

Minutes of the 33rd Annual General Meeting

Friday 18th April 2014, 17.00-18.00

Details: Café West, Fulton House, Swansea University

Attendees:

Helen Baxter (LVO), Philip Baxter (LVO), Andrew Beldowski (WSX), Eric Brown (HOC), Lesley Brown (HOC), Linda Cairns (SN), Dave Chapman (SN), Mike Cope (CLARO), Bob Dredge (WCH), Carol Dredge (WCH), Sarah Dredge (WCH), Elizabeth Dunn (Independent Director), Stewart Durham (AYROC), Anne Edwards (TVOC), Carol Edwards (TVOC), Helen Errington (HH), Simon Errington (HH), Judith Filmore (LOC), Simon Filmore (LOC), Derek Fryer (LOC), Vince Grealy (CLARO), Philip Gristwood (MV), Mike Hamilton (LEI), Mike Hind (CLARO), Judith Holt (DVO), Alan Honey (BOK), Peter Hornsby (LEI), Chris James (NGOC), Gillian James (NGOC), Elaine Latham (SELOC), Kevan Latham (SELOC), Philip Levi (WAO), David Maliphant (LOC), Peter Maliphant (BOK), Clarissa Napier (CLOCK), Jim Prowting (TVOC), David Rosen (SROC), Miriam Rosen (SROC), Stephen Round (SELOC), Paul Santon (HH), Diana Smith (SOC), Mick Smith (HH), Terry Smith (SOC), Roger Stein (SBOC), Richard Tiley (LOC), Angela Towler (LOC), Richard Towler (LOC), Dave Walton (LOC), Lesley Ward (SYO), Martin Ward (SYO), Colin Welch (BOK), Colin West (SOS), Lyn West (SOS), David Williams (HOC), Ernie Williams (LEI), Martin Wilson (BKO), Dorothy Woodall (NOC), John Woodall (NOC), Alan Yeadon (SARUM), Liz Yeadon (SARUM)

Minute taker: Cerianne Dengate

Apologies

Neil and Pat Cameron (NGOC), Dorothy Hale (SAX), Lynne Walker (BASOC), Dick Whitworth (BL), Angela Whitworth (BL), Jane Campbell (DEE), Chris Dicken (CLARO), Derek Allison (LOC), Amanda, Victoria and John-Henry Love (SOS), Chris Phillips (LEI), Charlotte Thornton (SARUM), Vicky Thornton (MDOC), Christine Vince (KERN), John Flook (Independent Director).

1. Welcome & Thanks

The Chair, Martin Ward, thanks organisers of the JK and British Orienteering Staff for the JK and AGM and introduces the top table (Martin Ward - Chair, Scott Collier – Vice Chair, Bob Dredge – Treasurer, Mike Hamilton – Chief Executive). Martin also introduces Elizabeth Dunn, Independent Director.

2. Request for AOB Items

No AOB items are raised.

3. Minutes of the 32nd AGM held on Friday 29th March 2013

There being no questions asked the minutes are approved.

Proposer: Philip Baxter (LVO) Seconder: Lyn West (SOS)

4. Chair's Report

No questions asked.

5. Treasurer's Report

No questions asked; BD provides summary of his report and thanks the British Orienteering Accounts Manager, Jannette Blunden, for the great work which resulted in the auditors giving British Orienteering a clean bill of health. There was a small deficit shown in the accounts but British Orienteering has healthy reserves, out of which the Commercial Manager has been employed. BD confirms that British Orienteering was successful in securing funding from Sport England for 2013-17.

Philip Levi asks for clarification on the total amount to be received from Sport England funding for 2013-17, MH replies that it is around £1.2million. **Post meeting note:** Amount of funding is £2.3 million across the 4 year period.

6. CEO Report

No questions asked.

7. Proposal 1: Accounts

David Rosen asks for a breakdown of the “other external charges”. BD agrees to make a copy of the expenditure available.

No further questions, the accounts are adopted by a show of hands.

(Proxy count: For 144, Against 0, Abstain 36, Chair 42)

8. Proposal 2: Auditors

BD explained that British Orienteering went out to tender for auditors, and that Grant Thornton’s bid was by far the best for price and quality. Therefore to meet the standards set by government for bodies receiving public funding, it was requested that the British Orienteering account be dealt with in future by another partner at Grant Thornton.

The re-appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors is adopted by a show of hands.

(Proxy count: For 138, Against 1, Abstain 41, Chair 42)

9. Proposal 3: Membership and Levy fees 2015

BD clarifies that the Board are seeking an increase of 10% to the levy fees, however there will be no increase to any other fees for examples membership and club affiliation fees.

Philip Levi asks if there are any trends in the membership numbers and/or age of the membership. MH responds that there has been a slight decrease in overall membership at this moment; however British Orienteering continues to receive more new members throughout the year. BD adds due to the changes to the membership structure for 2014 there are less “extra” family members, who may not have been actively orienteering but were part of family memberships. MW recognises that it is a great achievement that older generations are actively orienteering but we must also focus on bringing in more juniors and younger adults and continuing their involvement for the membership to be sustainable.

Action: MH to publish a report on membership age trends.

Proposal 3 is carried by a show of hands.

(Proxy count: For 131, Against 20, Abstain 31, Chair 40)

10. Proposal 4: Map Scales at Level A and B events

Dick Towler presented the proposal to the attendees; it is proposed that planners and controllers of level A and B events are delegated to make the decision regarding map scales. A map of Bigland is circulated that was created in 1992, the map is still relevant and no amendments are needed. They had proposed that young orienteers should use a 1:10,000 map scale whilst the Elite and older should use a 1:15,000 map scale. However this was originally rejected by Map Advisory Group as the proposal was misunderstood.

LOC carried out two surveys and wished to speak at the club and association conference, but the subject was out of line with the theme of the 2013 conference. British Orienteering did not convene the action for having a working group delegated to this subject.

Chris James tells the attendees that technically this proposal is effectively in two-parts. The first being about map scales, concerning map clarity and sustainability, whilst the second being the way British Orienteering is governed. CJ believes there to be a much wider problem, as although many people agree with the Map Advisory Group, there are also many who disagree. We must also comply with both IOF and British Orienteering rules. CJ adds that he was not involved in the proposal before it was submitted. CJ assures members that any issues raised with him as Chair of the Events & Competitions Committee will be dealt with appropriately and thoroughly.

MW asks for questions. A query is raised with CJ about the reason for delaying the decision a year. CJ replies that the survey that is currently being carried out will obtain the opinions and views of the participants taking part in the JK 2014 whilst the survey planned for the JK 2015 will produce feedback on the use of 1:7,500 map scale. Although we have to remember that different regions differ vastly in terrain.

Ernie Williams (LEI) asks if a Map Advisor was appointed; surely this would solve these problems? DT says that they would have a map advisor if someone was to come forward. CJ retorts that unfortunately it has been said before by certain people that “they will only accept an advisor if they came from a certain quarter”. This is not acceptable.

Mike Hind (CLARO) states that Orienteering is not a test of eyesight, so he cannot understand why anyone would object to this proposal as long as it is the same map being used.

Alan Honey questions that a 1:20,000 map scale was used a long time ago, so how did we get to where we are now at 1:15,000? MW confirms the current IOF rules but unfortunately is unable to answer how the transition happened.

Phil Levi enquires whether we should be making the suggestion to the IOF; DT responds that the IOF has nothing to do with the events in question.

David Maliphant mentions also that his age group should be able to read this map scale, but this depends on the quality of the paper and the printing too.

Carol Edwards asks for clarification that this vote isn't deciding whether we should have 1:7,500 or 1:10,000 but where the decision lies, MW confirms that is the case.

There being no further question a vote is taken.

Total Votes for: 205	Votes against: 67	Abstentions: 4
Percentages: 75.4%	24.6%	
(Votes in attendance: For 29, Against 25, Abstain 4: Proxy count:	For 174, Against 40, Abstain 1, Chair 7)	

The proposal is adopted.

11. Elections

President (Sir Chris Bonington) and Vice President (Dr John Disley), both proposed by Board.

The appointments are unanimously supported.

MW explained that there are two vacancies for Member Elected Directors on the Board to be decided at the 2014 AGM and only two nominations. There will therefore be no election and the nominees Judith Holt and Martin Ward, will be appointed onto the Board of Directors.

12. British Orienteering Awards Ceremony

Scott Collier announces the awards as Martin Ward presents the trophies and certificates.

Silva Award Services to Orienteering is awarded to Carol McNeill (LOC).

University Club of the Year is awarded to University of Bristol Orienteering Club, with the Runner-Up being Cambridge University Orienteering Club.

Club of the Year, there were no nominees, but hope there will be more interest next year.

Mapping Awards

The Chichester Trophy is presented to Peter Hornsby (LEI) for his Loughborough University Central - British Sprint Championships map 2013.

Highly commended is Charles Bromley Gardner for Hambledon Lime Avenue - JK13 Trail O map.

The Walsh Trophy is awarded to Simon Errington for his map of St Albans.

Highly commended is Mike Hampton for West Swindon and Salisbury.

The Bonington Trophy and **the Silva Trophy**, there were no submissions this year for the Bonington Trophy awarded annually for the best contribution to mapping or for the Silva Trophy for best map produced by professional mappers, we hope there will be more interest next year.

Retiring Director

MW thanked Scott Collier (JOK) for his work on behalf of British Orienteering during his term of office as a director. SC thanked his fellow members of the Board and British Orienteering staff for all their hard work.

13. Any Other Business

There being no AOB, the AGM was closed at 7.00pm. MW thanked everyone for attending and their input.