

# CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the latest Club Newsletter. If you have any feedback after reading it please contact the National Office at [feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk)

## 2011 AGM

Don't forget to attend the British Orienteering Annual General Meeting that will take place after day 2 of the JK Festival of Orienteering. The AGM will be held at the Craigtantlet Room of Stranmillis College, Stranmillis, Belfast BT9 5DY starting at 17:00 on Saturday 23rd April 2011. Included in the standard Annual General Meeting business will be elections of four directors, and two proposals regarding student orienteering. The Board is keen to have a short discussion on two items at the end of the formal AGM business, these items are proposed future changes to the Memorandum and Articles and Membership and Levy systems. Both items will be presented to the 2012 AGM and this is an opportunity to explain why these are being reviewed and to commence discussions with attendees of the 2011 AGM.

## Sport England Satisfaction Survey

Yes, it's that time again! If you are an English club many of your members will be invited to take part in the annual Satisfaction Survey organised by Sport England through IPSOS-MORI. If you have opportunity please let your members know that they may be invited to take part in this email/phone survey and that emails about it are not spam.

This is a really important piece of work as it forms the research on which much of our work to promote our vision, 'more people, more places, more podiums' is based. If you have opportunity please encourage your members to take part as it is one of their opportunities to say what they think and influence our programmes.

## Income Generation

Both staff and the Board are increasingly aware of the likely funding reductions to British Orienteering from sports councils post the current funding cycle (2009-2013). This is as well as the reduction of UK Sport funding (by £125,000) we already know of over 2011 and 2012. Staff meeting and Board meeting agendas have recently addressed other potential sources of income to be investigated prior to this period. This is a key area of work for staff and the Board moving forward and members, clubs and associations should be aware of the background to this. Staff and the Board have options they feel have the potential to generate income but we would also like to hear from you and your members. If you feel strongly about this please or have views you believe may help us, let us know by emailing them to [feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk).

## Communication

Staff are currently involved in a significant piece of work to look at how we communicate with the people we interact with. Members, clubs and associations are obviously a significant part of our communication discussions and future plans.

If you feel strongly about this please or have views you believe may help us, let us know by emailing them to [feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk).

## Payments to British Orienteering

At the request of volunteers working at club and association there are a number of initiatives and agreements being implemented that will enable electronic payments to be made.

British Orienteering is moving towards enabling all payments to suppliers, clubs, etc., to be made by electronic means. Similarly we are seeking to provide opportunity to receive electronic payments from those who owe money to British Orienteering. This is already in place for new membership subscriptions, but not for other income streams such as levy payments.

Separate back accounts have now been established to enable us to keep separation between the payments that will be made to British Orienteering. There is now a membership account and a levy account. A detailed information sheet will be produced and circulated giving clear instructions about the processes involved in making payments in due course.

In summary, the membership subscriptions account number is available to club membership secretaries and treasurers, so that they can remit the British Orienteering portion of any new member subscriptions collected by clubs, electronically. All that will be required is to add the club and new member surname as the descriptor on the payment. Also an electronic copy of the membership form will need submitting to [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk) so staff can match payments to new members and add contact details onto the British Orienteering member database.

The event levies account details will be provided to club fixtures secretaries and treasurers, so that they can remit event levies electronically. All that will be required is to add the club and event registration number, (which is available to clubs on the web-based participation recording system) as the descriptor on the payment. It is important that levy payments are not made until the participation figures for the event have been updated in the web-based system.

## Development

### Development Programme Update

The recent restructuring of the Development Programme will take effect from the start of April. In England, Natalie Shaw and Caroline Gay will be starting in their positions as East and West Participation Managers respectively. Steve Vernon is now in the position of National Participation Manager and Richard Barrett continues his role as Participation Manager (South). Hamish Willis is now in position as Community Orienteering Coach (North) and Pauline Olivant is in position as Community Orienteering Development Officer (East Midlands). Mike Hardy and John Crosby continue working in their voluntary roles in the North East. The end of March sees the conclusion of the RDO programme and British Orienteering offers a big 'thank you' to those individuals who have worked hard for British Orienteering in this programme.

British Orienteering continues to support Development programmes in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. British Orienteering works closely with the Northern Ireland Development Team of Helen Baxter (Regional Development Officer); Mark Hudson (Assistant Regional Development Officer) and Greg McCann (Coaching Development Officer) and the Scottish Development Officer, Hilary Quick. British Orienteering also

continues to support efforts to allow funding opportunities in Wales and supports the clubs and associations directly with development assistance.

## **Community Orienteering**

The number of Community Orienteering programmes continues to increase and British Orienteering is seeing a great take up from newcomers and club members. In England, MDOC, LOC and EBOR all recently started 'club nights' to take the total up to 27! If your club is interesting in supporting a Community Orienteering programme please get in contact with Richard in the South (SEOA/SCOA); Caroline in the West (SWOA/WMOA); Natalie in the East (EAOA; EMOA) and Steve in the North (NWOA; YHOA; NEOA) Contact details can be found in Focus magazine and also on the British Orienteering website.

## **Club of the Year**

The 2010 Club of the Year competitions attracted some great applications from clubs across the UK. Congratulations to Leicestershire Orienteering Club (LEI) who won the prestigious title and will be put forward to the National Sport and Recreation Alliance (formerly the CCPR) Club of the Year competition.

Runners up in the competition were Moravian Orienteers (MOR), South London Orienteers (SLOW) and South Yorkshire Orienteers (SYO).

Edinburgh University Orienteering Club was the top placed university club.

Awards will be made at the forthcoming British Orienteering AGM to recognise the achievement of all of the clubs.

## **Coaching Courses**

British Orienteering is keen to support members of British Orienteering becoming qualified coaches. Coaching helps support the development of newcomers and club members looking to improve their Orienteering. It is also a really great opportunity to improve your own Orienteering as you coach others the skills to become an Orienteer. British Orienteering runs a number of courses throughout the year and information on the courses can be found here <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/coaching> .

If the dates and timings of courses aren't suitable and you still wish to go on a course please contact your Regional Coaching Committee representative who will support you to find a course

[http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/index.php?pg=52#coaching\\_reps](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/index.php?pg=52#coaching_reps)

## **School Orienteering**

If you know of schools that are delivering orienteering either as a part of the curricula or as an extra curricula activity can you please let the National Office know. British Orienteering is working with BSOA to develop a contact list that is representative of the schools involved with orienteering. Prior to recent decisions taken by British Orienteering and BSOA, only a small number of schools, around 300, were members of BSOA. Membership of BSOA is now set at £0 which we hope will encourage more schools to join the contact list that British Orienteering maintain on behalf of BSOA.

## Performance

### British Orienteering Performance Newsletter

The Performance Programme staff are now producing a 'Performance Newsletter'. This is replacing the previous Monthly Bulletin and will keep you up to date with what is happening in the Performance Programme as well as giving you the opportunity to have your questions answered in the new 'Questions and Answers' section.

The Performance Newsletter will be published every two months with the next issue due in early April. Each staff member will be in charge of providing updates on their area of work and the Newsletter will also include contacts, important dates and a section on Performance Orienteering tips which will look at an important aspect of successful orienteering in each issue. Any feedback on the Newsletter is welcomed. Look out for the latest edition of the newsletter on the British Orienteering website.

### Club Talent Squads

The Long Term Orienteer Development (LTOD) approach is about encouraging all orienteers, whatever their talents or motivation, to achieve their full potential. This can only be achieved if the most appropriate and effective environments can be created in British Orienteering's 'Pathway to Performance'. If your orienteering club can identify approximately 10 – 15 athletes (of all ages) who may benefit from the development of a 'Club Talent Squad' section within the club, then British Orienteering are offering your club the opportunity to become a member of the 'Increasing Club Talent Squads' Project. Any enquiries should be directed to the National Talent Manager, Sarah Hague ([SHague@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:SHague@britishorienteering.org.uk))

## Events

### Event Levels

Hopefully things are beginning to settle down with the four new levels for orienteering events. Club and association fixtures secretaries have worked hard to try to adjust things to reflect the new levels. There has been a little positive feedback to the National Office but, probably more significantly, little negative feedback!

For the definitive guide to the four levels, you need to refer to Guideline A (Overview of Event Structure), which can be found on the BO website [http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/images/uploaded/downloads/events\\_guideline\\_a.pdf](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/images/uploaded/downloads/events_guideline_a.pdf) all of your event officials need to read this.

The guideline specifies minimum quality standards which are expected at each level. It is important that your club communicates these standards to all event officials involved in staging events on behalf of the club. It is particularly worth noting some Level B events are failing to meet the minimum standards currently and this could reflect on whether or not your club is supported in staging Level B events in the future.

### Update on Event Safety workshops

January 2011 saw the start of the regional based 'start up' workshops for Event Safety training. Over 150 Event Officials have already attended the workshops and more are planned for the next few months. The aim is to eventually have 1 trained tutor per club or cluster of clubs who will be able to deliver an event safety workshop to a local audience of organisers, controllers and planners. The workshop can be delivered over an evening (couple of evenings) or a 3 hour slot at a weekend.

Three people have been tasked with running 'start up' workshops in all the regions. These have already been completed in Scotland, Northern Ireland and South Central. Others are booked or in the process or being organised.

These are called 'Start up' workshops. At these workshops, as well as organisers, controllers and planners, there should be a number of potential 'roll out' tutors who are willing to run locally based workshops for their club or cluster of clubs.

'Roll out' tutors are being offered travel expenses to attend the 'start up' training however there is no further funding for local workshops. They will also be asked to complete a form to register as tutors and when they inform Helen Errington of the date they are putting on their first workshop, they will receive a pack of the resources and certificates. Roll out tutors need to have some teaching, training or CTS (Certificate in Tutoring in Sport) qualifications or experience and also have experience of organising or controlling events. The ideal would be to have 1 tutor per club to be able to run an Event Safety workshop on an annual basis.

The workshops are aimed at level B and C organisers. Also there is now a requirement for controllers who wish to upgrade to have attended an event safety workshop. Training for level D organisers will take the form of online risk assessment training with local club based mentoring.

## **Competition Review**

As you will be aware this review has been on-going for over 18 months with a number of consultations along the way. The Board have considered the recommendations and requested some additional clarity be added to the report. This work was scheduled for completion by the end of February but, unfortunately, this has been delayed. Hopefully the recommendations will be circulated over the next few weeks and this circulation will certainly include clubs and associations. Your views on the recommendations will be sought before the Board make a final decision.

It is not anticipated that there will be an immediate move to implement all the recommendations, rather that there will be a steady evolution towards the recommendations as opportunities arise. For example the UK Masters Cup has already commenced and appears to be receiving a positive response from members. If the recommendations are adopted this competition could form the basis of on which some of the recommendations are developed over the next few years.