

**MINUTES
of the TWENTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the BRITISH ORIENTEERING FEDERATION Limited**

Convened at YMCA Lakeside, Ulverston, Cumbria at 4:30pm on Saturday June 7th 2003 but adjourned to St Bartholomews School, Newbury, Berkshire at 4:00pm on Saturday November 1st 2003

PRESENT:

Bob Roach	Chairman	David Morgan	Vice-Chairman
Ranald Macdonald	Vice-Chairman		
Robin Field	Chief Executive and Company Secretary		

making a total of 75 members from the following clubs:

Basingstoke and District O, Berkshire OC, Bristol OK, Deeside OC, Derwent Valley Orienteers, East Pennine OC, Eborienteers, Essex Stragglers OC, Happy Herts, Harlequins OC, Havering OC, Kerno OC, Leicester OC, Marlborough OK, Mole Valley OC, North Gloucester OC, Norfolk OC, Nottinghamshire OC, Octavian Droobers, Quantock Orienteers, Sarum Orienteers, Southern Navigators, Southampton OC, South London Orienteers and Wayfarers, South Ribble OC, Swerve, Thames Valley OC, Walton Chasers OC, West Anglian OC, Wimborne OC,

Members were welcomed to the meeting by Bob Roach, Chairman of BOF.

Peter Christopher presented a eulogy to Peter Palmer following his recent death highlighting his work and achievements in coaching, with juniors and with his club. This was followed by the observance of a one minute silence

Bob Roach introduced the nominees who had been duly elected, unopposed, at the adjourned June 7th meeting.

The meeting approved the appointment of Alex Ross (DVO), as minute taker; and Peter Bylett (HOC) and Mike George (NOR) as tellers.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:

Derek Allison (WAROC)	Paul Beckett (HAVOC)	Dorothy Hale (SAX)
Charles Bromley-Gardner (BAOC)	Seonaid Dudley (WCH)	Chris Bonington (BL)
Barbara Fothergill (HAVOC)	Chris Boycott (WCH)	Terry Dooris (SN)
Raymond Finlay (FERMO)	Colin Henderson (LVO)	Roger Smith (EBOR)
Violet Linton (NWOC)	Bill Fyffe (FERMO)	Noel Bogle (NWOC)
Freddie McCann (LVO)	Steven Linton (NWOC)	Ruth Blair (NWOC)
Malcolm Duncan (POTOC)	Greg McCann (LVO)	Ken Hale (SAX)

2. Minutes of the Twenty First Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Twenty First AGM were accepted, by a show of hands, as a correct record.

Proposed Chris James (NGOC) Seconded Dick Towler (NOR)

3. Chairman's Report

There being no questions the Chairman's report, as previously circulated, was accepted by a show of hands.

Proposed Lyn West (SOS) Seconded John Palmer (NOC)

4. Treasurer's Report

There being no questions the Treasurer's report, as previously circulated, was accepted by a show of hands.

Proposed Hilary Palmer (NOC) Seconded Dick Towler (NOR)

5. Chief Executive's Report

There being no questions the Chief Executive's report, as previously circulated, was accepted by a show of hands.

Proposed Chris James (NGOC) Seconded Dick Towler (NOR)

6. BOF / BSOA Relationship

This item was deferred for discussion at the EGM to follow.

7. BOF Restructuring

The Chairman referred to discussions which had taken place earlier in the day at a series of workshops. There were no comments from the floor. The present status of the change is that it has been accepted in principle and detailed discussions will take place at Council in January.

8. Proposals

Proposal 1: Adoption of Accounts

There being no questions, the meeting agreed by a show of hands that the audited accounts for 2002 be adopted.

Proposal 2: Appointment of Auditor

The meeting agreed by a show of hands that Barber, Harrison and Platt be appointed Auditors for 2003.

Proposal 3: Family Membership Fees for 2004

Ian McMillan (EPOC), supported by Roger Lott (TVOC), wondered why such a change was necessary as they believed that there would be no real effect as once a student has moved out of the family home contact was lost anyway. Peter and Jane Christopher (WCH) supported the proposal as it gave students the opportunity to stay in contact and thus be retained in the sport through family ties. Helen Fraser (WAOC) related her own experience in stopping orienteering when she became a student. She was convinced that her own strong family ties have brought her back to the sport and she felt that others students should have the opportunity to experience that link. As a development tool, Hilary Palmer (NOC) felt that the retention of students was essential. Sue Denmark (SROC) felt that anything which encouraged students to attend large events like the JK should be promoted.

Voting was by a show of hands

For 69

Against 4

Abstentions 2

This 92% vote in favour is more than the 75% required for the proposal to be accepted for a change to the Articles of the Federation

9. Elections

The following individuals had been proposed, unopposed, for the following posts and had been duly elected at the adjourned meeting:

President:	Sir Christian Bonington
Chairman:	Bob Roach (DEE)
Vice Chairman	David Morgan (EPOC)
Vice Chairman	Ranald Macdonald (DVO)
Treasurer	Malcolm Duncan (POTOC)

There were four nominations, from the floor, for the vacant posts of Councillors.

Proposed John Woodall (NOC)	Seconded Colin Spears (HOC)
Chris James	SWOA and WMOA
Dick Towler	EAOA
Suse Coon	SOA
Katy Stubbs	SCOA

All were elected unopposed by a show of hands

10. Any Other Business

David May (SLOW) was concerned that the decision on junior classes had been taken without apparent consultation with members. He was supported by John Burrows (NGOC). Bob Roach (DEE) explained how the democratic decision, with a significant majority in favour, was taken involving the elected representatives at Council after discussion at a number of meetings. Jan Belza (SARUM) claimed the decision was greatly disliked in the South West. Hilary Palmer (NOC) thought this was symptomatic of a communication problem between BOF, the Associations and the Clubs. She was personally in favour of the project having seen the results from the pilot project in the North where the clubs were in favour of the scheme. Chris James (NGOC) thought it highlighted a more general issue regarding the democratic process. Members of Council are elected by the membership and those representatives take part in reasoned debate and decide on a course of action. Lyn West (SOS) confirmed that this is exactly what took place with papers distributed at September Council with a decision taken at the following January meeting. Keith MacDermott (EBOR) was concerned that no criteria for the assessment of the change had yet been published.

John Shucksmith (WIM) raised the issue of the potential separation of the British Junior Orienteering Championships in 2005. Ian McMillan (EPOC) supported by Chris Poole (SWERVE) asked what consultation had taken place with members. Bob Roach (DEE) said that he was unable to provide that information without prior notice. Carol Farrington (HOC) felt that the decision was not a good one and Chris Poole claimed that no discussion had taken place at SWOA Committee. David Morgan (EPOC) explained that the original proposal had been made at Council by Planning and Development Committee for representatives to discuss with their Associations. A vote in favour had been reached at a subsequent meeting. Richard Sharp (TVOC) claimed that the South Central Representative had been unable to discuss the matter as the minutes of Council were not available.

Don Locke (OD) thought both issues were indicative of a communication problem where the lack of consultation by Council members was preventing efficient decision making and suitable contact with the grass roots of the sport and that efforts need to be made to find a suitable solution. Peter Guillaume (OD) felt that a holistic approach to the decision making process needed to be adopted if such problems were to be avoided in the future.

Bob Roach (DEE) said that note had been taken of the concerns and the issues would receive attention.

A straw poll (non binding), proposed by Peter Guillaume, for Council to review its decision on BJOC 2005 was carried unanimously by a show of hands.