4th position** at the Putrajaya Rogaining International Championship 2026, Malaysia. Covering 59Kms withing 12 hours and securing **1930 points (out of 2200)** in Men's Category. NOC is proud of the team's participation and for marking the first ever Indian team participation in International Rogaining Championship.



The team's preparations for the race began long before arriving in Malaysia, with weeks of planning, training, and learning that prepared them for the race day. Before starting physical training, the team studied the weather conditions in Malaysia. Keeping the hot and humid conditions in Malaysia the team focused on training in sunny conditions, refining their navigation skills and building endurance for long durations, preparing for the brutal 12 hours.

Speaking about the team's mindset going into the championship, Lepakshi, the lead navigator of the team, stated, "We had three main expectations going into the race. First, we were representing our country, so it was important for us to compete strongly. Second, we aimed to collect as many checkpoints as possible. And finally, we wanted to secure a good position in the standings."



Reflecting on the outcome of the championship, the team successfully lived up to the expectations they had set for themselves before the race. Their performance stood as a testament to the team's preparation, teamwork, and perseverance through this demanding race.

“”

“Orienteering is where the mind leads and the body follows.”

Upcoming Events

- Orienteering Challenge May 17th, 2026 – World Orienteering Week, Bangalore
- Orienteering Workshop May 24th , Pune
- Bangalore WOW event, May 24, 2026
- Manipal WOW event, May 2026
- Calicut WOW event, May 2026

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O-News International

- ▶ **Gold World Ranking Events launched in 2026** by the IOF to elevate elite competition and the first races have already been held across Portugal, Italy, Latvia, and Belgium, marking the start of a new top-tier series.
- ▶ **Central European Youth Orienteering Cup 2026** witnessed 300 athletes from 9 countries, with Hungary Team dominating the Championship with a total of 911 points across relay, sprint and long-distance categories.
- ▶ **Round 1 of 2026 Orienteering World Cup** held in Locarno, Switzerland concluded on 26th April.
- ▶ The next edition of **Young Leaders Academy** is scheduled to take place in June-July, Val di Sole, Italy along with 5 days of O inviting youth between 16-25 to develop their talents and leadership competencies in orienteering.



Hear what people say

“The Orienteering sessions were good and different, it gave me new information of the various adventure sports, and I loved the way you taught us things in simpler way.”

- Harini AG (2nd year, Political Science student)

“I’m the kind of person who gets confused even between left and right. Even if you showed me the exact location of the Eiffel Tower, I’d probably still get lost. But now I’ve gained confidence navigating with maps.”

- Krishnaveni, Coimbatore

“I really enjoyed running around, searching, and finally finding the control point. I’d love to do it again.”

- Siva Priyan, Homeschooler from Pollachi

Editor’s Note

We hope you enjoyed this first edition of O-Connect, our quarterly space to share the joy of Orienteering and celebrate our athletes and the community. We’re here and listening, so feel free to share your thoughts, feedback, or ideas. Together, let’s inspire more people to discover Orienteering in India.