

1. Award presented by CPSU
2. Tim Pugh to be granted Honorary Life Membership
3. EGM to be held on 24th September in conjunction with Council
4. BOF to “Back the London Bid 2012”

A full copy of the minutes is available on the web site at

www.britishorienteering.org.uk

The next meeting of Council will be on **Saturday, 24th September 2005**.
Agenda items and papers must reach BOF Office by **Wednesday, 24th August 2005**

Meeting of the Council of the British Orienteering Federation
held at the Great Barr Hotel, Birmingham on Saturday 14th May 2005

Present:

Officers

Bob Roach Chairman
Ranald Macdonald Vice Chairman
 Vice Chairman
Malcolm Duncan Treasurer

Association Representatives

Paul Lowe EAOA
Ray Barnes EMOA
David Brown BSOA
 NEOA
 NIOA
Stephen Richards NWOA
Ken Daly SOA
Allan Farrington SCOA
Simon Greenwood SEOA
Roger Hargreaves SWOA
 WOA
Russ Fauset WMOA
Heather Sears YHOA

Councillors

Becky Carlyle
Chris James
John Morris
Lyn West

In Attendance

Robin Field Chief Executive
John Dalton Executive Officer

05/14 Apologies and Courtesies.

There were no apologies

05/15 Minutes of Meeting on 15/01/05

The minutes of the meeting on 15/01/05 were accepted as a correct record.

05/16 Actions.

Actions deleted: 40, 42, 43, 44

Actions continuing: none

05/17 Matters Arising, not elsewhere on the Agenda.

Simon Greenwood asked for dates of future to be agreed

John Morris asked if the AGM papers in future could show the split of grants between different sources as well as destinations (i.e. UKS & Sport England)

Action JD

05/18 Notification of Additional Items of Business.

Robin Field reported that a proposal to change Article 21(a) would be raised under agenda item 05/23(e)

05/19 Presentation by NSPCC/CPSU

Gill Joyce attended the meeting to present BOF with an award for achieving the Sport England preliminary award for Standards for Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport. After presenting the award to the Chairman, she expressed considerable appreciation for the work done by Alex Ross and Hilary Palmer in achieving this standard which is becoming a requirement if sports want to continue to receive grant funding. She outlined what is involved in meeting the Intermediate level standard and also how these standards are related to PESSCL funding and Clubmark in what she described as 'joined up government'. The different arrangements for Scotland were noted; when SOA is required to meet similar standards, as is likely, they will be able to benefit from the work already done.

05/20 The Role of Councillors

The Councillors had distributed a paper titled "BOF Councillors' Report to Council – May 05" prior to the meeting. The précis of the paper was:-

'The Councillors are concerned that the Chairman and Officers are not taking the action they should to respond to the membership's proper and serious concerns about strategic matters. The Councillors suggest that restoring the strategic content of Council meetings would be a useful step in the right direction'.

On behalf of the Councillors Chris James said the areas of concern included the lack of follow up to the points raised at the AGM by the 2004 Councillors and the need for better and more timely communications. These points have been raised by members with all four Councillors.

The Chairman expressed surprise at the statement in the paper in relation to the concerns expressed at the AGM that, 'We have seen no evidence that the Chairman and his fellow Officers have taken the criticisms seriously'. He said that shortly after the meeting he asked Chris James to look into the concerns in detail, with a particular focus on the way ahead. He had subsequently met the Councillors when concerns were discussed with, in his view, an apparently positive outcome. He added that in making the statement at the AGM without having sought to raise their concerns with him in the first instance, the Councillors had acted contrary to all recognised guidance about how to handle such matters.

Whilst accepting there are issues that need addressing the Chairman said that the Officers do not accept that the criticisms are well founded. In addition, the Officers didn't agree with the role that Councillors had suggested for themselves; their role is described in the document 'Governing Orienteering' and any change to this needs to be determined by Council.

The Officers expressed considerable concern about offensive personal comments that have been made to them and about issues being raised at considerable length in a way that did not appear to recognise the implications for the time of the recipient.

There was a robust discussion over the points in the Councillors report and their role.

The meeting adjourned for 10 minutes and then resumed..

After further discussion David Brown called for a vote of confidence in the Officers. This was passed by 16 votes to 0, with 1 abstention. Council also agreed that

- Communications should be neither offensive nor make inappropriate demands on time, as determined by the recipient; recipients of such communications should inform the sender of their concern.
- Papers for consideration at Council should be distributed in advance; updates should be provided in this way rather than being given verbally at the meetings

05/21 Committee Reports.

The chairman's report had been distributed in advance of the meeting.

In response to a question about access officer funding from Ken Daly, Robin Field referred him to the Staffing Document which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

John Morris said that several changes needed to be made to the Constitution, could they be circulated before any EGM. Malcolm Duncan said that we were only looking to change Article 21(a) at present.

05/22 Updates:

a) Child Protection Report

No issues to report

b) Anti-Doping Report

Robin Field reported that he had not made any progress on the new procedures.

The "athletes' whereabouts" are now being handled on the UKS site, the top six athletes have to report to UKS & IOF. IOF will be given access to their information on the UKS site.

c) Levies Due

None

d) IOF Events / World Cup 2005

Robin Field reported that there had been many plaudits received about the organisation and the terrain, courses & maps at the World Cup. The finances were looking good but are not yet finalised.

The meeting wished to convey its congratulations to Tim Pugh, and also to Roger Hargreaves & Peter Guillaume for BOC & JK respectively.

A proposal to grant Honorary Life Membership of BOF to Tim Pugh for his work on WOC 1999 and World Cup 2005 was approved unanimously.

e) Sports Councils Funding

Robin Field reported that we now have 4 years guaranteed funding from Sport England. Currently UKSport funding is not guaranteed beyond April 2006. This will be discussed at a meeting in July, but we do not expect any increase to match inflation, partly because we will be on a separate funding stream from Olympic sports.

In answer to a question from John Morris, Robin Field said that we now received a single grant from UKSport, which we had discretion to use as we saw fit, in order to meet the strategic plan objectives; we received £45k from Sport England which was ring-fenced for PESSCL, and £375k which was to meet the strategic plan. Robin also said that we need to maintain the international programme for UKSport.

In answer to a question from Chris James about the affect of membership numbers, Robin Field said that the grant is very large as a proportion of total income, and that the grant is issued against a series of key performance indicators (KPIs), which includes club numbers. KPIs will form part of the 2005/6 operational plan, so it will be clearer what Sport England consider important. We have already told Sport England that we are at "saturation level" with volunteers, and could not increase these figures.

f) WOC 76 Funds

Bob Roach said that at the World Cup he had the opportunity to speak about this to John Disley, who had promised to give it some thought.

g) Website

John Dalton reported that the major issues were the remaining external websites which held BOF data, primarily Fixtures (Pat Martin), Map Group (James Head) and Ranking etc. (Manchester University site). We expect to lose access to the Manchester University site by the end of this year. Robin Field said that we have been holding discussions with a number of possible suppliers about on-line management systems.

h) Premises

Talks with the YHA are on-going. John Dalton had met with them earlier this month, but they had proposed a smaller area for an higher cost than expected. Robin Field and John Dalton had another meeting with YHA planned for Monday 16th May.

i) Staffing

Robin Field reported that Caroline Povey had joined as Marketing Manager for 3 days/week. John Dalton is leaving on 1st September.

The funding released by the part time nature of the Marketing Manager post can be used for other purposes. Council considered a paper titled 'Staffing' about possible uses that were identified at the last Management Meeting; these included access (as previously considered by Council), volunteering, communication and event management. It was recognised that one or more

of these would be of limited duration, after which another task could be addressed.

Simon Greenwood was concerned that if we employed an Event Manager then clubs/associations would stop looking for volunteers.

John Morris and Ken Daly described how the 6-days company and the professional officer in Scotland worked

Lyn West was concerned at how the communications job would be seen by the average orienteer.

Chris James suggested that we should be able to deal with the communications issues ourselves.

Russ Fauset said he felt we must not let the environment officer job disappear, it was necessary. Ranald Macdonald said a lot of this work is already done by Alex Ross.

There was support for giving priority to reviewing communications. Robin Field said he knew of a paper produced for British Gliding which addressed similar issues, and felt it would probably take 6 months to a year at 2 days/week to produce a report for BOF. His recommendation was that we should use 2 days/week for this as quickly as possible. Whilst that was happening we should ask Alex Ross to look at his roles and responsibilities, as the other three jobs described in the appendix all fell under the area of Operations, to consider whether an individual working for 2 days/week could cover all three areas.

It was agreed that Robin Field should establish a cost and timescale for the communications report, and circulate this by email on the understanding that members of Council were likely to confirm their support to progress this matter.

Action RF

05/23 Proposals for Council to adopt or approve

a) Decision to hold an EGM in the autumn

Ranald Macdonald summarised the membership workshop which had been held on 7th May. He said there had not been a consensus at the end of the day, but it had been necessary to have something to put to this meeting. There were therefore two exclusive proposals, one to maintain the status quo, the other a variant of "proposal 3" which had been published on the web site. He said that there are some strong views against this proposal, which were expressed in a separate paper.

In reply to a comment from Heather Sears it was accepted that the paragraphs in the report of the workshop needed re-ordering to be correct, and that a decision to put forward a proposal was not a decision of the workshop.

Following a discussion about the proposals in the report it was agreed that

there would be an EGM combined with a conference on 24th September in order to:

- vote on an amendment of Article 21(a) (*see below*)
- vote on Proposal 2 of the report to raise the membership fees
- discuss membership and funding
- discuss communications within BOF

There would be a short Council meeting at the venue, and other surrounding events. Event Operations to look at the agenda for the events.

Action RM

b) covered in above

c) covered in above

d) Backing the London Bid 2012

It was agreed that BOF would back the bid

Action RF

e) Proposal to change Article 21(a).

The proposal that the following change to Article 21(a) should be recommended to an EGM was approved. "All business transacted at General Meetings shall be deemed ordinary with the exception of changes to the Memorandum & Articles of Association which shall be deemed special".

Action RF

05/24 Discussion Items

Dealt with under 05/20

05/25 Chairman's Business

Four new Grade 1 Controllers have been appointed:

Chris Burden	AIRE
Ray Collins	WCH
George Esson	GRAMP
Rob Hickling	GRAMP

05/26 Treasurer's Business

a) April Figures

Malcolm Duncan said the figures to date are satisfactory. The revised budget as presented to the AGM is still current.

05/27 Dates of Future Meetings

2005		2006	
EGM & Council	24/09/05	Council	21/01/06
Council	05/11/05	AGM	15/04/06

05/28 Any Other Business

Bob Roach commented that the World Cup had been a good opportunity to meet officials from sports administration.

The meeting was told that Lynden Hartmann had a letter printed in the Daily Mail extolling the virtues of orienteering.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 17:05

ACTIONS

arising or continuing from the Council meeting of
May 14th 2005

45	05/17	Split of grants to be shown by source & destination in future	JD
46	05/22(d)	Tim Pugh to be given Hon Life Membership	JD
47	05/22(i)	Establish cost & timescale of proposed Communications review	RF
48	05/23(a)	Establish agenda for other events surrounding EGM	RM
49	05/23(d)	Back the London Bid 2012	RF
50	05/23(e)	Proposal to change Article 21(a) to be put to EGM	RF