

# Events Committee Minutes 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011



**The Board is asked for a decision on:**

**The Board is made aware of the following significant decisions or issues:**

Actions on the National O series

**The Board is asked to note:**

Comments on the Competition Review

# Events Committee Minutes 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011



The meeting was held at the Comfort Inn, Birmingham, commencing at 11.30am.

## **1. Attendance, apologies and Chairman's opening remarks**

Mike Forrest (MF)	Chairman, Chairman Events Committee
Barry Elkington (BE)	Chairman, Rules Group
Mike Cope (MC)	Chairman, Fixtures Group
Sue Marsden (SM)	Chairman, Junior Competitions Group
John Palmer (JP)	Chairman, Elite Competitions Group
David Olivant (DO)	Chairman, Mapping Group
Scott Collier (SC)	Representing Senior Competitions Group
Dave Peel (DP)	Event Manager
Helen Errington (HE)	Event Manager (Minute taker)

Apologies for absence; Mike Hamilton, Ranald McDonald, Ian Webb

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

None

## **3. Minutes of Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda – SC confirmed that it was acceptable to SCG that map scales will be reviewed and the matter will be taken up by a Board work

group.(See section 7 group reports for clarification)

**Action**

**4. Notification of any other business**

None

**5. Review the action list from the previous meeting**

None

**6. Board meeting reports**

Nothing to report

**7. Operational Group reports**

**Competition (Elite, Senior and Junior), Rules, Fixtures, Map, Major Events**

**ECG**

The Tio Mila is now clashing with BOC in 2012 and 2013 as well as having clashed in 2011. JP reported that this now appears to be a permanent change to the date. No conclusion was reached as to whether BOC be moved to another date to avoid the clash.

Seeding review group – Jon Cross was tasked with setting this up. No action to date, however JP reported that they are intending to report back in time for change to seeding practices for 2012 events.

**Action**

Review of elite course lengths – Gareth Candy and Jon Cross were tasked with this. JP was not sure whether this had taken place.

Area champs elite courses – it was recommended by MEG that the Area champs organisers contact ECG to find out if the elite were likely to attend the event and so required an elite course. However it was also suggested that ECG contact the Area Champs organisers to advise them on the likelihood of the need for an elite course. ECG to contact Area Champs organisers.

**Action**

UK cup final (& FCC) was reported by JP to have been disappointing with regard to the lack of attendance by elite competitors. JP considers that the time of year is not suitable for elite competitors to attend such a race in the UK. However he acknowledged that it was an experiment and noted that it is in the calendar again for 2012 at this time of year.

**SCG**

SC reported that the Masters Cup appeared to have a very successful first season and feedback so far had been good. There are 18 events in the schedule for 2012, 8 to count.

The issue of relay course lengths and senior classes is still unresolved. MEG did consider the matter but they only cover 2 relays and felt that there was a wider issue to be discussed than just adding more classes/courses to the JK relay and BRC. This was then referred back to Events Committee.

MF reported that in the Competition Review there had been no comments about relays and therefore a further review of relays & the senior competitor was needed.

BE suggested that a simple and easy to implement solution for 2012 would be to add in a M/W70 class (Using M & W 60 courses). MF to consider this and action if felt necessary.

**Action**

**JCG**

SM reported that most of the junior competitions have yet to take place but that they were all in hand and advice and monitoring was on-going.

There is an issue with the 'ownership' of the rules for JIRCS, JHI and BSOC in that there is no clear process for consultation, change and approval of these documents. In particular there seems to have been a breakdown in the communication of the changes for the JIRCS rules for 2012.

SM to send Events Committee the required changes and members to comment as a matter of urgency. BE to make the necessary changes for action with the remainder of the rules updates.

**Action**

Junior seeding list for 2012 is ready for distribution to the 2012 Major Event organisers. HE to action and also send to Fabian 4 after checking if there any data protection issues.

**Action**

### **Rules Group**

Be reported that most of their last meeting had been spent updating the rules and these will be considered under item 8. However there was one issue that needs highlighting. There have been two separate recorded instances where a competitor with a V6 SI card has been disqualified for missing out a control. On both occasions they were adamant that they had punched and had a flash & beep from the SI unit. On both occasions the box in question had been retrieved and downloaded and a full punch had been recorded. When asked SI said that it could be an issue with the age of the chip or the firmware in the box not being up to date.

It was agreed that there were 2 actions resulting from this issue. Firstly that Events & Competitions Committee enquire as to what the IOF are doing with this issue. Secondly that clubs are asked to ensure their firmware is up to date.

**Action**

### **Fixtures Group**

MC summarised his report. He noted that the new fixtures database was making life much easier. He commented that it was still quite hard to schedule the Home Internationals in good time. Discussion took place on how Associations were settling into the scheduling and provision of level B events. MC reported that there were a number of inconsistencies between associations.

HE had monitored level B events in the period Jan – March 2011. It was agreed that, subject to her work schedule, HE would monitor all Level B events in the period Jan – March 2012. However it was suggested that she also ask a selection of competitors who took part in an event to provide feedback on the event and also controllers to be asked specific questions about the event quality.

**Action**

### **Map Group**

DO reported that he had been concentrating his efforts in trying to improve the quality of maps by using new technology now available, to include geo referencing and digital mapping. However Appendix H, newly revised, had also been very time consuming, as had other issues such as insurance.

He reported that CS has nearly completed the printer approval process and this will include club printers for level B events & below.

The Mapper accreditation scheme is in draft and HE is to attend the next map group meeting to progress this further.

DO outlined his talk at the ME conference on map clarity and how this is often confused with the perceived need to change map scale. This is mainly an issue with middle distance area & maps. However guidance is needed for all areas & event types.

MF reported that the issue of scale was raised at the club delegate conference last month and due to lack of time, it was proposed that there be a Map Scale group to continue to debate the issue. The question was asked as to how this group would be supervised and where they report back to. MF anticipated that it would come under the remit of the new Events & Competitions Committee.

**Action**

## **MEG**

DP apologised for the next MEG meeting being held after the EC meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> November (as a teleconference). This is because the membership of the group is so small, 100% attendance is essential. The main topic of discussion will be the allocation of events to be nominated to the IOF for WRE status in 2013 and a discussion on the strategy of nomination for future years. The strategy for 2012 had been developed after a discussion with ECG and what their preferences were.

MF (as an IOF event Adviser) made the point that there is a potential issue with the late allocation of WRE status to events. In that, some decisions will be hard to reverse and that moving an event from good to great in order to satisfy the IOF requirements can be hard to achieve at such a late stage in the process.

It was agreed that the nominations for 2013 be submitted earlier than September 2012 (assuming no late scheduled clashes with other international competitions) to try and confirm the allocations as early as possible.

**Action**

BNC 2013 has 3 applicants which is good news. British Club Champs to be allocated for 2014.

There is still uncertainty on the venue for the British Sprints 2012 and final meeting with the organiser and the landowner will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November and a decision on plan A or move to plan B will be made depending on the outcome of that meeting. There is an issue with plan B and a prior event held on the area. (See section 8 of these minutes).

## **8. Rules, Appendices and Competition Rules**

BE explained that many of the changes were to meet specific requests from other groups. It was everyone's understanding that all the changes could be approved by this meeting of Events Committee and no further reference to the Board was required for these changes.

However it was also agreed that for the future there needs to be a clearly documented process for requesting, consulting, drafting, agreeing & approving Rules, Appendices and Guideline changes.

**Action**

All the changes to: Appendix D, Appendix F, Appendix H and British Orienteering Rules were accepted. DO to send link update to BE for Appendix H

**Action**

All the changes to the Competition Rules A, B, C,D & E were agreed subject to the remainder of the new wording in Competition Rule C section 4.2.3 being located and inserted.

**Action**

At this point a significant discussion took place with regard to the conflicting wording on embargoes, in the Rules of Orienteering and the Competition Rules. It was agreed that rather than delete the relevant section from all the Competition Rules and then find that this caused other conflicts and issues to arise, it would be better to add this to the rules review. It was agreed that no further action at this point in time is to be taken on the issue raised in section 7 MEG report of these minutes with reference to the British Sprint venue 2012.

**Action**

#### Other Competition Rules

All the changes were agreed to the JK, Area Championship and the Compassport Cup rules. It was noted that the name change to the CSC will be actioned in the rules when the matter has been agreed between CS (Nick Barrable) and the Board.

**Action**

#### Junior rules

There are changes to YBT and JIRCS. SM reiterated her earlier point, that there were other requested changes that had not been incorporated by Rules Group. SM to send Events Committee the required changes and EC members to comment as a matter of urgency. BE to make the necessary changes for action with the remainder of the rules updates.

All other changes were agreed.

**Action**

#### Guidelines

All these were agreed. SC undertook to ensure that all the organisers of the planned Masters Cup events for 2012 were sent the updated guidelines.

**Action**

BE was asked to action all the above agreed changes as at 12/11/2011 and only resend those documents that had changes as a result of the actions agreed at this meeting. These are to be ready by the end of November for publication on the website by early December.

#### Publicity of changes

HE will publicise the changes to controllers and relevant event officials. BE to write a short article for Focus – deadline 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**Action**

### **9. Event and Competitions Committee**

MF announced that he has been appointed as chair of the new Events and Competitions Committee. He will be seeking candidates for the new committee from Associations to obtain both Association representative and also to find members such that the new committee has a range of skills. Anyone on the existing committee should go via their Association to be nominated. It was noted that elite experience needs adding in to the skills matrix.

**Action**

Once the new Committee is appointed, MF anticipated that that it would decide what the next levels of groups/working parties etc might be. JP announced that he would be finishing at this point and not seeking to join the new committee. MF thanked him for all his time and commitment over the years.

MF asked for details from each group chair as to what work needed to be carried between now and Easter 2012.

ECG – UK cup is in place for 2012 and Rob Campbell is unsure of whether he will continue in 2013.

The UK Cup, FCC, Masters Cup and UK relay league all need planning for 2013 by Easter 2013 however it was acknowledged that these need tying in with the Competition Review.

Fixtures – have a meeting planned for 17th March 2012 and need to keep scheduling fixtures during the next 5 months.

MEG- telecon due 17/11/2011 to sort WREs for 2013

JCG meeting usually planned for Jan 2012 but nothing arranged.

SCG meeting booked for 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012 – review of Masters Cup.

Map group – meeting booked for 7<sup>th</sup> Jan to discuss Mapper accreditation scheme.

MF informed the meeting that it is not business as usual and that all groups are stood down from this moment onwards and that meetings are not to take place. MF will get back to all group members on what the next steps will be.

**Action**

## **10. Competition Review.**

The view was raised that despite comments having been made in the past, no changes, as a result of these comments, had been made to the Competition Review. The main concern voiced was with the pathway of competitions for elites and juniors.

In summary, there was concern about the whether the Competition structure as proposed, was able to meet the needs of the following groups:

Schools competitors, Elite/junior – talent and & performance athletes and the development pathway for newcomers moving up from level D events.

There was support for an evolutionary introduction of the new competition structure. The staff team of Ed Nicholas, Dave Peel, Helen Errington, Gareth Candy and Sarah Hague were asked to plan for 2013 and 2014, a gradual alignment of existing competitions into a National O series, working primarily with fixtures already scheduled bearing in mind the above concerns about FCC/JIRCS/Talent & Performance & development pathways.

Draft proposals are to be ready for the first meeting of the new Event and Competitions Committee.

**Action**

## **10. Event Officials update**

HE gave a brief update on the database work she has been carrying out. All controllers have been updated and given qualifications and licences. These will be checked by Association representatives.

Organiser updates for 2011 events will take place in early 2012.

She has updated the major events handbook and this is now on the website as the Event Officials Handbook but is awaiting a website clean-up before being announced. As well this, the checklists are being updated and will also be added to the website

Her next work is on training resources on line/as a workshop/for mentors for level D & C event Officials. Also work to be carried on the mapper accreditation scheme in conjunction with Map Group/their replacement.

## **11. Event Managers update**

DP reported that we offer advice to all Major Event Officials but the take up is patchy and hard to predict. A successful Major events conference was held. Although reduced in time

due to budget constraints, it was well received and attracted volunteers from non-partnership agreement events.

The WOC bid for 2015 was successful.

The work on supporting the JK with a professional co-ordinator is still to be undertaken. This has been agreed by the Board but with a few reservations.

DP to speak to MH about actions for setting up the support for WOA & JK 2014.

#### **Action**

WOC 2015 – DP is Event Director, however this will be in addition to his role as EM.

DP is working with MC to plan fixtures to attract overseas competitors to the UK to train prior to WOC 2015. DP is talking to the NWOA with regard to staging JK 2015 and SOA to stage the British Sprint/Middle in autumn 2014.

HE gave a brief update on WTOC 2012.

For Partnership Agreement events, there has been a move to try and assist officials by centralising the tasks of marketing, publicity, sponsorship & prizes

Finally our work is likely to move towards supporting event officials and promoting good practices when putting on local events at levels D & C.

### **13. Any Other Business**

None

MF concluded the meeting by thanking all the group chairs and their group members for their time and commitment and hard work over the years.

### **Events Committee November 2011**

#### **Action List**

1. Map scales to be considered by work group		MF
2. Seeding review group to report in time for 2012 major events		JONX
3. Area champs organisers to be contacted by ECG		JP
4. Elite course lengths review to be completed		JC/GC
5. M/W70 class for BRC 2012 to be considered		MF
6. JIRCS rules changes to be circulated & commented on prior to amendment of rules		SM
7. Junior seeding list to go to ME organisers & Fabian4 after checking on data protection		HE
8. IOF to be asked about V6 SI card issue		MF
9. Clubs to be asked to check that firmware up to date		
10. Level B events from Jan – March 2012 to be monitored		HE
11. MEG to nominate events for WRE status in 2013 earlier than the Sept 2012 deadline		DP
12. Process for rules review, update & approval to be produced		HE
13. Appendix H link required prior to publication		DO

<b>14.</b> Competition Rule C section 4.2.3 to be revised		BE
<b>15.</b> Inconsistencies between rules on embargoes to be reviewed		
<b>16.</b> CSC name change if required		
<b>17.</b> Updated Guidelines to be sent to all Masters Cup organisers		SC
<b>18.</b> All rules changes to be ready for publication by early Dec 2011		BE/HE
<b>19.</b> All changes to be publicised via Focus article & direct to officials.		BE/HE
<b>20.</b> Elite experience to go into committee skills matrix		MF
<b>21.</b> Interim arrangements for outstanding work to be advised		MF
<b>22.</b> Staff meet to prepare outline National O series etc		DP/HE
<b>23.</b> JK support to be progressed		DP