

Meeting of
EVENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
held on Saturday 15th October 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham.

Management Committee is asked to NOTE:

- 05/24a The decision to allow an experienced Grade 2 Controller to be recruited for BRC 2006.
- 05/24b The variation in the embargo time on area to be used for BOC 2007.
- 05/24c The progress made in making provision for JK 2007.
- 05/24e The progress on attempts to improve the quality of major events.

Minutes of the meeting of
EVENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
held on Saturday 15th October 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham.

PRESENT:

Barry Elkington (Rules Group) in the Chair Peter Guillaume (Fixtures Group)

Susan Marsden (Junior Competitions Group)

Mike Richardson (Major Events Co-ordinator)

Colin Spears (Map Group)

Neil Cameron

In attendance:

Alex Ross (Executive Officer)

05/19 Apologies and Courtesies

Apologies from John Palmer (Elite Competitions Group). The position of Neil Cameron prior to the next meeting of Council was clarified. In the absence of a BOF Vice Chairman it was agreed that Barry Elkington would Chair.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Randal Macdonald for his inspiration as Chair of the previous meetings of the Committee.

05/20 Minutes of Meeting held on 21/05/05

Minutes accepted as a true record.

05/21 Actions and Matters Arising

Actions Deleted 18, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35.

Actions Continuing 25.

No matters arising.

05/22 Reports from Operations Groups

a) Home International Group

Team managers from the SHI have enquired about a fixed date for the competition. In discussion this was felt to be undeliverable although the creation of a defined window might be possible.

Action AR

An issue raised at the JHI about the location of this competition and other junior competitions will be discussed at the next JCG meeting and at the next BOF/SOA meeting.

Contact with the EOC suggests that they may be able to find a person willing to liaise directly with Fixtures Group regarding the hosting of Home Internationals when they are held in England.

b) Elite Competitions Group

Comments on the role of ECG in relation to the hosting of major elite events and the implications for the proposed introduction of Micro-O into the World Orienteering Championships were discussed. There was some concern expressed over the introduction of late changes to events and the potential for things to go wrong leading to a decrease in quality.

A clash between the British Middle Orienteering Championships and the Tio Mila was recognised and regretted.

c) Senior Competitions Group

Comments are awaited from the next meetings of Rules Group and Development Committee.

d) Junior Competitions Group

A meeting is planned for the near future. In 2006, the Young Orienteers Festival will be held in conjunction with the British Sprint Championships. There are implications for resources to be discussed. The fact that some areas to be used for the BSC in the future would be unable to host the YOF also needs to be discussed.

e) Rules Group

It is intended to identify and produce a digest of common pitfalls to be avoided in providing major events as a means of improving quality. There is a need to gather relevant information in order that the issues and solutions can be identified. One suggestion was to investigate feedback from National and Major Events through reports to the Major Events Co-ordinator. Review of information available to be undertaken.

Action MR

f) Fixtures Group

Peter Guillaume reported on a few strategic issues. The Chairman of NEOA is acting as their Fixtures Secretary pro temp. They may offer to host a major event in the future. There is an issue over hosting of BSSC and BSOC in 2006 which needs to be resolved, hopefully at the next meeting. There is a need to review the rota of events given the withdrawal of some Associations. There may be a case for combining some OA's to enable all to take part in the rota.

g) Map Group

Map Group has approved the use of laser printing for maps at 1:10,000 for the Kyloe National Event. It was not known whether the organisers would be seeking approval from Rules Group for the use of 1:10,000 for all classes although it was not felt to be a major issue

A specification for School Maps has been agreed and will be distributed to all mappers including commercial organisations.

h) Major Events

The Major Events Conference proved to be a great success and one of the largest so far. The timing in early September and the central location helped to boost attendance. Although the YHA accommodation was satisfactory, many would be willing to pay more for a higher standard of sleeping arrangements. It is intended to make an advance booking for 2006 to allow better publicity to those for whom the Conference is designed.

Action AR

Two issues from 2005 National Events were raised. The difference in Control Descriptions between the map version and the paper version at Kilnsey. An example of the effects of a late change. There may be a bracken problem at the Kyloe event which it is hoped does not detract from the quality of the event.

05/23 Reports from Management and Development Committees

a) Management Committee:

Items on Sports Council Funding, BOF Office Premises, an on-line membership system, BOF History, Equality Standards, prioritisation in the event of funding cuts and a role for Development Committee were described.

b) Development Committee:

Discussions on the Junior Ageless Award Scheme, Orienteering for the Disabled, Volunteering, Communications and Development Fund bids were described.

05/24 Individual Items:

a) BOC 2006

The problem encountered in finding suitable Grade 1 Controllers is giving cause for concern. Authority was given to contact suitable experienced Grade 2 Controllers.

b) BOC 2007

In attempting to find a suitable area for the individual competition a request has been received for a variation in the Rules. A night event is scheduled to be on the chosen area 18 months before BOC. This variation was allowed provided that, in the interests of fairness, all members must be made aware of the night event in order that they might attend if they wish.

c) JK 2007

The offer from a volunteer to be co-ordinator and the identification of both suitable areas and Associations willing to provide manpower

has eased the problem. It was agreed to accept the proposal that the event be provided as a co-operative venture between BOF and the relevant Associations.

Action AR

d) Scottish Championships 2006

Given recent concerns over National Events it would be preferable if the Controller, appointed by Event Operations, came from a different region. It was recognised that this would have considerable financial repercussions in this case. It was agreed to discuss this with the SOA.

Action AR

e) Major Event Registration

A paper provided by Peter Guillaume was discussed. The issues of sanctions, communication, roles and the design process were identified. It was agreed that a redraft would be circulated to all members for further discussion.

Action PG

05/25 Any Other Business

No items.

05/26 Reporting and Actions

The following items were identified as suitable for immediate notification to the membership via the website.

05/24 a to e inclusive.

05/27 Dates and Venues of Future Meetings:

11th February 2006 Birmingham

13th May 2006 Birmingham

14th October 2006 Birmingham

ACTIONS

arising or continuing from the meetings of Event Operations Committee.

25	05/06d	Liaise with webmaster over changes to event feedback system.	AR
36	05/22a	Contact Team Managers from SHI about defining an event window.	AR
37	05/22c	Review present reporting back process from major events and availability of the information recovered.	MR
38	05/22h	Progress booking for 2006 Major Event Conference.	AR
39	05/24c	Progress provision of JK 2007 as approved.	AR
40	05/24d	Contact SOA regarding appointment of a Controller from outside Scotland for National Event in 2006.	AR
41	05/24e	Redraft proposal on major Event Registration	PG