

Events Committee

Minutes

13 June 2009



Held at the Comfort Inn, Birmingham, commencing at 12:00pm

1. Attendance, apologies and Chairman's opening remarks

Lyn West (LW)	Chairman
Barry Elkington (BE)	Chairman, Rules Group
Peter Guillaume (PG)	Chairman, Fixtures Group
Sue Marsden (SM)	Chairman, Junior Competitions Group
John Palmer (JP)	Chairman, Elite Competitions Group
Mike Forrest (MF)	Chairman, Major Events Group
Colin Spears (CS)	Chairman, Mapping Group
Ranald Macdonald (RM)	Chairman, Senior Competitions Group
Mike Hamilton (MH)	Minute taker
Observer	
Ian Webb (IW)	Representative of Development Committee

International Committee had been asked to send a representative, apologies and written input was received

LW welcomed IW to the meeting

2. Declarations of Interest

Members of the committee were asked to advise of any agenda items which required a declaration of interest.

JP declared his daughter Helen Palmer is back in the GB squad.

3. Minutes of Meeting of 17 January 2009

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed as a true record.

4. Notification of any other business

Members asked for the following issues to be addressed:

- The implementation of the Major Event Franchise: under AOB
- The Event Manager role description: under AOB
- Process for Rules & Guidelines being notified to major event organisers

5. Review the action list from the previous meeting

Action 1: LW was asked to raise again at the Board meeting the issue of the £2 discount for members being presented as a £2 surcharge on non-members Issue is to be discussed at future Board meeting.	✓
Action 2: Board to be asked to consider providing more strategic direction to the Committees and Groups Meeting of the Board with Committee/Groups is scheduled for 26 September	✓

2009 specifically to address this point	
Action 3: Board be requested to consider scheduling a club delegates conference or conference of committee and group members or both After the meeting mentioned above club delegates to be invited to regional workshops	✓
Action 4: Graythwaite, LW to contact LOC regarding the decision to 'downgrade' the event; MH to consult with LW regarding a news item LW contacted LOC and a news item had been published	✓
Action 5: LW to look into taking an exit survey of competitors at Graythwaite to look into the impacts of chosen map scales. Questions would be drafted and circulated to Events Committee prior to the next Events Committee meeting. Web survey delivered with report and raw data made available to members	✓
Action 6: LW to raise the issue of a Development Committee person sitting on Events Committee as a liaison Representative of Development in attendance	✓
Action 7: JP was asked to prepare a paper highlighting the roles of Controller, Event advisor and Elite Advisor and the differences between these positions. Paper prepared; feedback on paper provided to JP	✓

Outstanding actions from previous meetings:

MF to arrange signing of Major Event agreement with organisers of British Orienteering events from 2010 onwards Once the Rules and Guidelines are finalised the organising club/association will be asked to sign up to the agreement.	→
MF to consult with Major Events Group and Fixtures regarding practicalities of setting a fixed date for BOC On the agenda	A
Once PG had confirmed the new Area Championships, a web article would be published Articles on the restructured events structure have been published	✓
Mapping forms MR1 & MR2 to be updated and formatted – Still requiring implementation; awaiting confirmation as to the cost of changing the database New map database operational; work remains on registration system MR2 have been circulated for all maps registered that do not already have a completed MR2 Map data distributed to clubs/mappers and corrections received	✓
Procedures for the removal of controllers from the list to be developed – Now within the remit of Rules Group Awaited	→

6. Event Structure Implementation

PG explained from a fixtures perspective the new structure is being embraced by some regions but not by others; some Local events could be upgrading to Regional. There is some resistance to the relative positioning of some of the old District events particularly those with large entries; most have become Local events even though they have large entries and are attractive to a wide ranging group of participants.

Cost of entry is an issue that has been raised with some clubs charging more for events simply because they are a Regional event; regardless of the quality of the event. It was suggested that clubs that have genuine additional costs for Regional events should prepare budgets to reflect this and communicate the reasons for the cost of entry to potential participants.

There is an issue with the lack of Controllers available for appointment in some clubs/associations for Regional events which has been a barrier to them being staged as Regional events. There was considerable discussion regarding the appointment of Controllers

and it was agreed that the rules should be relaxed for Regional (Level 2) events during this transitional stage of the restructuring.

There is clearly a need to communicate the rationale behind the restructure changes to help members and participants understand the changes that have been made. It was agreed that all means at our disposal (Focus, web, emails direct to clubs) should be used to support this communication.

After considerable discussion the following was agreed:

- Improve communication, by communicating to members and participants the reasons for the event restructuring
- Clubs should be encouraged to communicate the reasons for costs that appear larger than participants or potential participants expect
- The 3 tier event structure had been adopted by Council and it is time for the committee and groups to stop debating this decision and focus on implementing it
- To speed up the implementation there is a need for more flexibility in delivering events and specifically:
 - o Embargoes for Regional events: any decisions on embargoes taken during the period up to the end of 2010 should be agreed by associations for regional events; however associations should retain the embargo rules that apply to some competitions (namely, UK Cup, Future Champions Cup, CompassSport regional round, Harvester Relay, British Schools Champs, British Schools Score and Yvette Baker Trophy). Members should also bear in mind the Rules of Orienteering that state:
1.5.2 Competitors shall not seek to obtain any unfair advantage over other competitors.
 - o Controllers for Regional events: until the end of 2010 associations to take responsibility for appointing Controllers to Regional events; where possible Grade 2 Controllers should be used otherwise experienced Grade 3 Controller external to club if possible
- It was also agreed that the role of the Controller will need to be modified; this is addressed later in the agenda.

Queries regarding the above should be addressed to LW.

7. Feedback on the Graythwaite Survey

The feedback provided interesting reading. The most significant point is the need for recommended map scales for different age classes to be reviewed; it was also clear that the quality and usability of the map is dependent on many things including the printing of the map and the paper used.

To some extent the survey findings were made less clear by the change of printing method from offset litho to laser.

It was agreed that a copy of the survey should be sent to LOC the organising club and then a copy published on the web site along with a news item explaining progress.

MF confirmed that the map scales and printing method are within the Franchise for the British Championships and the JK.

There is clearly a need to consider the issues that arise from the map scales discussions and the survey. It was agreed that Map Group should consider these issues along with approaching the IOF map group for their perspective on the issue of map scale. Map scale is an item to be included for discussion at the Major Event Conference in September with Map Group being asked to make a presentation.

There is general agreement that there are specific changes in vision affecting older age groups that reduce the ability to read maps. A map scale should be recommended for the use of older age classes, possibly M/W60s and older; this recommendation should arise from consultation with these age classes. Consultation should take place at certain events where map group can confirm that a quality map is being used; LW to action this.

There is a need to ensure that participants are aware of decisions that have been taken (and when they've been taken) regarding map scales prior to events.

MH is seeking to meet with a publishing or print expert to look at the feasibility of producing a more objective specification for the printing of maps that can support the more subjective approach currently being used.

In future if there is disagreement between an organiser, mapper, planner and the map advisor who is a representative of Map Group regarding the use of map scales both parties will put their arguments to an independent adjudicating group which will have authority to make a decision. Event Committee will consider the makeup of this group but it is clear it must be seen to be independent of map group and the other parties previously involved. Other aspects of the operation of this group will also be confirmed.

It was also agreed that for the present, offset litho should continue to be used for all National events unless a change is agreed with Map Group.

There is a need to issue a statement regarding the Graythwaite survey, to express our thanks to those who completed it and explain how the issue of map scales is to be progressed.

8. Role of Controllers & training of Controllers

The paper circulated was discussed in detail and the following points agreed;

- The roles that need addressing for an event are:
 - o The Organiser who has overall responsibility for the event; delivering an event that meets the technical standards required and that risks and safety are managed; the organiser will ensure the Planner has consider the technical standards of the courses and the risk management and safety on the courses.
 - o The Planner who has responsibility for planning the courses to the appropriate technical standards and managing any risks or safety aspects of the courses
 - o The Controller will normally act as mentor to the Organiser and Planner, challenging decisions when appropriate and advising on relevant aspects of the event; the Controller does not have responsibility for the event but does have the responsibility to ensure informed decisions are being taken and of advising when other courses of action could be taken.
- There is a need to recognise the knowledge and skills that current volunteers have as event officials; and then to establish training mechanisms (workshops, courses, home learning, e-learning, etc) and mentoring for those wishing to develop those skills.
- The Development programme staff to be asked to organise a scheme to deliver the above.
- The current list of Controllers needs to be updated and maintained.
- There is a need to develop a system whereby Event officials are provided with feedback after an event has been staged.

9. Event Strategy

A draft paper had been circulated prior to the meeting for Groups to consider electronically.

LW described the background to the paper and stated that the Board are taking responsibility for producing a vision for events. Event Committee and its Groups will be significant contributors to the vision which will be widely consulted on.

PG stated that there is a need to start with the Vision and then expand on the strategy from the bullet points in the draft paper. The vision and final strategy will probably be reasonably short but will need to be accompanied by more detailed action plans. It is important that there is clarity and before this can be delivered some key information is required: should competition be addressed before events or vice versa; each interest group will need to be consulted regarding their needs.

PG had circulated the draft paper to his Group for feedback. They were opposed to the line that stated:

Regional Events - *"events co-ordinated regionally to provide balanced programme throughout the region, some cross-border co-ordination required ?year round or seasonal programme - perhaps for regions to decide"*

as they felt it was impractical and would not work. PG also said that the Associations had recently discussed and all agreed the new policy for Regional events circulated with the minutes. LW noted the feedback.

Summary:

- Competition Framework: there should be a wide consultation to help develop a competition framework that meets the needs of the participation pathway and the talent pathway
- Event Strategy: will follow with a vision, the strategy and action plans
- Event Levels: of local, regional and national events are currently confusing the debate as they are really an administrative tool

10. World Ranking Events

10.1. To agree where responsibility for nominating WRE lies

JP made it clear that World Ranking points are incredibly important to the international programme as the number of places in some IOF competitions is dependent on them as are some of the seeding mechanisms. Therefore events that are nominated as WRE should be organised at times when they are convenient to the international athletes.

JP went on to state that ECG is in agreement with MEG taking responsibility for WRE nominations provided that ECG has a significant input into the decisions about nominations.

It was agreed that MEG will take responsibility for the nomination of WRE nominations with full consultation with IC and ECG.

10.2. To agree the procedures for nominating events as WRE

MEG will invite organisers of Major Events to bid to be nominated as WRE. It was agreed that events considered will normally be National Events. It was noted that D Harrison (Chair IC), J Cross (IC) and G Candy (International Programme Director) are developing a list of major international events for 2011/12. This will enable IC, ECG and MEG to make more informed decisions regarding events to be nominated.

10.3. To agree the events that will be considered / nominated for 2010

During this discussion it was agreed that Events Committee will recommend to the Board that all British Orienteering Championship events should be open to members of overseas orienteering federations. This will enable the BOC events to be nominated as WRE. Events Committee supported by IC would like this to commence from Jan 2011 if the Board is in agreement.

It was recommended by ECG that in 2010 2 days of the JK (possibly the sprint and long) and 1 day of the Trossachs event (possibly the long race) should be nominated to be WREs.

11. Operational Group reports

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

Elite Competitions Group:

The meeting was held on the previous evening; JP expressed his apologies for there being no written report.

- BEOC 2010: on Cannock Chase clashes with Tio Mila therefore it will not be used for selection

- UK Cup 2010: may consist of Mar 27/28 Trossachs M/L, Apr 2/5 JK M/L/S, Apr 17/18 British M/S, May 1 British L. A working party of G Candy, D Harrison, J Cross is considering the plans for 2011 and 2012
- FCC 2010: will be finalised by 19 Oct. A working party of G Candy, P Olivant, L Furness will finalise 2010 and consider 2011.
- Seeding: J Cross is preparing a paper to address the problems with seeding and prizes at the British Middle etc.
- WRE: discussed previously but JP stressed the need for IC/ECG input into the decision
- British Elite Advisors: The role has now been defined. MEG has now taken over the appointment of IOF Event Advisors and will be looking to use people who are can also take on the role of British Elite Advisors. MEG will therefore appoint to major events and ECG to the UK Cup events.
- UK Relay: Scott Collier has agreed to take over the league scoring and publicity.
- British Orienteering will be asked if the website can host the UK Cup, UK Relay league and FCC.

Senior Competitions Group:

- Terms of reference: the Group has discussed the role of the group.
- Compass Sport Cup: the group would like to make a change to the scoring system, JCG have agreed with the suggested changes which will be implemented from 1 Jan 2010. The changes are that Men and Women will be scored separately on the Orange and Light Green courses to encourage more women to take part and to make the scoring fairer. The current scoring is disproportionate in favour of the Men (70/30). An article will be explaining the changes will be published in Focus.
- Masters Cup: no body had been identified to coordinate this competition and there are also questions regarding the purpose of this competition
- BOC: there has been considerable discussion regarding the suggestion that Elite and Age Class events could be combined, there are very mixed opinions. RM expressed concern at the lack of feedback from some association representatives.

Junior Competitions Group:

The Junior Competitions Group meeting in January was held immediately after the last meeting of Events Committee. In reviewing the Junior Events it was agreed one or two needed some revision.

- Yvette Baker. For several years there has been dissatisfaction expressed about the event. It was therefore agreed to set up a working group which is now in hand to consider the event. Their brief was not just to tweak but to consider the long term future of the event. Their suggestions should be reviewed by JCG (including corresponding members) and any changes made would be ratified at the next JCG meeting in January. The only changes therefore for this year's Yvette Baker will be the criteria for being able to run down an age class.
- JIRC: It is essential that a date is fixed for 2010 in the near future; MH reported that the consultation with Associations had resulted in almost unanimous agreement that the last weekend in June should be used. A suggestion that there should be more local Inter Regional Competition was considered. This will be on the agenda for the next Regional Squad Coordinators' meeting.
- CSC: In response to a request by PG, Chair of Fixtures Group, the proposed rule change for the Orange and Light Green courses had been circulated to Junior Competitions Steering Group members who supported the proposal.
- Seeding: Concern has been expressed that the seeding of juniors at some major events did not happen. The seeding list was sent to the event organisers in plenty of time by JCG.

Fixtures Group:

Fixtures Group last met on 21st March 2009. The main items discussed were the on line fixtures system and a fixtures working arrangements document.

- On Line Fixtures System: This is now fully live and has been since January. It is now 'bedding in' before further development. Fixtures Group is looking at a set of business rules to deal with the removal of fixtures from the list that have no other information added.
- Fixtures Group Working Arrangements: A document has been compiled following consultation that covers the fixtures process. This has been circulated to all club fixture secretaries. This is a "live document" and will be updated annually. Other items will be added in due course.
- Future Fixtures: Most of the problematical issues are covered in the Major Events report. There are scheduling issues from 2013 onwards and PG will prepare a paper for discussion on this for the next Events Committee. Problem with BE and Age Group Champs in 2010, being worked on.

Major Events Group:

- Group membership: The membership currently comprises: Mike Forrest (Chair), Sue Birkenshaw, Scott Fraser, David May, Steve McKinley, Nev Myers, Dave Peel. Simon Errington has decided to stand down from the group. As yet a replacement has not been sought, although someone with experience of writing training material might be a considerable help if we are to develop level 1 planners and organisers courses. The group has not yet met, but a meeting is being arranged now that the group is ready to address strategic issues, rather than some of the issues that have distracted the group over the past year.
- Major Events Conference: The conference is scheduled for the weekend of 5th/6th September 2009 at YHA Sherwood Forest. It is expected that the meeting of MEG being arranged will help to identify the agenda items for the conference. Organisers of BNC, BOC and JK 2009 are being contacted to make arrangements for "debriefs" of this year's events. Other topics that may be covered include:
 - o Map scales (inviting members of Map Group to attend)
 - o World Ranking Events and IOF Event Advisers
 - o Planning for the elite competitor
 - o BOF events and the franchise agreement
- Strategic issues: There is overlap between these issues and those that are on the list of discussion items for the Conference. Other items include:
 - o WRE: The difficulties surrounding the proposed WRE event linked to the WOC 2009 selection races has made it apparent that some clarity of objectives is needed for the choice of UK events to be nominated as WRE.
 - o BOC Rules: This has raised the ancillary question about the current position with regard to the rules making British Championships closed, and therefore not eligible for WRE status. This appears to be at odds with the view that most other nations take with regard to their national championships. The Board is to be asked to decide on this and a briefing paper is to be prepared.
 - o British Elite Advisers: The attempt to support major events with "British Elite Advisers" has met with mixed success, and has caused a significant amount of disharmony. At both JK and BEOC, the imposition of an elite adviser was not well received initially. Nevertheless, Charles Daniel's involvement certainly helped Bristol OK to deliver really good courses for the elites. However, confusion about the needs for the Future Champions Cup and UK races the day before, did not lead to a satisfactory outcome for the middle races.

- Map Scales: The debate is not going away. It is imperative that a clear message is communicated for events of all levels, but mainly National events, on what is the most suitable scale for each age class at each of the events staged. There is the output from the Graythwaite questionnaire to consider, as well as much concern from some of our older competitors about their inability to read maps at the same scales as they could when younger.
- BOF Franchise Agreement: is now ready to be used for future events. However, the necessary financial control and payment procedures to go with it need to be agreed. JK 2011 is keen to adopt the new procedures, so this needs to be progressed and implemented fairly swiftly.
- Combining BOC Elite and Age Class: There has been some discussion about the merits or otherwise of combining the elite championships with the age class championships at all disciplines. Generally, it seems that this is seen favourably by most (but not all) who have expressed a view on the subject. If a change is to be implemented there needs to be a decision on the structure to be adopted. It will already be difficult to adopt this proposal for the 2011 Sprint Races, as there is already a proposal for a separate age class championships.
LW stated that a decision is required and that there are clearly pros and cons but that it is important not to compromise the elite races. LW asked all present to make clear their views which she will take to the Board for a final decision. The balance of the views presented was in favour of combined events although some group chairs supported two separate weekends for Sprint and Middle Distance races. LW to organise a briefing paper for the Board.
- Rules & Draft Guidelines: The existence of Rules on the BOF website, and subsequent draft guidelines for future major events caused some confusion at JK 2009, and has already caused some confusion for JK 2010. There has been good logic to the Sprint and Middle Distance Championship rules evolving in this way up to now however a more open and transparent method to publicise these rules and guidelines is now required to avoid further confusion. Posting them on the BOF website and making it clear which rules apply to which years' events will address this problem. Major Event organisers will be asked to sign up to a particular, dated version after which only mutually agreed changes can be made and such changes should be published on the web site for prospective competitors.
- Review of 2009 major events: a detailed review of the 2009 major events will be completed in time for the Major Events Conference. However, initial views suggest that the events have been successful. The most significant issue (affecting BOC and JK – and now 2010 BMDOC – see below) has been land access permission, which caused the change of date of the British Championships, the decision to stage a separate British Elite Championships and the last minute change to bussing for the JK relays.
- Review of 2010 major events: update will be required from all controllers for the 2010 major events for the next meeting. However, current issues include:
 - MEROC have been unable to get permission in writing for the use of a significant part of Formby, the area proposed for BMDOC 2010. SROC (who are planning to stage the Elite Sprint race in Chorley) are currently trying to identify an alternative venue in the NW. They are currently suggesting Delamere (near Chester) which will have to be assessed for suitability. (DEE advised post meeting as not being suitable or available).
 - SYO have yet to confirm the area they propose to use for the 2010 CompassSport Cup final in October.
- Review of 2011 major events: It is still early for a detailed review of the programme for 2011. However, JK 2011 in Northern Ireland is progressing well. The remaining major events for 2011 have now been scheduled (after quite challenging negotiations) by the National Fixtures Secretary, so MEG is about to seek (a) volunteers to control these events (JK controllers are already appointed), (b) nominations from the organisers for events to be

considered as nominations for WRE status, and then (c) volunteers to act as IOF Event Advisers for the events selected as WREs.

Rules Group:

- Item 08/60 (from the November 2008 meeting): Event Guidelines and Event Rules to be re-sequenced and available for 2010: It was agreed that following the complete revision of the Event Guidelines and the new Event Rules that arrangements will be made after the end of June 2009 for them to be placed on the British Orienteering website for implementation on 1st January 2010.

This will now take account of the previous item clarifying the version being used for a major event.

- Item 09/05 - Review of Events Committee Meeting held on 17th January 2009:
Following a very lengthy discussion on the role of Events Committee in the implementation of the new three Level Event Structure, it is the belief that many orienteers would prefer a four Level Event Structure consisting of Level 1 offering Championships of the highest quality of competition and organisation; Level 2 offering Events with quality competition and with Grade 2 Controllers; Level 3 with participation / competitive events with a Grade 3 Controller; and Level 4 Events at a local level for participation and with Controller input as decided by the organising club (but to include ensuring that risk assessment had been undertaken). It was, however, agreed that Rules Group needed to take a pragmatic approach as the Board of Directors and Events Committee were fully committed to the 3 Level Event Structure.

As far as is known there is currently no review or feedback via consultation planned prior to the implementation date and that it is the responsibility of Rules Group to seek views regarding the implementation of the Rules.

Rules Group therefore agreed to confirm the following points with the Board of Directors, Events Committee and the Regional Associations:

- o That all events needed to be defined by the quality of the competition as well as the available facilities.
 - o That all participation events at Local level need to be 'signed off' by a Controller with at least a Grade 3 qualification as meeting British Orienteering requirements re risk assessments and health and safety.
This will now be modified in the light of the previous discussion.
 - o That there is an urgent need for C2 courses to be held at Regional Association level for current Grade 3 Controllers wishing to be formally trained and gain a Grade 2 Controller qualification, together with O3, P3 and C3 courses to be held as often as is deemed necessary by Regional Associations or Clubs;
 - o That all Regional Associations, working with their constituent Clubs, should have an appropriate number of Regional Level Events (agreed at National Fixtures Group) in their annual fixtures lists. These events should provide a variety of quality competition. e.g. a Regional series of League/Galoppen Events, Regional Long Distance, Middle Distance and Sprint Events including Championships, Multi-Day Events, etc.
 - o That all National Level (1) and Regional Level (2) Events shall be 'Ranking Events' linked to the proposed 'Single Ranking Scheme'.
- Item 09/07 - Update on Event Structure review: How do we communicate changes such as the event re-structuring to the clubs? The major issue is how we obtain consistency within a level, e.g. Event Quality, Controllers, Embargoes, etc.
Discussion centred on the need for good communications to Associations, Clubs, Event Officials and individual members not only via the website, which may contain the material but where it is not always clearly and easily available, but also by the use of specifically targeted information mail-shots and emails to Controllers, Mappers, Fixtures Secretaries etc. as well as to Association and Club Chairman and Secretaries.
It was recommended by Rules Group that British Orienteering arrange a Club Conference in the Autumn of 2009 in order that a clear presentation be made to those attending of what will have happened regarding the new Event Structure and the Rules, Appendices, Event

Rules and Event Guidelines to the date of the Conference and what is scheduled to happen before and during 2010.

- Item 09/09 – Timetable for publication of new Rules, Appendices, Event Rules and Guidelines: It was agreed to wait until the 2009 Major Events timetabled up to mid-May, some with new or revised Event Guidelines (to be re-named Event Rules), have taken place, and then to request any comments regarding amendments from the Event Officials who will have had the experience of putting the Guidelines into practice. Following this, Rules Group will make a final review and agree any revisions at the next meeting in June and then aim for publication of the final versions by the end of July for implementation on 1st January 2010. The aim is also to produce the final versions of the Rules, update some Appendices, and provide generic Event Guidelines for publication at the end of July alongside the new set of Event Rules.

LW stated that the Board require the modified Rules and Guidelines to be circulated to the Board as soon as possible in order that they can be 'signed-off' at the Board meeting on 8 July.

- Item 09/32 – Update on Event Officials Training Materials: Katy Stubbs was thanked for her detailed report re her updating of the Course Materials for Event Officials. O3, P3 and C3 Course Materials on CD-Rom are available upon request from National Office for those Associations wishing to hold courses in the near future. Katy Stubbs has also volunteered to further update the Course Materials when all of the Rules, Appendices, Event Rules and Event Guidelines are complete and available to members. There are also future plans for the Course Materials to be available on the British Orienteering website for 'Individual Learning' opportunities. Members of Rules Group were agreed on the importance of good training, mentoring and advice to be available in order to raise and maintain standards of organising, planning and controlling, and expressed the hope that all Regional Associations would be prepared to organise training courses for new and existing Event Officials using available 'Volunteer Development Funding'.
- Item 09/34 (a) Communications with Board and staff members and between Committees and Groups: Rules Group fully supported the suggestion that there should be a Conference of all British Orienteering Committees and Groups organised by the Chief Executive on behalf of the Board of Directors, in order to discuss and agree a coherent strategy of who is responsible for what, and who reports to whom, establishing channels for comment, feedback and report, together with the opportunity to make 'In progress' reports of current developments and future plans.
- Item 09/34 (b) 'Controller of Controllers' and 'Event Officials Co-ordinators':
Members of the Group expressed their concern over the lack of updating of information on file of new Controllers and existing Controllers who had been upgraded. It was agreed that there was a need not only for each Association to keep their records up to date but also for an appointment to be made known to the National Office in order that the details of all grades of Controller can be kept under regular review.
Rules Group would thereby welcome the appointment of a 'Controller of Controllers' who would be responsible for overseeing and keeping under review the Grade 1, 2 and 3 Controllers within the UK, together with co-ordinating Training Courses and liaising with Major Events Group re Grade 1 Controllers for Level 1 Events.
MH queried this until the role of the Events Manager had been clarified it had also been agreed previously on the agenda that the development of event officials was to be the responsibility of the development programme.
MH to ask office staff to provide a list of event officials to clubs as soon as possible.
- MF asked for an exception to the Rules for the Harvester Trophy. In view of the timescale involved, he had been unable to find a suitable controller for this event so had taken on the role himself. He is a Grade 1 controller when the event only requires a Grade 2 controller, but he is a member of BOK, the organising club. MF stressed that he has had no involvement with the organisation of the event. BE & LW had already indicated agreement so the event could proceed. The rest of the committee endorsed the decision.

Map Group:

Colin expressed Map Group's concern at the lack of support that they were receiving from the office.

- Maps for Major Events:
 - o BOC: maps were to correct scale but laser printing not adequate and not approved by map group; survey of gorse and heather was not consistent.
 - o JK: MG were happy with map production despite early problems with survey.
 - o FCC long final and BEOC: MF had helped by resolving an issue regarding printing costs.
 - o BMDC: the map had been simplified and no adverse criticism had been received.
- OS: the new copyright agreement is now in force; the details on the web page remain out of date and should be updated.
- Map database: is now on line but requires considerable more work to enable it to be used as envisaged ie enabling maps to be registered on line.
- Map assessment scheme: the scheme has been in abeyance since mid 2008 and recent efforts to start it up in an interim way are slowly generating some response. The map group are unable to decide on the map awards for 2008 due to the lack of maps coming through to the office.
- Map advisers: once Robert Dove manages to meet MF the group hope to have a revised process so that decisions on the maps for major events are reached at an early stage in the event approval process.
- Appendix H (Maps): is being rewritten and will be completed once uncertainties about the map registration process and the map adviser scheme are resolved.

11. Board Meeting Reports

No actions that have not been dealt with already in the agenda had been received from the Board after the Meetings of 26 February and 29 April.

12. Any Other Business

- The implementation of the Major Event Franchise: had been dealt with previously in the agenda.
- Event Manager Role description: had been circulated and members were asked to make any feedback they may have directly to LW or MH.
- Process for Rules & Guidelines being notified to major event organisers: had been dealt with previously in the agenda.
- Event Franchise Agreement, implementation and communication: had been dealt with previously in the agenda.

13. Reporting

Items for the Board to decide:

- o Can the British Championships be open to overseas competitors – enabling them to be considered as WRE (LW)
- o Should the BOC Elite and Age Class Championships be combined – briefing paper to be prepared by 1 July (LW)

Items recommended to the Board:

- o Event Strategy: The Board is recommendation that a 'Competition Framework' should first be established that will underpin the vision statement 'mp3' (LW)
- o Event Strategy: Once a Competition Framework is established an event strategy and action plans should be developed to underpin both the vision and Competition Framework

Items for the Board to note are:

a) Event Structure Implementation:

- Communicating the relaxation of the rules regarding appointment of controllers and the decisions on embargoes at Regional events (MH to organise)
- Clubs to be asked to justify to participants the cost of entry to events (MH to organise)
- Continued communication to participants of the reasons for the changes to the event structure (LW/MH)

b) Graythwaite Feedback:

- A copy of the feedback to be provided to LOC the organising club (MH)
- A news item and the feedback to be published on the website for members to consider (MH)
- Map Group tasked to consider map scales guidance / rules and query the IOF mapping group regarding their intentions (CS)
- M/W60+ members to be consulted with regarding the map scales that they should be using (LW)
- Independent Adjudication Group to be established to address mapping matters that there may be disagreement over; the who, how, and when will be decided at the next Events Committee meeting (LW/MH)
- Offset litho to be used for maps at all National events unless a change is agreed by Map Group

c) World Ranking Events:

- Major Events Group to be responsible for selection and nomination of WRE with strong input from IC and ECS
- WRE for 2010 to be 2 days of the JK and 1 day of the Trossachs event

d) Operational Group Reports:

- MEG to appoint IOF Event Advisors
- Rules and Guideline versions to be dated and major events will agree to which version they are to work to; any changes can only be made if mutually agreeable (Rules Group, MEG)
- Compass Sport Cup scoring system to be changed for Jan 2010
- Franchise Agreement for JK and BOC to be implemented for 2011 onwards (MEG)
- Rules Group to prepare the final versions of the Rules and Guidelines for circulation to the Board in time for the 8 July 2009 meeting (BE)

e) Any Other Business:

- Event Manager Job Description, Events Committee members were asked to pass any comments to MH/LW as soon as possible

14. Dates and Venues of Meetings

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

Dates for 2009:

14 November

LW to circulate proposed dates for 2010.

Action List – June 2009

a) Event Structure Implementation:

- Communicate the relaxation of the rules regarding appointment of controllers and the decisions on embargoes at Regional events (MH to organise)
- Clubs to be asked to justify to participants the cost of entry to events (MH)
- Continued communication to participants of the reasons for the changes to the event structure (LW/MH)

b) Graythwaite Feedback:

- A copy of the feedback to be provided to LOC the organising club (MH)
- A news item and the feedback to be published on the website for members to consider (MH)
- Map Group tasked to consider map scales guidance / rules and query the IOF mapping group regarding their intentions (CS)
- M/W60+ members to be consulted with regarding the map scales that they should be using (LW)
- Independent Adjudication Group to be established to address mapping matters that there may be disagreement over; the who, how, and when will be decided at the next Events Committee meeting (LW/MH)
- Offset litho to be used for maps at all National events unless a change is agreed by Map Group (Communicated by MEG)

c) Event Strategy:

- Recommendation to the Board that a 'Competition Framework' should first be established that will underpin the vision statement 'mp3' (LW)
- Following that an event strategy and action plans should be developed that will underpin both the vision and Competition Framework

d) World Ranking Events:

- Major Events Group to be responsible for selection and nomination of WRE with strong input from IC and ECS (MEG)
- WRE for 2010 to be 2 days of the JK and 1 day of the Trossachs event (MEG)

e) Operational Group Reports:

- MEG to appoint IOF Event Advisors (MEG)
- Rules and Guideline versions to be dated and major events will agree to which version they are to work to; any changes can only be made if mutually agreeable (Rules Group, MEG)
- Compass Sport Cup scoring system to be changed for Jan 2010
- Board asked to consider the British Championships being open to overseas competitors – enabling them to be considered as WRE (LW)
- Franchise Agreement for JK and BOC to be implemented for 2011 onwards (MEG)
- Board to be asked to make a decision on the whether the BOC Elite and Age Class Championships should be combined – briefing paper to be prepared by 1 July (LW)
- Rules Group to prepare the final versions of the Rules and Guidelines for circulation to the Board in time for the 8 July 2009 meeting (BE)

f) Any Other Business:

- Event Manager Job Description, members were asked to pass any comments to MH/LW as soon as possible (All)