



## CONE GRIDS

Cone grids teach map orientation and quick decision making.

Difficulty can be increased by increasing the size of the grid (4x5 - > 7x7), increasing the distance between cones, encouraging the learners to run between cones and by including maths (adding up numbers under the cones).

Cone grids are easy to set up (get your learners to lay out the cones), it can accommodate many learners at one time and they can be done indoors and outside.

For extra fun, set up two grids with two teams at each grid and have a relay race.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The history of orienteering began in the late 19th century in Sweden. The actual term 'orienteering' was first used in 1886 and meant the crossing of unknown land with the aid of a map and a compass.

## Spice up cone grids

Cone grids are one of the easiest activities to do during class time (indoor or outdoor) with a large number of learners.

Without watching each student, it is difficult to verify if the learners are doing the grid correctly. Here are some ideas to make your task easier and to keep cone grids exciting.

### Confirming correct cones

Set out your cone grid and place a square of coloured paper under each 'active' cone. As they navigate the grid, they lift each cone to verify that they're at the right place.

Within this concept, you can place coloured squares under every cone but only a specific colour under the correct cones.

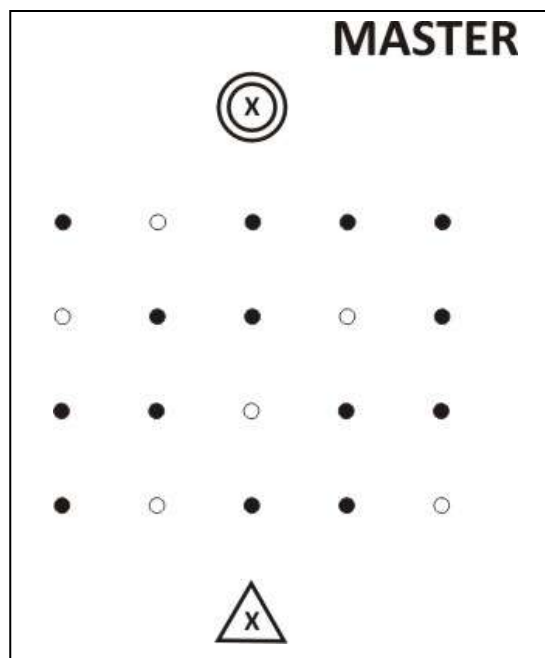
In addition, you can write a number on each square, which the learner must add up to reach a total. If they locate the correct cones, they'll have the correct total, which you can confirm. This also serves to make the grid more challenging because they're navigating and adding!

So, how do you run multiple courses with many learners on one grid with specific 'active' cones?

As in the below illustration, choose which cones will be active (O). These cones get the coloured square. Then create many different courses using only these active cones.

- Learners can start from both sides of the grid (two groups; relay).
- They must take note of whether they're starting from the start (triangle) or finish (double circle) side – this grid is not symmetrical.
- Learners can run the course in number order (1-2-3...), or in reverse order (6-5-4...). □

## 4x5 active cone grid



In this 'Master' grid the active cones (O) are indicated.

You can create any number of grids using these six (or any other – create your own variations) active cones.

You may choose to create courses using only five of the six active cones for more variety.

And, remember that learners can start from the finish side or start side of the grid and, if you have a big class, set up more than one grid.

See the three examples of grids, using this 'Master' layout, below.

## FEEDBACK

"I did the legend exercise, tennis court, 4x5 and 7x7 grids using cooldrink cans and finished with navigating around the school using a map that the boys I brought along to the Come and Try It event drew for me. It is quite amazing!

The learners were very supportive. They were actively involved and they loved it. I had 72 learners in Grade 12, mixed gender."

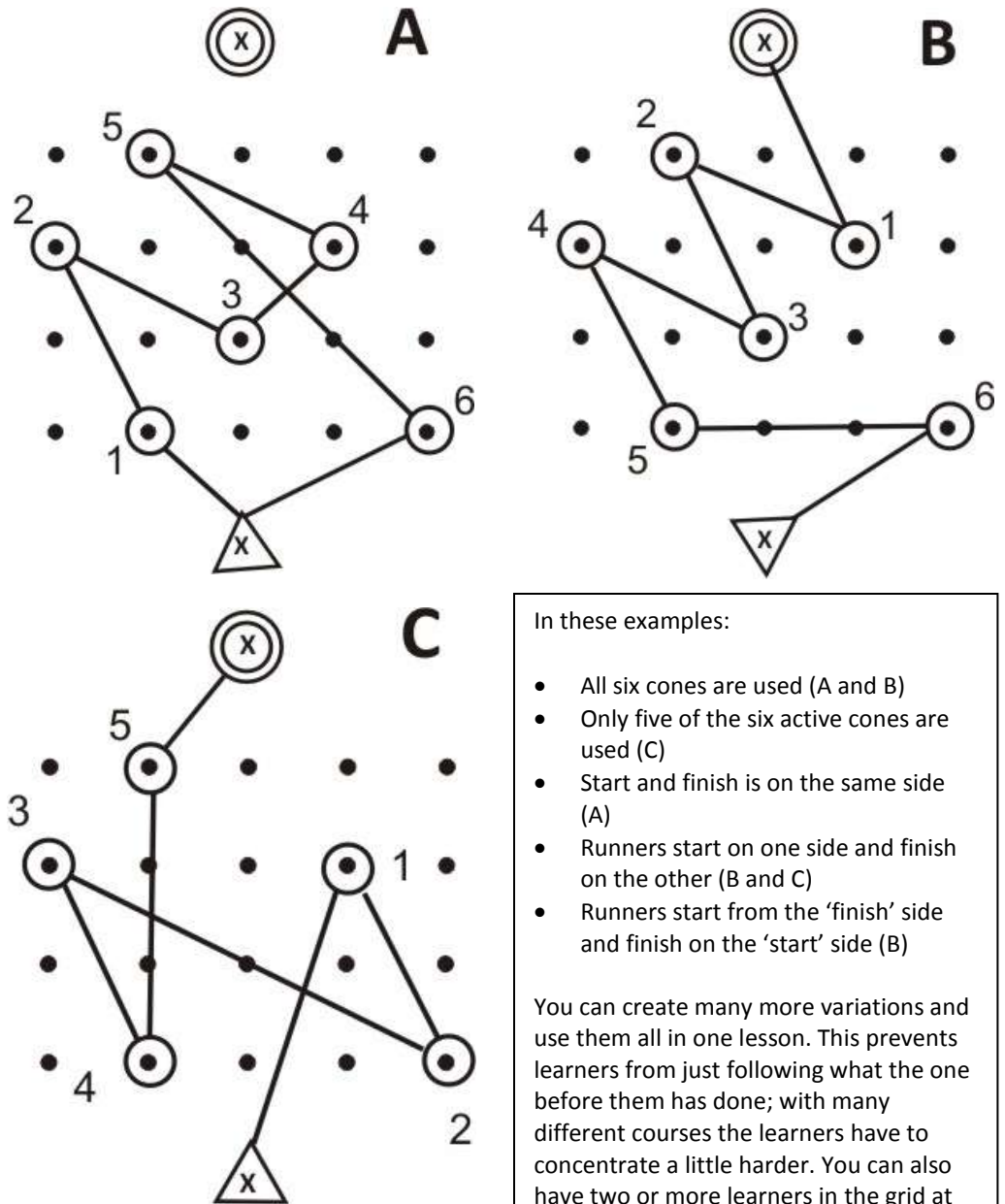
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## CONTACT

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Visit the SA Orienteering Federation (SAOF) at:  
[www.orienteering.co.za](http://www.orienteering.co.za)



In these examples:

- All six cones are used (A and B)
- Only five of the six active cones are used (C)
- Start and finish is on the same side (A)
- Runners start on one side and finish on the other (B and C)
- Runners start from the 'finish' side and finish on the 'start' side (B)

You can create many more variations and use them all in one lesson. This prevents learners from just following what the one before them has done; with many different courses the learners have to concentrate a little harder. You can also have two or more learners in the grid at one time.

## We need your feedback

Our Expansion Plan is made possible by funding from SASCOC, the Department of Sport and Recreation and National Lottery.

Our reports to these organisations keep this project running. But, for this, we need your feedback each term on the orienteering activities that you've done with your learners.

- what grades?
- how many learners

(boys and girls)?

- success stories and problems experienced.

We also appreciate your ideas on better ways to run activities for large groups and ways to assess learners. We learn from you too. As an incentive, in return for feedback, we'll provide you with orienteering equipment or our services (events, maps, workshops. So, what are you waiting for?

## INCENTIVE REWARD ITEMS

- 25 cones plus coloured squares
- 'flags' for training – 26 orange and white correx boards labeled with alphabet letter
- B&W map of school (coloured map only when there are more schools near you)
- We will run a lesson for you
- We'll help organise an inter-school event
- O kit – O flags with punches