

Events Committee

3 November 2007



Meeting of the Events Committee held on **Saturday 3 November 2007** at the Carrs Lane Centre, Birmingham

Management Committee is asked to APPROVE:

1. The revised recommendations for the restructuring of the Competition Structure
2. The Service Level Agreement that will formalise the 'franchising' of JK/BOC to associations and clubs

Management is asked to NOTE:

3. The need for the levy system to be reviewed in order to reduce the impact of the system 'skewing' the competition structure
4. The programme of publicity to inform associations, clubs and members about the updated recommendations
5. The opportunity to nominate suitable candidates onto the Major Events Group

Events Committee

Minutes

3 November 2007



Meeting held on Saturday 3 November 2007 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham

1 Attendance, apologies and Chairman's opening remarks

Lyn West (LW)	Chairman
Barry Elkington (BE)	Chairman, Rules group
Colin Spears (CS)	Chairman, Mapping Group
John Palmer (JP)	Chairman, Elite Competitions
Michael Richardson (MR)	Major Events
Peter Guillaume (PG)	Chairman, Fixtures Group
Sue Marsden (SM)	Chairman, Junior Competitions
Mike Hamilton (MH)	Secretary

2 Declarations of Interest

No additional declarations of interest were made.

3 Minutes of Meeting of 9 June 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June were confirmed as a true record.

There were no matters arising that are not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

4 Notification of any other business

It was agreed that the following items should be dealt with under Any Other Business:

- a) JK Sprint

5 Review the action list from the previous meeting

To receive an update on the actions resulting from previous meetings

- 1. Item 3 – the meeting between MH and CS is still to take place
- 2. Item 7 – Council have revised the figure to 125 members on the advice of PG/BE

Outstanding from previous meetings:

- 3. MG: Mapping forms MR1 & MR2 to be updated and formatted – Still requiring implementation; awaiting confirmation as to the cost of changing the database
- 4. MG: Mapping forms MR1s & MR2s to be updated and formatted and the changes required to the database assessed – as above
- 5. MG: Mapping Advisors, a role definition and procedures be drafted – Can now be removed from the list

6 Competition Structure Review

There was extensive discussion on the review recommendations and the following key points made:

- Why is there a need for change?
 - Too many poor quality Regional events
 - Too few local events
 - Too few district events
 - Too few middle and sprint races
- It was agreed that the levy system 'skews' the event structure and should be changed in a way that maintains a neutral budget position whilst lessening the skew effect on the events
- It was also noted that the levy system should include incentive to clubs to return electronic versions of the result lists to the National Office for all events not only National Ranking events

Action: 1 It was agreed that MH will prepare a model of the levy system based on the principles agreed and circulate members with the options (MH, asap)

- It was agreed that the 3 level structure outlined in the recommendations addressed some of the issues noted above but there remained the issue of the Standard Events containing both National Ranking events and events not included in the National Rankings
- It was agreed that the following structure would be more effective and more acceptable to implement; (note that in the following that the words National and Regional in these event titles bear no relationship to the current National and Regional events):
 - Championship Events: including JK, BOCs and the 6 Area Champs inc North, Midlands, South, SOA, WOA, NIOA – National Fixtures Group in consultation with Major Events Group has responsibility for authorising these events and results from these events will be included in the National Rankings
 - National Ranking Events: National Fixtures Group has responsibility for authorising these events
 - Regional Events: Regional Fixtures Groups have responsibility for authorising these events
 - Club Events (more meaningful than local events): Clubs have responsibility for coordinating and delivering these events
- Championship Events will have an age class structure; the decision as to whether age classes are used at a National Ranking Event (e.g. for Regional Association Championships, multi-day events, etc.) would be made by the club staging the event and could be a mix of age class and colour coded. However competitors would be eligible for National Ranking points whichever course they ran, regardless of their eligibility within the age class competition.
- In order to make the above work the National Ranking list process needs to be updated in order that all participants taking part in these events can be awarded ranking points – this applies to various event formats sprint, middle, colour coded etc. It was agreed that BE/MH should discuss the algorithm that will enable this process to work.
- The groups that have not been heavily involved in the Review Group for instance Elite Competitions and Junior Competitions have now had opportunity to comment and the Chairs of these groups hope that the recommendations should be acceptable to their groups

The way forward:

- LW is to report to MC and Council on the revised recommendations, it was accepted that the supporting work needs to be completed and there will need to be a policy of

widespread publicity in order to bring the majority of associations and clubs onside regarding this structure

- If agreed it is anticipated that the transition could commence in 2009 with a full implementation by 2010

Action: 2 It was agreed that LW will recommend the revised proposals to Management Committee and Council (LW, Dec07)

Action: 3 A plan to publicise the benefits of the proposed structure to associations and clubs and members be developed and implemented (LW, asap)

7 Major Events

7.1 Feedback on the 2007 Major Events Conference and planning for the 2008 Major Events Conference

A summary of the feedback had been circulated to members. Overall the feedback had been positive and the feeling was that the Conference should continue, although some parts of the Conference could be improved.

The better facility had been appreciated by the participants and there was strong feeling that the same venue should be used for the Conference in 2008. MH explained that Lilleshall NSC had been booked and although it was more difficult to get to by public transport it was of a similar standard and at a lower cost. MH will confirm the situation. It is unlikely that we will be able to change as a penalty payment would be required.

There was a brief discussion about the inclusion in the Conference of the Grade 1 Controller course; it was felt this may be better as a part of a wider Technical Officials Conference rather than the Major Events Conference.

The question was raised as to whether a Technical Officials Conference should be held in 2008 and there was agreement that the possibility of holding such a Conference should be considered further.

Discussion about the aims of the Major Events Conference ensued and particularly in the context of which volunteers should be present at the Conference. It was agreed that Major Events Group when established should discuss this matter further and make recommendations.

7.2 Formation of the Major Events Group (MEG)

Mike Forrest has agreed to his name being put forward to chair the group. At the request of LW Mike is now considering what the membership of the MEG should look like and would appreciate names of people that might have the ability to contribute and might be interested in being put forward. LW/MF are looking for a small group of people to make up the MEG. MH suggested that Caroline Povey the Marketing Manager for British Orienteering should sit on the group, there was also a feeling that a fixtures person should be involved.

Action: 4 Members to recommend names of suitably qualified people to sit on the Major Events Group (All, asap)

7.3 To consider the role that national staff and national volunteers should play in the organising of major events

7.4 To discuss the basis of a franchise agreement between British Orienteering and event organiser/club/association for the delivery of future British Orienteering major events

There was an endorsement of the issues raised in the paper and it was felt that certain aspects of this agreement need moving forward as a matter of urgency for the 2009 major events. In particular, the financial aspects of the paper such as budget agreements etc must be progressed.

The general thrust of the paper was agreed and MH is to update the paper, circulate to members for comment and then present the paper to Management Committee at the December meeting.

Action: 5 The draft agreement between British Orienteering and the clubs/associations staging the JK/BOC be updated and presented to Management Committee (MH, Dec07)

The issue of prizes was discussed within this agenda item and the following recommendations made:

- It was suggested that only elite levels (open classes) at championships (JK, + 20E at JK & BM, BS, BN, BR, BM) are presented with sponsored prizes. Momentoes can be awarded to other classes as the organisers see fit. The awarding of medals should continue as is currently practiced until Major Events Group has an opportunity to review it.
- Updated Event Guidelines will include more information about such things as medals etc
- Regarding the JK Sprint it was suggested that the organiser plans on awarding medals to a reduced set of age classes: M/W Open, M/W-18/20, M/W16-, M/W12-M/W-40/50/60+
- CP was asked to consider the award of a mapping trophy for the best sprint map of the year

Action: 6 The issues of medals and sponsored prizes is to be discussed with the Marketing Manager and a strategy paper circulated to members (MH, Dec07)

8 Council and Management Reports

No matters were raised that are not elsewhere on the agenda.

9 Operational Group reports

Home Internationals, Competition (Elite, Senior & Junior), Rules, Fixtures, Map, Major Events

Points raised from the Group meeting were:

- Elite Competition Group:
 - UK Cup issues regarding the fixture list have now been sorted
 - World Cup representations were made through NC at the Presidents Conference and a wider consultation has been entered into by the IOF
- Fixtures Group:
 - A paper has been put forward to outline the process for the allocation of fixtures; after discussion the paper was agreed
 - The £2 'discount' had been raised as an issue and in the light of changes being made for the collection of 50p for insurance cover from 1 Jan 2008 it was felt appropriate that views on the 'surcharge' be raised again
 - Compass Sport Cup: Clubs are being polled as to their views on the competition
 - SOA Night Championships and British Nights are on the same date: The SOA event was registered some time after the British Night Championships. When the clash was pointed out to SOA they felt it was impractical to change.
- Junior Competitions Group: No meeting since the last Events Committee
 - The issue of the scheduling of the Junior Inter Regional Championships is an internal matter for JCG to sort out

Action: 7 Junior Competition to resolve the matter of the scheduling of the JIRC (SM, next meeting)

- Mapping Group:

- The group are looking for map advisors and any names gratefully received. As fewer non-professional mappers are making maps for major events, recruitment is becoming more difficult.
- Mapping Conference 2007 has been postponed until early 2008.
- Some of the maps for the major events held in 2007 have, unfortunately, been of disappointing quality. It was commented that where Map Group has found issues with maps these issues should be fed back to the mapper concerned
- The map assessment scheme is working and people should note that where there are problems with a map, feedback is being delivered to the mapper. Satisfactory maps receive no feedback. It was suggested the comments should be sent where maps are correctly produced.
- MH that the National Office is able to purchase printer suitable for printing maps on; this will mean that map distribution and storage can be electronic; it was noted that printed maps are still required for archiving purposes by the British Library
- Rules Group:
 - Embargoed Areas, if exceptions to the agreed rules are required Rules Group will be able to adjudicate on the matter
 - BS/BM Champions, RG to bring Guideline draft to Events Committee; as a result of increasing participation and interest it may be necessary to use selection races prior to events or to use the ranking lists to invite participants
 - The amended Electronic Punching Appendix should address many of the queries raised.
 - As a consequence of the Competition Structure Review the new Appendices will not now be released this year but will be worked on through 2008 in preparation for implementation from 1 January 2009
 - It was agreed that a M85 class will be added if and when it is confirmed that there are 3 or more members in the this age class
- Major Events:
 - LW reported that the issues with BOC09 have now, in the most part, been addressed and things are moving in the right direction; organisers and planners have now been appointed.
 - It was agreed that R Barnes can be appointed as Controller to one of the days at the JK09
 - It was also agreed that D Towler can be appointed as Controller of one of the other days even though he has only recently attended the Level 1 Controller course
 - Appointment of Controllers: general principles are ok but there is a need to look at the volunteer development strategy which should include controllers. It is difficult when possible controllers are also planning etc and overcommitted.

10 Any Other Business

No further items had been raised

11 Dates and Venues of Meetings

Future meetings will be held in Birmingham commencing at 12:00 and on:

23 February 2008, ? June, ? November

LW to add dates for 2008 for members to agree by email.

12 Chairman's closing remarks

LW thanked members for a stimulating meeting and closed at 16:40.

Events Committee June 2007

Action List

- Action: 1 It was agreed that MH will prepare a model of the levy system based on the principles agreed and circulate members with the options (MH, asap)*
- Action: 2 It was agreed that LW will recommend the revised proposals to Management Committee and Council (LW, Dec07)*
- Action: 3 A plan to publicise the benefits of the proposed structure to associations and clubs and members be developed and implemented (LW, asap)*
- Action: 4 Members to recommend names of suitably qualified people to sit on the Major Events Group (All, asap)*
- Action: 5 The draft agreement between British Orienteering and the clubs/associations staging the JK/BOC be updated and presented to Management Committee (MH, Dec07)*
- Action: 6 The issues of medals and sponsored prizes is to be discussed with the Marketing Manager and a strategy paper circulated to members (MH, Dec07)*
- Action: 7 Junior Competition to resolve the matter of the scheduling of the JIRC (SM, next meeting)*

ACTIONS from previous meetings

Arising or continuing from previous meetings of Event Operations Committee.

MH to meet with CS to gain a better understanding of the issues around map registration and the National Office procedures	CS/MH	asap
MG: Mapping forms MR1 & MR2 to be updated and formatted – Still requiring implementation; awaiting confirmation as to the cost of changing the database	CS	→
MG: Training courses policy to be drafted and circulated for comment – On going (MH)	MH	→
MEG: Procedures for the removal of controllers from the list to be developed – This is now within the remit of Rules Group	Rules Group	→
Major Events Handbook to be considered by Rules Group – Updating of the Handbook continues (BE & Rules Group)	BE/Rules Group	→
MR to draft a set of procedures to deal with the appointment of controllers to major events – On going (MR)	MR	→

✓ Completed

→ On-going

A Agenda item