

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

**Held at Ulverston Victoria High School, Ulverston, Cumbria at 5:15pm on
Saturday April 10th 2004.**

PRESENT:

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

making a total of 116 members from the following clubs:

Airienteers, Badenoch and Strathspey OC, Berkshire OC, Borderliners , Bristol OK, Cleveland OK, City of Birmingham OC, Cambridge University OC, Deeside OC, Drongo, Derwent Valley Orienteers, East Pennine OC, Eborienteers, Edinburgh Southern OC, Edinburgh University OC, Essex Stragglers OC, Happy Herts, Harlequins OC, Havering OC, Interlopers, Kerno, Lakeland OC, Manchester and District OC, Mole Valley OC, North Gloucester OC, Norfolk OC, Nottinghamshire OC, Octavian Droobers, Pendle Forest OC, Potteries OC, Quantock Orienteers, Saxons OC, South East Lancashire OC South London Orienteers and Wayfarers, Southdowns OC, Thames Valley OC, Walton Chasers OC, West Anglian OC, Wimborne OC.

Members were welcomed to the 23rd AGM of the British Orienteering Federation by Bob Roach, Chairman of BOF, who introduced the podium party.

The meeting approved the appointment of Alex Ross (DVO), as minute taker.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:

John Bennison (OD)	Beryl Blackhall (SELOC)	Sue Birkinshaw (MDOC)
Chris Boycott (WCH)	Anne Braggins (WAOC)	Don Braggins (WAOC)
John Burrows (NGOC)	Roy Denney (LEI)	Helen Fraser (WAOC)
Colin Henderson (LVO)		

2. Minutes of the Twenty Second Annual General Meeting and the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on the same date.

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

Proposed: Hilary Palmer (NOC) Seconded: Mike Eccles (PFO)

The minutes of the EGM, held on the same day, were accepted, by a show of hands, as a correct record.

Proposed: Hilary Palmer (NOC) Seconded: Mike Eccles (PFO)

3. Chairman's Report

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

Proposed: Chris James (NGOC) Seconded: Angela Heppenstall (LOC)

4. Treasurer's Report

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

Proposed: John Woodall (NOC) Seconded: Roger Lott (TVOC)

5. Chief Executive's Report

Robin Field reported on the receipt of a grant amounting to £80,000 over two years to support Development Officers through the PESSCL programme. 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. Proposals

Proposal 1: Adoption of Accounts

There being no questions, the meeting agreed by a show of hands that the audited accounts for 2003 be adopted.

Proposal 2: Appointment of Auditor

The meeting agreed by a show of hands that Barber, Harrison and Platt be appointed Auditors for 2004.

7 Elections

The following individuals had been proposed, unopposed, for the following posts and were duly elected:

President:	Sir Christian Bonington
Chairman:	Bob Roach (DEE)
Vice Chairman	Ranald Macdonald (DVO)

There being no nominations from the floor for a second Vice Chairman, Council will attempt to co-opt a suitable individual.

Malcolm Duncan (POTOC) was nominated by Bob Roach (DEE) and seconded by Mike Eccles (PFO) for the post of Treasurer. As the only nominee, he was duly elected.

The following individuals had been proposed, unopposed, the posts of Councillors and were duly elected:

Chris James SWOA and WMOA
Katy Stubbs SCOA

Two nominations from the floor were received and were duly elected.

Dick Towler (EAOA) Nominated Ranald Macdonald (EMOA), Seconded Bob Roach (NWOA)

Suse Coon (SOA) Nominated Bob Roach (NWOA), Seconded Angela Heppenstall (NWOA)

8. Any Other Business

Silva Award for Services to Orienteering.

This award was presented to Frank Rose (MDOC) for his tireless work at all levels within the sport over a large number of years. A tribute was paid by the Chairman to Frank's work with his club, his Association (NWOA), the GMOA and his roles in major events.

Clubmark Award

Both CLOK and NOC have been successful in achieving this award which is an accreditation scheme for clubs. Several other clubs are working towards the award.

British Junior Orienteering Championships

The breakdown in communication which led to the controversy over this issue was detailed by Chris James (NGOC). He suggested strongly that the sport needed to simplify both its competitive and its governing structure although he recognised the resistance to that would be felt from certain quarters. Robin Field (Chief Executive) thought that the recent change to the structure did much to recognise and address the failures in communication and that there was some evidence that this was already having an effect. The decision finally taken by Council on BJOC was explained and confirmed.

There were a number of questions and comments on the role of juniors in the decision making process and whether there should be a junior voice on Council. Becky Carlyle (AIRE) agreed to make herself available, an offer which was gratefully accepted by the Chairman.

9. Funding the Federation

Ranald Macdonald (Vice Chairman) made a presentation on the need to develop a sustainable funding method for the sport. In identifying the challenges facing the sport and the need to recruit and retain members BOF is seeking advice in developing a suitable strategy to counter the decline in BOF members and consequent financial support for the sport.

Simon Thompson (MDOC) suggested that as everyone is the member of a club then BOF could be funded by a charge levied on every club based on its membership. It was noted by others that the number of "independents" is increasing and that the real problem lies with the attitude that there is "no need" to join BOF.

Lester Hartmann (HOC) observed that his clubs gained many new members through a series of "smile" events and thought that clubs would lose members if an additional BOF fee was levied on them.

Chris Foss (OD) felt that if universal membership was felt necessary then a means ought to be sought to ensure that. The alternative put forward by Mark Adams (HH) that all funding could be achieved by loading the levy.

The system at work in EBOR was described by Ann Smith where non-members are charged an extra fee which encourages them to join. It was pointed out by others that this had been tried to encourage BOF membership but the administration of it was not within its control except at BOC and JK.

There were many other contributions including the present confusing fee structure within the sport and a certain resistance to joining BOF.

10. Child Protection and Clubs

Alex Ross (Designated Protection Officer) made a presentation on the legislation applying to the sport, the standards expected of us and the timescale for reaching each particular level. The protection policy, due for revision in 2005, and the implementation policy to be adopted were discussed and the issues for clubs identified.

The advantages, disadvantages and consequences for the sport of reaching the standards set were discussed and the crunch issues, particularly for clubs but also for individuals, were raised.

There was general support for the approach provided that any support required could be provided centrally.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their time and attention. The meeting concluded at 07:30pm