

Elite Competition Group

Minutes of meeting



Elite Competition Group

held on Tuesday 8th June 2010
at Gateway Hotel, Nottingham
commencing at 19.00

Present:

Chairman proposed by ECG and approved by EC and IC: John Palmer
FCC Co-ordinator: Pauline Olivant
Senior Selector: Jon Cross
Junior Selector: Liz Furness
International Programme Director: Gareth Candy
Event Manager: Dave Peel

Invited Members (non-voting): Mike Cope (Fixtures), Barry Elkington (Rules)
Mike Forrest (Chairman of Major Events Group)

Apologies:

Chairman of IC: Dave Harrison
UK Cup Website: Duncan Archer
Scott Collier (UKRL)
Representative of Coaching Committee: Nev Myers

1 The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true record

2 Actions from previous minutes:

- All British Championships are now Open events which enables them to be used as World Ranking Events
- 2011 events to be nominated as WRE's: JK sprint, JK Individual day 1, British Long Championships
- **Review of 2010 events**
 - A long discussion followed progressing through the 2010 events. The following are the main points that arose:
 - FCC numbers had dropped and were below 2005 levels
 - The maps at BEOC and JK were of an unacceptable quality for our major events
 - Promotion and advertising of events was poor. It was believed that organisers assumed that people would automatically attend if it is one of our Major Events. BOF are aware of this and will be giving advice to organisers, producing more publicity centrally and producing a publicity strategy. The committee could do more to assist with event publicity.

- The FVO weekend of events was a successful set of events because the areas were good and the races were selection races.
- The combining of the JK Trophy and M 120+ at the JK relays had been a success with 125 teams taking part. The combination of the Women's open event and 120+ had different issues because of the slower relative speed of the W 120+ competitors.
- The Harvester Relay format needs a radical boost to make it more attractive. An Urban Relay format was suggested for consideration.
- There had been few elite competitors at the area championships. It had been previously recommended that national events do not need to offer elite classes. This could also apply to the new Area Championships.
- BNC championships had gained very positive TV coverage on the Adventure Show, but publicity about the overall weekend of events to the orienteering community had been poor.

4 Elite fixtures for 2011

- BOC/BEOC 2011 had agreed to a date change. The event would be one week later to avoid a clash with the Nordic Championships. The event would be nominated as a WRE. Fixture Group were dealing with the knock on effects of this change but had not reported any significant problems.
- The BEOC/Nordics clash raised the need to avoid future clashes but it was recognised that BOF were further ahead than the IOF with event scheduling. A consideration would be to try and hold our major championships when the Scandinavian countries do (September) as it is very unlikely that internationals will be staged to clash with these competitions.
- **UK Cup 2011**
- Proposed schedule attached.
- Peter Guillaume (PG) had contacted all event organisers. Emails confirming the events had been forwarded to the Chairman.

Action:

- **John Palmer (JP)** to contact PG to confirm the status of agreement with event organisers.
- The best option for the WOC selection races are the May 20-22 weekend as there is the possibility for the events to be staged with appropriate existing events in the Lakes. **Gareth Candy** is taking this forward.
- The outstanding issue is the proposed final weekend with a UK Cup race and new UKRL event. PG had asked associations for volunteers but has not had any positive responses. It was felt that a more positive approach should be taken to ensure this new fixture took place. After a long debate about possible dates the weekend of October 8-9 was chosen. This clashes with the British School Score Championships but it was felt that this was the least bad conflict of the possible weekends. At the moment there are two regional events scheduled for that weekend: EBOR and SROC
- **Jon Cross (JC)** will contact EBOR and SROC to see if either would be willing to stage the 2011 UK Cup final or provide areas for these events if they were unwilling to organise.
- 2011 World Ranking Events: JK sprint, JK Individual day 1, British Long Championships (**Mike Forrest**)

- **FCC 2011**

- Proposed schedule attached
- There was a long discussion about the lack of a final this year and the detrimental effect on numbers taking part. At the moment without selection race status the final was considered to have little appeal. However it was felt that this was the wrong approach and events should be appealing on their own merits rather than 'forcing' people to take part by being selection races. A number of possibilities for a final were discussed with the consensus agreeing upon extending the FCC into the Autumn and including a final along side the UK Cup final.

Action:

- 2 days of the Scottish 6 days would be used for the FCC. With one being a middle race. **Mike Cope** will speak to the Scottish 6 days about including a middle distance race in the relevant junior classes on one day.
 - **Dave Peel** to confirm the insurance status for M/W18 running city races (London) and possible clash with Peter Palmer Relay.
- The **SHIs** were scheduled for October 22nd/23rd in Wales.
 - **UK Relay League 2011**
 - All OK with the addition of a 5th race at the UK Cup Final weekend (Scott Collier agreed to organise/plan if the clubs were unwilling to organise. John Cross was speaking to EBOR/SROC to see if they were able to assist with areas and organisation along with the UK Cup race)

5 **UK Cup 2012**

- It was agreed that starting to plan the 2011 series before the meeting was successful so it was agreed to start the process earlier for 2012

Action:

- **JP** to start email discussion about 2012 UK Cup schedule
- **Four Tier Event structure.**
 - A brief discussion followed which concluded that there was no concern of the outcome from this change as all UK Cup events would be level 1 or 2. All UK Cup races should be ranking events.

6 **Qualification start lists etc**

- JK middle distance start lists. This year's event had had a large entry, which had caused problems with the start window. The event extended the start window but this may not happen in future. It was agreed that in future the starts of the lower ranked competitors could be compressed to a 1 min interval to accommodate extra start slots.
- Seeding of juniors on senior courses. Agreed that juniors would remain in their own blocks.
- Should early starts be allowed for Elites? It was agreed that elites could ask for early start times but it would be monitored to see if this was diluting the structure of the start lists.

Scoring in 2011:

UK Cup: 9 from 15 + Final.

FCC: 6 from 11 or 7 from 12 + Final (to be confirmed when the programme is finalised)

- UKRL rules. These had been written by Scott Collier and would go to Rules Group, then Competitions Committee and live onto the British Orienteering website at the end of the year
- UK Cup rules. These are on the website in a simplified form but need to be updated

Action:

- **BE to liaise with Duncan Archer** to put these in an appropriate format.

7 Implementation.

- Elite Advisers. This was working as well as could be expected and would continue with the Events Manager filling the role for all Major Events, IOF adviser filling it for WRE events and ECG appointing for other events. It was suggested that 'monitoring the map printing' should be added to the role description.
- Publicity. It was felt that the UK Cup would be enhanced by being linked to or better still hosted on the BOF website. It was also important that BOF takes ownership of the site by hosting it on the BOF Server.

Action:

- **Mike Forrest** to speak to Mike Hamilton about this

- UK Cup coordinator. It was agreed that there was a need for this role over and above the work that Duncan Archer was doing with the scoring.

Action:

- **JP** to prepare a Job Description and advertise for a volunteer UK Cup Coordinator.

- UK Cup Prizes. The final event should factor in the costs of prizes into their entry fees or better still source sponsorship for them. **UK Cup Co-ordinaor**
- Seeding. There was a need to clarify who will seed all UK Cup events which are not officially done at the moment. **JC**

Action:

- JC to speak to Mark Saunders and decide between them

Next meeting: possible teleconference January 2011
Meeting June 2011 (mid-week preferred)