

Board of Directors

Conference Call

Wednesday 3 January 2018, 19:00-20:00



Board attendees: Philip Baxter (PB); Darren Bernstein (DB); Bob Dredge (BD); Mike Hamilton (MH); Peter Hart (PH); Judith Holt (JH); David Maliphant (DM), Elizabeth Pariag (EP); Julie Webster (JW).
Peter Hart (PH) as an observer.

Minute taker: MH

Apologies received: Ruth Holmes (RH); Margaret Nolan (MN)

1. Welcome & Meeting Administration

The Chair welcomed directors to the meeting and noted that Peter Hart attended in an observation capacity.

The minutes of the December Board meeting were confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest: no additional declarations of interest were declared.

2. World Orienteering Sprint Championships 2022

a) To determine if British Orienteering will make a submission to host the event.

- Background: The Board were provided with the factual background to the potential submission. Key points noted were:
 - a. British Orienteering was approached by Scottish Orienteering about the possibility of a bid being made in August 2017.
 - b. It was agreed that the feasibility should be investigated which in turn led to a meeting hosted in Scotland which BD had agreed to chair and represent the views of British Orienteering.
 - c. The auditors had previously made it clear that there could be no liabilities without direct control of such an event. The governance auditors had made similar statements and it was inherent in our 'good' governance that there must be a direct line of control and responsibility to British Orienteering – or a completely 'hands-off' approach adopted but this in turn would lead to a clear separation between British Orienteering and the event.
 - d. The review and recommendations following the WOC had reinforced this position and it was noted that the WMOC 2020 bid had been built on this basis.
 - e. The position had not been progressed further by the September Board meeting and by the November meeting of the Board discussion had taken place and a request made through the SOA that the S6D Co manage the event in its entirety. The SOA itself was not in a position to manage the event and it had proven too expensive to employ an event company to manage it.
 - f. By the December meeting of the Board there was a written report from BD and it had been agreed that only when a feasible management model existed would there be further discussion about the viability of a bid being submitted.
- BD added comments to this summary:
 - a. He stated he was now close to the event and very supportive of a bid being made.
 - b. The bid is feasible in terms of the technical delivery of the event.
 - c. The submission hinges on whether an organising company could be engaged to organise the event.
 - d. BD understood that the IOF would accept contracting directly to a separate company and not via BOF.
 - e. The points raised about the potential dangers of Brexit during the WMOC 2020 bid are not the views of the IOF.
 - f. There is very positive support from the Scottish Government, Event Scotland and the City of Edinburgh.
 - g. It is agreed to be a great opportunity to promote orienteering in Scotland.
 - h. British Orienteering has reserves which could be used in this bid to develop the sport.
 - i. The current draft budget is a 'best guess' based on a variety of other events, WOC, WMOC, etc.
 - j. British Orienteering is required to provide a statement of support which will be a commitment.

- There followed a full and open discussion:

The Board agreed that it was confirmed that British Orienteering was not at this stage able to carry the financial risk of underwriting and staging a major championship event and

That British Orienteering will only bid for IOF events if the IOF agrees to contract out the event directly with the organising company and therefore BOF would not be underwriting the event.

On this basis it was then agreed that:

- a) A bid can only be supported by BOF if a managing company agree to manage and underwrite the event.
- b) A bid cannot be supported until the contractual situation is clear i.e. if the IOF will agree to contract directly with a separate management company for the event.

MH was tasked to approach the IOF and confirm that it was acceptable to the contract to deliver the event can be directly between the IOF and a separate organising committee.

The decision was taken to support the bid if both (a) and (b) above are confirmed.

3. Any other business

No other business was raised, and the meeting closed at 20:20.