

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**  
**MINUTES**



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**MINUTES**  
**of the TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**of BRITISH ORIENTEERING**

**held at NORTH DEVON LEISURE CENTRE, SEVEN BRETHERN BANK,**  
**BARNSTAPLE, DEVON, EX31 2AP**

**at 5:00pm on Saturday 3<sup>RD</sup> April 2010**

**PRESENT:**

Neil Cameron	Chairman
Lyn West	Vice-Chairman
Jenny Peel	Treasurer
Mike Hamilton	Chief Executive and Company Secretary

Nick Barrable (SYO), Helen Baxter (LVO), Olivia Baxter (LVO), Philip Baxter (LVO), Sue Birkinshaw (MDOC), David Black (CLYDE), Lyn Blackie (TVOC), Arthur Boyt (KERNO), Mike Bray (SN), Julie Brook (MDOC), Margaret Buckley (LOC), Steve Buckley (LOC), Heather Burrows (LOC), Helena Burrows (ERYRI), Neil Cameron (NGOC), Pat Cameron (NGOC), Gareth Candy (SYO), Edward Catmur (SLOW), Dave Chapman (SN), Evgueni Chepelin (GRAMP), Jane Christopher (WCH), Peter Christopher (WCH), Scott Collier (KERNO), Ian Couch (EPOC), Julie Couch (EPOC), Edward Cox (SO), Colin Dickson (BAOC), Elisabeth Dickson (BAOC), Anne Donnell (BOK), Stewart Durham (AYROC), Tom Edelsten (CHIG), Barry Elkington (OD), John Embrey (HOC), Helen Errington (HH), Russ Fauset (HOC), Mike Forrest (BOK), Paul Frost (ECKO), Sarah-Jane Gaffney (SLOW), Martin Goddard (SARUM), Liz Godfree (DVO), Mike Godfree (DVO), Duncan Grassie (GRAMP), Simon Greenwood (SAX), John Grenfell (BOK), Pat Grenfell (BOK), Philip Gristwood (MV), Diana Hailey (OD), Roger Hailey (OD), Ian Hamilton (GRAMP), Mike Hamilton (OD), Marnoch Hamilton-Jones (GRAMP), Denise Harper (BKO), Eric Harper (BKO), Jim Harrison (EBOR), Chris Heppenstall (LOC), Colin Hicks (SOC), Judith Holt (LEI), Barry Houghton (HOC), John Hurley (DVO), Frank Ince (SWOC), Roger Jackson (WCOC), Ruth Johnson (DVO), Alan Kempton (BOK), Susan Lambe (LVO), Graham Lloyd (EPOC), Rebecca Lloyd (EPOC), Caroline Louth (WAOC), Adrian Lovell (BADO), Paul Lowe (SUFFOC), Ranald Macdonald (DVO), Viv Macdonald (DVO), Margaret Mackenzie (WCOC), John Marriott (LEI), Laura Martin (NOC), Barry McGowan (HOC), Donald Moir (LEI), Shirley Moir (LEI), Ed Nicholas (CLYDE), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), David Peel (SYO), Jenny Peel (SYO), Heather Phipps (AIRE), Jerry Purkis (SAX), Rowan Purkis (SAX), Niall Reynolds (SBOC), Janet Richardson (OD), Martin Ricketts (TVOC), Andy Robinson (SLOW), Christine Robinson (SLOW),

Stephen Round (SELOC), Geoff Sara (HOC), Mark Saunders (BOK), Kay Sayer (WSX), Roger Scrutton (ESOC), Ann Smith (LOC), Frank Smith (OD), Roger Smith (LOC), Bridget Stein (SBOC), Roger Stein (SBOC), Doug Stimson (NWO), Ken Stimson (NWO), Nina Stimson (NWO), Paul Taylor (CLOK), Wendy Taylor (CLOK), Angela Towler (LOC), Claire Towler (AIRE), Richard Towler (LOC), Lynne Walker (ECKO), Lesley Ward (SYO), Martin Ward (SYO), Brian Watkins (TVOC), Ian Webb (TVOC), Colin West (SOS), Lyn West (SOS), Dorothy Woodall (NOC), John Woodall (NOC), Alan Yeadon (SARUM), Liz Yeadon (SARUM)

Making a total of 118 members

Members were welcomed to the 29<sup>th</sup> AGM of British Orienteering by Neil Cameron, Chairman of British Orienteering. Members of the front table were introduced as Neil Cameron (NGOC), Chairman; Mike Hamilton (OD), Chief Executive; Jenny Peel (SYO), Treasurer; Lyn West (SOS), Vice Chairman.

Neil Cameron (NC) wished, on behalf of the meeting and British Orienteering, to extend condolences to Katy Stubbs (BKO) after the death of her husband, Dave Stubbs at the previous day's sprint event.

The meeting held a minute's silence in honour of Dave Stubbs.

NC thanked the JK organising committee led by Erik Peckett (DEVON). NC thanked Laura Martin and staff at the National Office for their work in preparing for the AGM.

The meeting approved the appointment of Peter Christopher (WCH) as scrutineer of the voting procedure.

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from the following:

- Beryl Blackhall
- Roger Hargreaves
- Tim Pribul
- Christine Roberts
- Peter Roberts
- Sally Morris
- John Morris
- David May
- Donald Grassie
- Oonagh Grassie
- Dick Keighley

NC noted that with so many proposals, members of the meeting would need to respect each other's opinions when commenting, and discussions would need to be concise.

## **2. Minutes of the Twenty Eighth Annual General Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2009.**

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

Proposed: Philip Baxter (LVO)

Seconded: Pat Cameron (NGOC)

## **3. Chairman's Report**

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

## **4. Treasurer's Report**

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

## **5. Chief Executive's Report**

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

## **6. Proposals**

### **Proposal 1: Adoption of Accounts**

Proposed: Jenny Peel (SYO)

Seconded: Neil Cameron (NGOC)

Simon Greenwood (SAX) queried the increase in auditor fees. JP explained this was due to additional work undertaken on behalf of British Orienteering by the auditors.

Members of the meeting queried the auditors' report stating there had been a deficit when in fact there had been a surplus. JP explained that she would clarify the issues raised.

Members of the meeting queried the turnover and income stated in the Annual report compared with the Annual Accounts. JP responded to the query.

There being no further questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the adoption of the 2009 accounts:

The proposed adoption of accounts was accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 494

Against 5

Abstentions 67

99%

1%

## **Proposal 2: Appointment of Auditors**

Proposed: David May (SLOW)

Seconded: Lyn West (SOS)

There being no questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the appointment of Grant Thornton Ltd as the auditors:

The proposed appointment of Grant Thornton Ltd as auditors was accepted by a show of hands.

## **Proposal 3: British Orienteering Membership Fees 2011**

That British Orienteering Membership Fees for 2011 and subsequent years until amended shall be as follows (the figures for 2010 are in brackets):

National membership		
Family Membership:	£30.00	(£29.00)
Senior Membership:	£21.50	(£20.75)
Junior & Student Membership:	£4.65	(£4.50)
Local membership		
Family Membership:	£14.00	(£13.50)
Senior Membership:	£8.00	(£7.75)
Junior & Student Membership:	(Nil)	(Nil)
Associate:	£21.50	(£20.75)
Club:	£45.00	(£43.00)

Proposed: Jenny Peel (SYO)

Seconded: Philip Baxter (LVO)

Scott Collier (KERNO) asked if the panel felt there was any place for a lower affiliation fee for university clubs. JP indicated the Board could consider the suggestion in future years.

There being no further questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the membership fees for 2011

The proposed membership fees were accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 506	Against 30	Abstentions 35
94.4%	5.6%	

## **Proposal 4: Club Affiliation to British Orienteering – Mandatory Requirements**

That clubs affiliating to British Orienteering meet the following mandatory requirements:

The British Orienteering Affiliation Fee for Clubs fixed annually at an AGM, will become due on 1 September in the preceding calendar year.

- 1) An affiliated club shall be administered by a Committee that consists of a minimum of 3 people.
- 2) Each club must have at least 3 Officers, typically Chair, Secretary, Treasurer who may form the minimum number required as the club committee.
- 3) Each Club must have a constitution, a copy of which will also form a part of the Annual Return.
- 4) Each Club has responsibility for the maintenance of correct financial records. These shall be audited or examined annually, by a person that is independent of the committee and not related to a committee member. These accounts must be presented annually at a Club AGM and approved by club members.
- 5) Each club will make an Annual Return to the British Orienteering National Office; the Annual Return will include:
  - a. The annual affiliation fee payable to British Orienteering
  - b. The contact details of the Officers
  - c. The annual membership fees for the club
  - d. The club constitution or equivalent \*
  - e. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting \*

\* If available on the club website a link to them will suffice

The Annual Club Return shall be made to the British Orienteering National Office by 1 September.

Proposed: Philip Baxter (LVO)

Seconded: Roger Hargreaves (KERNO)

Heather Phipps (AIRE) queried what a constitution would comprise of. It was explained that a simple club constitution pro-forma was available as part of the 'Clubmark' accreditation and that this could be used, but any set of written rules for governing the club would suffice.

There being no further questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the Club Affiliation mandatory requirements.

The proposed mandatory requirements were accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 454	Against 58	Abstentions 65
88.7%	11.3%	

## **Proposal 5: Junior only events**

That 'junior only' events from 1 January 2011 should be included within the levy system and no longer be exempt from levy.

Proposed: Jenny Peel (SYO)

Seconded: Roger Hargreaves (KERNO)

NC noted that proposals 5, 6 and 7 were linked and members of the meeting should consider their implications on each other when commenting and voting.

JP explained that the Board supported the participation of juniors in orienteering and is of the opinion that the most effective method of doing this is to introduce a ruling that 3 juniors should be the equivalent of 1 senior for levy purposes. This will benefit juniors across all events and be more effective than the current junior only event exemption.

Roger Jackson (WCOC) asked the meeting to vote to ensure that junior only events continued to be exempt from levy. Roger went on to describe the situation with junior events in WCOC and in particular a set of events that in 2009 would have paid £2,000 levy had it not been for levy exemption. According to this, and the 3:1 ratio proposal, the same event will incur £333 levy in 2011. Colin Hicks (SOC) agreed with above rationale.

Colin West (SOS) explained he was very supportive of junior participation and welcomed the 3:1 senior to junior ratio.

Caroline Louth (WAOC) suggested juniors, as well as seniors, should be contributing to British Orienteering levy through their participation at events.

Simon Greenwood (SAX) suggested proposal 6 should have been considered and voted on before proposal 5. NC, as Chairman, explained that the Board had taken a great deal of time discussing the arguments for and against changing the order of proposals. After lengthy discussions, they had concluded that all proposals were interlinked but the current order represented the best solution.

Members of the meeting suggested that some clubs had lost significant sums through increases in levy payments.

Marnoch Hamilton-Jones (GRAMP) asked whether additional funding raised would be invested back into junior development.

NC responded by explaining that funds were already very focused and there had been no attempt in the past to target this funding directly to juniors.

Heather Phipps (AIRE) questioned why clubs were not meeting their obligations when it came to levy and suggested it be policed more strongly.

Colin Hicks (SOC) supported this and asked why clubs were not being policed more strongly to ensure they acted fairly when registering events and paying levy.

MH explained that this could not be done in an ongoing way without disproportionate resource effort. Some recent audits had been undertaken by staff, and where anomalies were found there were being followed up with clubs.

There being no further questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the inclusion of junior-only events in the levy system.

The proposed inclusion was accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 325	Against 184	Abstentions 72
63.9%	36.1%	

**Proposal 6: Levy apportioned to juniors in comparison to seniors**

That British Orienteering event levies for juniors be calculated on a '3 juniors count as the equivalent of 1 senior' for levy purposes i.e. the levy payable is calculated from those entering an event as the sum of the number of juniors divided by 3 (rounded down) plus the number of seniors.

Proposed: Jenny Peel (SYO)

Seconded: John Woodall (NOC)

NC explained that in this proposal 3 juniors would count as 1 senior with regards to levy calculations.

Martin Goddard (SARUM) noted that reducing seniors to junior to a 3:1 ratio would impact on the cost of senior levy rate.

Martin Ward (SYO) reminded members that levy fees are paid by clubs, but that clubs can set junior event entry fees at zero if they choose. Martin continued to explain that the Board were in favour of junior development and strongly ask that members vote for 3:1 ratio.

There being no further questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the event levies for juniors be calculated on a '3 juniors count as the equivalent of 1 senior' for levy purposes.

The proposed calculation was accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 461	Against 60	Abstentions 63
88.5%	11.5%	

**Proposal 7: Levy charges from 2011**

That event levy charges for 2011 are increased, as shown below, and remain at that level until amended.

As the outcome for Proposal 6 was in favour of a 3:1 ratio of juniors to seniors with regards to levy, members were voting on the following figures.

**Outcome A** (proposal 6 adopted): 3 juniors are the equivalent of 1 senior for levy purposes:

Participation	65	Lower Participation level
	210	Higher Participation level
Levies	£2.15 (£1.60)	Lower Levy - for all participants over the Lower Participation level and up to and including the Higher Participation level.
	£3.55 (£2.60)	Higher Levy - for all participants over the Higher Participation level

If this proposal is not adopted, the status quo for 3 juniors being the equivalent of 1 senior for levy purposes will result in the use of a Lower Levy at £1.95 and a Higher Levy at £3.00 to maintain an equivalent total levy income.

Outcome B was not applicable due to the decision, taken by vote, of proposal 6.

Members of the meeting queried the 3.4% increase in levy charges and the figures produced in the AGM booklet.

Martin Ward (SYO) explained the assumptions on which the increase was based. For example the amount of income required was £120K and with the changes to the ratio of juniors to seniors, previously voted on, the rise in levy charge was necessary

Caroline Louth (WAOC) suggested she didn't understand how the significant rise in levy amounts charges would only result in a small increase in income.

Some members of the meeting commented that they did not understand the figures produced. Martin Ward (SYO) and NC explained the rationale around the figures and the likely small increases in income they would produce. Included in that rationale is a trend towards there being more smaller local events that pay no levy, and less participants in the bigger National events that pay a relatively high levy.

The meeting agreed to vote on the levy charges for 2011.

The proposed levy charges were accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 336	Against 168	Abstentions 79
66.7%	33.3%	

### **Proposal 8: Differential event entry fees for British Orienteering members**

There being no questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the differential event entry fees for British Orienteering members

The proposed differential event entry fees were accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 505	Against 37	Abstentions 39
93.2%	6.8%	

**Proposal 9: The differential entry fee is publicised as an extra charge for non-members**

The differential fee be publicised by showing as an entry fee for British Orienteering members with the extra charge for non-members being indicated eg “£6 to qualifying members of British Orienteering (£8 to others)”.

Proposed: Lyn West (SOS)

Seconded: John Woodall (NOC)

There being no questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the differential event entry fees being publicised as an extra charge for non-members.

The proposed publicity of event entry fees was accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 489	Against 47	Abstentions 47
91.2%	8.8%	

**Proposal 10: The current 3 tier event structure be amended to a 4 tier event structure**

That the current BOF Event Structure be amended, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011, from a 3 tier structure to a 4 tier structure

Dick Towler (LOC), the person submitting this proposal, introduced the rationale behind it.

Philip Baxter (LVO) explained that he was speaking as a member when he said that there has been no consultation on what would prove to be significant changes to British Orienteering events. Philip went onto urge people to wait until the competitions review had been completed before making such significant changes.

Lyn Blackie (TVOC) suggested she had found the 3 tier system very confusing and it was difficult to find controllers for events.

Jim Harrison (EBOR) said the 3 tier system was shambolic as a competitor. Jim suggested that the registration of events was adhoc and it was difficult to differentiate between different ‘levels’ of local event.

Roger Jackson (WCOC) suggested a 4 tier system had always existed and very little had changed within the 3 tier system

Colin Hicks (SOC) said that historically regional events had a large entry. Now there are more of them, entry levels have reduced and this is a significant problem for

organisers.

Ian Webb (OUOC) noted the importance of clubs marketing their events successfully and considering a number of factors such as quality, terrain, likely numbers etc, before deciding how to market their events.

Duncan Grassie (GRAMP) asked how this proposed change would impact on people's individual experience of orienteering.

Roger Smith (LOC) suggested that the foundations of an event structure should be right and the tiered system should be corrected sooner rather than later.

Barry Houghton (HOC) was disappointed the Board had used so much space in the AGM booklet with information on proposal 10

Lyn West (SOS) explained that the number of levels of event would not change some of the problems that currently exist and went on to urge members to vote against the proposal.

Dick Towler (LOC) concluded by saying that clubs should have the freedom to put on events at the level they choose.

The meeting agreed to vote on the proposed changes to the event structure

The proposed changes were accepted by a vote.

Voting (by ballot and including proxies):

For 336	Against 227	Abstentions 24
59.7%	40.3%	

## **7. Elections**

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

President: Sir Christian Bonington, CBE

Vice President: John Disley, CBE

NC, as Chairman and LW as Vice Chairman, declared conflicts of interest as they were both standing for election at this year's AGM. The Board of Directors had previously decided to propose that this section of the AGM would be chaired by the longest serving director which was currently Ed Nicholas (EN) and the meeting agreed to this.

EN briefly introduced the director elections and asked the four nominated members to stand up in order to be recognised. Neil Cameron (NGOC), Scott Collier (KERNO), Mike Forrest (BOK) and Lyn West (SOS) stood as nominees.

There being no questions, the meeting agreed to vote on the director nominees.

The following overall points by votes cast were:

Neil Cameron	1567
Scott Collier	956
Mike Forrest	1210
Lyn West	1135

With that, Neil Cameron, Mike Forrest and Lyn West were elected.

NC returned to the role of Chairman of meeting.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Members asked about the plan for British Orienteering to develop an online entry system. Members asked why British Orienteering were planning to spend money on this.

MH responded by suggesting the plan was currently under review.

## **9. British Orienteering Awards Ceremony**

Silva Award for Services to Orienteering.

This was awarded to Beryl Blackhall (SELOC) who was unable to be present at the meeting.

Peter Palmer Coach of the Year

This was awarded to Catherine Hughes (NOC) who was not present at the meeting

Club of the Year

This was awarded to Grampian Orienteers

Equal 2<sup>nd</sup> Place for Club of the Year was awarded to:

Leicestershire Orienteering Club  
Swansea Bay Orienteering Club

University Club of the Year

This was awarded to Oxford University Orienteering Club

2<sup>nd</sup> Place for University Club of the Year was awarded to:

Edinburgh University Orienteering Club  
Sheffield University Orienteering Club

Clubmark

North Wiltshire Orienteers received their Clubmark accreditation

### **Mapping Awards**

Silva Trophy for Professional Cartography

This was awarded to Stirling Surveys who were not present at the meeting.

Highly commended Barry Budden, Loch Ordie.

Best City/Sprint Map

This was awarded to David Olivant (NOC) for his map Nottingham University

Highly commended Sprint Maps: Newcastle, Northallerton, Solihull,  
Bournemouth University of Kent.

Bonington Trophy for services to mapping

This was awarded to Paul Taylor (CLOK)

NC thanked staff for organising the AGM and thanked the tellers, other helpers and Peter Christopher (WCH) as scrutineer for helping the meeting run smoothly.

NC wished to thank retiring director Roger Hargreaves (KERNO) for his work and commitment as part of Council, Management Committee and the Board of Directors and for his efforts in assisting with the organisation of JK 2010.

NC thanked members for their attendance and contribution and closed the meeting at 7.40pm.