

1. A subsidiary company to run WC 2005 has been set up. Contracts have been signed with UK Sport and IOF. (04/07a)
2. Funding from the Sports Councils has been agreed till March 2005. Funding has been extended to cover appointment of Regional Development Officers. (04/07c)
3. Purchase of a property in the Lake District to act as a training centre is being discussed. (04/07g)
4. Council endorses the adoption of a new structure to run the sport. (04/08)
5. AGM 2004 to take place at JK 2004 in Ulverston Victoria High School. (04/09)
6. Council approves, in principle, Strategic Plan 2004 to 2008. (04/10)
7. A new principle for the British Orienteering Championships adopted. BEOC, BSOC and BJOC will be held together unless circumstances dictate otherwise. (04/11)
8. Surplus of nearly £25,000 achieved in 2003.

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, May 8th 2004**.
Agenda items and papers must reach BOF Office by
Wednesday, April 22nd 2004

04/04 Matters Arising, not elsewhere on the Agenda.

No matters arising.

04/05 Notification of Matters Arising from Committee Minutes.

No matters arising

04/06 Notification of Additional Items of Business.

An item on Chris Brasher and one on Decision Making were raised for discussion under AOB.

04/07 Updates:

a) IOF Events / World Cup 2005

A subsidiary company is being set up in order to protect the Federation and should be fully operational by the end of January. A grant from UK Sport of £100,000 to £125,000 has been agreed, the amount depending on whether the event attracts European or Commonwealth Championship status. Contracts with both UK Sport and the IOF have been signed. There are some environmental objections regarding access but these are being resolved.

b) Workshops, AGM and EGM

All three events took place successfully. A report from the Workshops and Minutes from the AGM and EGM have been published on the website and distributed to Clubs and Associations. Council thanked Alex Ross for the arrangements and the presenters (Chris James, Robin Field, Doug Kennedy, Peter Guillaume and Pat Martin) for their efforts.

On behalf of Chris James, the Chairman expressed some concerns regarding the lack of achievement of generally agreed good practice. The speedy and timely production of papers, minutes and publications was used as an example of this lack. It was understood that the efforts of staff, volunteers and officers are limited but that attempts should be made to find resources to accomplish the targets set at the workshops.

c) Sports Councils Funding

Funding has been agreed till March 2005 although there has been no increase for inflation. It appears that the application for extra money to fund the Regional Development Officers has been agreed amounting to approximately £40,000 for two years from April. There is the possibility of co-ordinated funding from 2005.

d) SOA / BOF Meeting

A large effort was expended by the SOA in an effort to host JWOC but the loss of expected funding resulted in no application to the IOF being made.

Sport Scotland has withdrawn current junior funding and this could involve increased expenditure by BOF to maintain junior programmes.

Coaching Committee are to look at the development of the Club Coaching award.

e) BOF Premises

Meeting have been held with the YHA with a view to leasing land for building. A response from the YHA is awaited. There is also a possibility of renting premises as part of a coal mining area regeneration project. In the meantime a fund has been introduced to deal with the likelihood of increased rent for future National Office.

f) BOC 2004

Concerns over BOC 2004 were expressed and the various options explored. The efforts being made to reschedule BRC were noted. Robin Field referred to the lack of an adequate procedure to be followed for Major Events. It was agreed that where a rotation was expected then some Associations may need more help to take part in that rotation.

g) WOC 76 Funds

The existence of a possible property in the Lake District, capable of housing 12 individuals, to be used as a training centre under a lease from the National Trust was explained. Funding of between £60,000 and £100,000 would be required. It was anticipated that £18,000 would be available from the WOC 76 fund, £10,000 from Elite Squad Funds and £22,000 from BOF reserves with the remainder being available from Development and Regeneration grants.

There is a small problem regarding vehicular access but the property could be used as a Squad Training Venue and be available to Clubs and Individual members. A business plan is being formulated and the needs of the special planning board being investigated. Hopefully both these would be available for the next meeting of Council.

There were some reservations expressed regarding the administration of the property and its size.

h) Website

The updating of the website is being taken forward by Sophie Furness and Ray Barnes (VIP) but no date for launch, whether partial or full, has been agreed.

The Chairman, again on behalf of Chris James, referred to the importance of the website as a communication tool and that extra resources may need to be committed.

04/08 BOF Structure

The Chairman reviewed the process so far and indicated that there had been no fundamental changes since May 2003. However there had been some small alterations made which he highlighted in the paper provided before inviting discussion.

It was confirmed that the structure, should it be accepted, would be implemented in 2004 using the inbuilt flexibility. Councillors would be free to negotiate where they best fitted into the structure.

Concerns were expressed regarding possible overload on Officers and volunteers time but it was hoped that the review process would be able to deal effectively with any problems that should arise. John Woodall saw Council as being able to review at any time whilst Management Committee would maintain a watching brief.

Roger Hargreaves felt that it was necessary to ensure that the Key Performance Indicators should be an essential part of the business and not just number counting.

It was agreed that the role of Correspondent Members should be publicised to ensure the build up of a well informed network and their ability to elect to attend for specific topics of interest should be emphasised.

Russ Fauset was concerned that items might be “filtered” before reaching Council.

The proposal that “The British Orienteering Federation should adopt the structure as set out” was proposed by Jo Thornley (YHOA) and Seconded by Ranald Macdonald (Vice Chairman) was accepted by a show of hands.

FOR 15 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN 1

04/09 AGM 2004

AGM 2004 will take place on Saturday 10th April 2004 in Ulverston Victoria High School at 5:15pm. Notice will appear in the next Focus, on the website and in the JK Final Details. The provision of showers and hospitality will be investigated.

04/10 Strategic Plan 2004 – 2008

The Chief Executive apologised for the late notice of this document and although changes were still possible Council were asked to agree in principle to the proposal thus allowing an Operational Plan to be submitted at the next meeting of Management Committee. Constructive feedback has already been received from several quarters indicating that the appropriate direction has been chosen. Comments were invited with the promise that the finished plan would be submitted to Council in May for final endorsement.

There has been wide consultation and a number of changes made since the Strategic Planning Conference in an attempt to manage the complexity of the modern sport and the changes in society. Care has been taken to choose, define and set appropriate target.

There has been some concern expressed over the Regional Development Officers but the principle behind them has been accepted by funding bodies and now we have to examine ways of extending that funding that not only enables those RDO's to be employed on more days per week but helps those Clubs and Associations who do not have the funds to support such work.

Dick Towler expressed a concern that the sport may be drifting into an unpopular decision and that much more information would need to be provided to Clubs and Council before such a decision could be taken. Stephen Richards echoed the desire for suitable marketing of the idea especially as the early agreement by the funding bodies had made an early decision imperative.

Stephen Richards asked that consideration be given to increased marketing of the sport to adults even if this meant reducing the funds spent on schools development as he felt that this may not be effective in increasing the number of adults although this view was challenged. Angela Heppenstall felt that the sport, especially coaching, was strong on quality and schools but did have some way to go in helping adults.

John Woodall asked that more emphasis be placed on Access and Environment in the Strategic Plan as he felt this was one of the greatest risk to the sport

Council agreed, in principle, to the Strategic Plan by a show of hands.

FOR 13 AGAINST 2 ABSTAIN 1

Roger Hargreaves asked that a script be provided to all Association Representatives so that they could effectively argue the case within their Associations.

04/11 British Junior Orienteering Championships

There have been significant amounts of misinformation circulating round the decision to hold a British Junior Orienteering Championships where the focus of the competition was on juniors. Communication has been lacking in explaining what was intended and there have been difficulties with suitable dates and terrain. The National Office has received a small number of complaints, usually based on the misinformation. However the AGM has asked for the decision to be reviewed.

Roger Hargreaves felt that finding a suitable date was the key element. Russ Fauset explained that, as far as England was concerned, the dates to be avoided were mid May to mid June although there was some dispute over this.

It was agreed that a new principle over the British Championships should be adopted. The norm should be that BEOC, BJOC and BSOC be held as a combined event except where date or terrain dictates that it is more appropriate for one or more of them to be separate. At events where separation has occurred then courses for all will be available. This principle was accepted by a show of hands.

FOR 16 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN 0

Some felt it was now too late to change the decision for 2005 but it was agreed to postpone a final decision until May Council when the position regarding WC 2005 would be clearer and some alternative suggestions had been examined.

Action RF

04/12 Event Descriptors

The decision by Management Committee to change the titles for events was taken as a response to external and internal feedback. It was emphasised that there had been no attempt to alter the levels of the events. It was realised that this had introduced some anomalies but it was hoped that these would be harmonised in time. The concern expressed by YHOA at the last meeting was noted and it was confirmed that the decision had been taken by intent and not by default.

04/13 Chairman's Business:

a) IOF Congress

The IOF are trying to promote schemes where successful nations help to increase the take up of the sport in underdeveloped areas.

04/14 Treasurer's Business:

a) November Figures

It appears that we will produce a surplus of £24,349 (budgeted £26145) for 2003. Although Fees and Levy show a reduction of £25,000 from that budgeted there was a similar decrease in expenditure. The anomaly in the Year to Date Budget and the Annual Budget for fees is accounted for by the returns still to be made to Clubs and Associations.

b) Budget 2004

A break even budget was planned but the removal of the BOC profit as a contingency has resulted in a planned deficit of £3334.

04/15 Executives' Business:

a) Child Protection Report

The Disclosure process for BOF Coaches and Club Volunteers who have unrestricted access to young people is progressing normally.

b) Anti Doping Report

No further tests since last Management Committee meeting. It was confirmed that all athletes tested have been informed of the results of those tests.

c) Forestry Commission

It appears that Forestry Commission is being devolved. The present national FC agreement has been extended for six months while they complete that process. Separate negotiations may be necessary for each of the devolved divisions in reaching new permission agreements.

d) Ordnance Survey License

There are some problems associated with recent increases in the license fee for maps based on OS data. Possible solutions will be discussed with Map Group.

e) Meeting Venues

Alternative venues were discussed but no locations suggested.

f) Levies Due

Overdue levy payments from Clubs were raised with the relevant Association Representatives.

04/16 Committee Reports and Recommendations:

a) Management Committee (24/9/03 and 03/12/03)

The content of the minutes from both meetings were noted.

b) Planning and Development Committee (13/01/04)

Council noted the progress on simplification and endorsed the experiments taking place in Level 3 events and trophy presentation. The paper provided on the decision making process regarding the BJOC was noted earlier. The decision to award Development Grants to NIOA and EMOA were endorsed.

c) Coaching Committee (15/11/03)

The content of the minutes were noted. The item on the Ranking of 18s would be taken under AOB.

d) Competitions Committee (08/11/03 (Fixtures Group))

The content of the minutes were noted.

e) Event Standards Committee (15/11/03)

The content of the minutes and the decisions taken were noted.

f) International Executive (09/11/03)

The content of the minutes were noted.

04/17 Dates of Future Meetings:

2004		2005
Committees	6/3/04	
AGM	2/5/04	
Council	8/5/04	
Committees	19/6/04	
Council	25/9/04	
Committees	13/11/04	

04/18 Any Other Business

On behalf of the membership, Council thanked David Morgan for his service following his decision to stand down as Vice Chairman at the next AGM.

An objection raised by Coaching Committee to the ranking of M/W 18s was accepted by Council and so they will be withdrawn from the Ranking Scheme.

Action AR

A problem involving the timing out of late starters was referred to Event Standards Committee.

Action AR

ACTIONS

arising or continuing from the Council meeting of
January 17th 2004

24	03/27	Continue to investigate application for the Investors in People Award and introduction of a Quality Assurance Manual	RF
30	04/11	Clarify position regarding BJOC 2005 at WC 2005 and recommend course of action for decision by Council in May	RF
31	04/18	Liaise with Mike Cumpstey to have 18s removed from the ranking scheme.	AR
32	04/18	Ensure Event Standards consideration of problem of late starters.	AR