

Fixtures Group Minutes

Saturday 15th March 2008 - Birmingham



1. Opening Remarks The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Present:

Peter Guillaume	Chairman
Pat Martin	Secretary
Dawn Watson	YHOA
Richard Sharp	SCOA
Brian Hughes	WOA
Paul Caban	SOA
Richard Tiley	NWOA
John Shucksmith	SWOA
Clive Coles	EAOA
Philip Gristwood	SEOA
George Chambers	WMOA
Barry Young	NEOA
Ernie Williams	EMOA
Mike Hamilton	Chief Executive British Orienteering
Lyn West	Chair Events Committee

3. Apologies:

Ian Whitehead	EMOA
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The Chairman welcomed Barry Young (NEOA) to his first meeting, Ernie Williams, who was representing East Midlands, Lyn West, Chair of Events Committee and Mike Hamilton, Chief Executive British Orienteering.

4. Declaration of Any other Business

None

5. The minutes of the Fixtures Group meeting on 15th October 2007 were agreed to be accurate.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Previous Actions not covered elsewhere

Item	ACTIONS Fixtures Group Saturday 15 th October 2007	Completed
06/19	British Orienteering now have a pool of kit available for Major Events. Action: Mike Hamilton agreed to get this added to the British Orienteering web site	Yes on web site
7b	Fixtures Allocation document Action: Chairman to update and take to Events Committee for approval on 3.11.2007.	Completed and circulated
7c	All Associations are requested to submit their planned District events to the Secretary for inclusion in the database. Local events are discretionary. Action: All	Completed
14	Roll out of On Line Fixtures registration and database	Continuing
16	New insurance arrangements Action: Mike Hamilton to email information sent to clubs to Association Fixture Secretaries	Completed

7. Reports from Other Meetings

(a) Junior Competitions Group - January 2008

- (i) The Junior Inter Regional is to now be held on the first weekend in July. The previous proposal to move this to September and have the Peter Palmer Relay in June or July was not practical. Clubs could not access suitable areas in June or July.
- (ii) Paul Caban (SOA) said that a July date for JIRC was not suitable for Scotland as it clashed with School holidays and they would not be able to host the event in the future.
- (iii) It had been requested that the Peter Palmer be given a fixed date in September in the fixtures calendar, this being the second Sunday after the August Bank Holiday.
- (iv) This was not felt to be a suitable date and it was agreed that the last Sunday in September should be the permanent date in the calendar.

(b) Events Committee – February 2008

- (i) There were a number of specific actions for Fixtures from this meeting all relating to the Events Review. The Chairman firstly presented the following quote from the minutes.

“Council has now agreed that there will be a 3 tier structure and Management Committee have endorsed this decision. Members of Events Committee still have concerns regarding the practicality of the 3 tier structure but LW made it clear that the task of the Committee and Groups is now to find solutions and enable implementation to be progressed.”

- (ii) The Chairman then presented a paper that he had prepared in conjunction with the Rules Group Chairman (Barry Elkington) that outlined the new Event Structure.

This statement summarises the new Event Structure following the Events Review.

There will be 3 levels of event: National, Regional and Local.

The over-riding issue in using these titles is that they make sense to a newcomer to the sport and actually reflect the locality and scale of the event.

The level of an event will be related to standards which drive the quality of an event.

Quality will include appropriate terrain, facilities, organisational standards, and level of officials.

Quality also means the level of competition expected at the event.

These standards will apply to all types of event at a particular level, whether they be traditional cross country events (i.e. Long races); Middle distance; Sprint races; Urban races; Relays; Score events; etc.

Guidelines will be written which define the quality standards expected at each level of event.

The Major Events Group will monitor the Level 1 events.

Rules Group will put in place a simple process to ensure the quality of the Level 2 events.

1. National events will include the JK, British Championships (Long, Middle, Sprint, Relays & Night), the six Area Championships and Compass Sport Cup Final

2. Regional events will typically be events such as multi day events, the November Classic, JOK Chasing Sprint, The Harvester, Urban Orienteering races such as the York & Oxford City Races; etc.

3. Local Events will consist of all events that do not wish to meet the quality criteria above.

(The quality control will be appropriate to the event).

Other events will fit into this structure depending on what quality level the event is being staged at.

Looking specifically at traditional cross country events:

- 1. National events will be age class competitions.*
- 2. Regional events will be based on a colour coded system, with age classes mapped alongside the colours for those events that wish to use them, such as Association Championships.*
- 3. Local events will be based on a colour coded system, with as many or few courses as needed.*

Peter Guillaume (Chairman Fixtures) and Barry Elkington (Chairman Rules Group) 14.3.2008

(iii) The meeting examined and discussed the document in detail and then considered 2 actions from Events Committee for Fixtures:

Action: 1 Fixtures and Rules Groups to consider the changes required to implement the new structure (PG,BE asap)

Action: 3 Fixtures Group to recommend authority levels for the new events structure (PG asap)

(iv) These were discussed together. The role of Fixtures Group in the future was outlined in the Event Committee minutes and the relationship between Major Events Group and Fixtures Group:

“Major Events Group will be responsible for agreeing the terrain, organisation, controllers, reviewing of the events and for the development of major events in general”

“Fixtures Group will be responsible for agreeing the scheduling of events”

(v) The following authority levels were agreed:

National: Authority Level - Fixtures Group. Events brought to Fixtures Group at least 2 to 3 years in advance.

Regional: Authority Level - Fixtures Group. Events brought to Fixtures Group at least 2 years in advance.

Local: Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the authority level was Association Fixture Secretary. It was agreed that clubs could stage events with a limited number of courses without consultation with the Association Fixture Secretary; however events with a larger number of courses on Sunday required coordination to provide a balanced local fixtures programme and to liaise with adjacent Associations to prevent clashes between neighbouring clubs.

(vi) It was reported that the Events Review group believed that in some Associations clubs were being prevented from staging events by the Association. None of the persons present at the meeting felt this was an issue or were aware of this.

ACTION: Fixtures Chairman to contact Events Review Group for evidence of this so that the issue can be taken up with the relevant Associations.

(vii) Fixtures Group felt that the new structure should be fully implemented from 2009, otherwise the impetus for this would be lost.

ACTION: Chairman to contact Rules Group to request the various guides are progressed to facilitate this.

7. Junior Events

(i) Richard Tiley introduced a document that he had prepared which sought to bring some order back to the staging of Junior Events to ensure that they rotated round the country. Recently there had been an excess of major Junior events in the South. No Northern or Midland clubs had offered to host these events. A version of the below going up to 2021 had been circulated to all Association Fixture Secretaries.

	British Schools Score Champs			British Schools Championships			Yvette Baker Trophy		
	Region	Assoc	Club	Region	Assoc	Club	Region	Assoc	Club
2008	Midlands	EMOA	NOC	South	SCOA	BKO	Midlands	EAOA	NOR
2009	Midlands	EAOA	SOS	North	NEOA	NATO	South	SEOA	SO
2010	North	NWOA	PFO/ SELOC	South	SEOA	Offered	Midlands	WMOA	
2011	South	SCOA		Midlands	EMOA		North	NEOA	
2012	Midlands	WMOA		North	NWOA	WCOC ?	South	SWOA	
2013	North	NEOA		South	SCOA		Midlands	EMOA	

(ii) This was agreed by all and updated with new offers. NATO has offered to host the Schools Championships in 2009 which was accepted with thanks. The rota will be updated at each meeting. It does not prevent a club bidding to host from their area of the country, if they are not the planned host Region.

(iii) SOA and WOA asked where they fitted into this. Yvette Baker is an English Clubs only event. WOA and SOA could offer to host the Schools Champs. The Schools Score has been an English orientated event but it was felt there was no reason why this could not be held at an accessible location in Wales.

8. British Championship Events 2009 Onwards

(i) The Events Review recommended and Council has approved that there should be a British Sprint and Middle Championships for all classes. Events Committee agreed that these should be full Championships events from 2009. The current Sprint guideline will be renamed the "The British Elite Sprint Championship" guideline.

(ii) The current proposal from Rules Group (February 2008) is that the British Sprint Championships should be an event with heats and finals, a two race format the same as the Elite.

(iii) Guidelines already exist for the British Elite Long and British Elite Middle Distance Championships.

(iv) A new British Middle Distance guideline is required. Ernie Williams advised the meeting that Rules Group had almost finalised this.

(v) Events Committee had also agreed that a "franchise agreement" should be established as a matter of urgency. Mike Hamilton clarified that this was intended for JK and those events that are British Championships.

(vi) 2009 would be a transition year. NOC have agreed to host the British Elite Sprint Championship and LEI to host the full British Middle Championships. Both would include the Elite races.

ACTION: A club to host the 2009 British Sprint Championships is required.

(vii) It was discussed and agreed that the only practical way forward from 2010 was that clubs should be asked to host the British Sprint and Middle Championships. Elite Competitions could then decide to use these events for the Elite, or stage separate Championships subject to the needs of Elite athletes.

(viii) As these are British Championships then they need to be staged on or by the first weekend in May each year as per the current policy for British Championships, or in the Autumn.

(ix) It was queried if the current British Night Championships would be Level 1

ACTION: Peter Guillaume to check with Major Events Group

9. Area Championships

(i) Events Committee (February 2008) agreed that the new Area Championships should be implemented from 2009. These events replace the previous National events. These events will attract a higher level of ranking points. It is envisaged that these events will have age group courses planned to the current National Event guideline.

(ii) It was agreed that those National events in the planner for 2009 should be allowed to continue if the clubs wished, or they were already Area Championships. There would be none of the old styled National events from 2010, however some of those in the planner may become the Area Championships.

(iii) The English Regions already have a rota. WOA and SOA queried if these Championships had to Level 1 events under the new structure. It was accepted that they could be Level 2, but would still come under the management of the Major Events Group. If the Area Championship is not a UK Cup race then a 21E would not be required, (but one could still be planned) which makes more terrain available to host the Area Championships.

(iv) Paul Caban (SOA) asked: "What do we have to do so that the Scottish Champs isn't under the control of 'Major Events Group? ". Lyn West said that if the Scottish Champs is a Level 2 event, in any given year, then it does not come under the management of Major Events Group.

(v) It was queried if the current Regional Night Championships would be Level 1 or Level 2

ACTION: Peter Guillaume to check with Major Events Group

2009

(vi) The following were agreed after some discussion as in some cases other clubs had been earmarked for Area Championships. If any of the existing Regional events were to become Area Championships then they would need to upgrade their event.

(vii) Philip Gristwood reported that the HH event on 22nd February 2009 would also be hosting Interland.

Region	Date	Club - Area
South	22 nd February 2009	HH - Slough
Wales	March 1 st 2009	SWOC
North	19 th April 2009	LOC Graythwaite
Midland	3 rd May or 29 th November 2009?	WCH or BOK?
Scotland	23 rd May 2009	
Northern Ireland		

ACTIONS:

- a. Richard Sharpe to confirm his verbal report that TVOC are happy to allow HH to take on the Southern Championships
- b. Philip Gristwood to ask HH if they will host the Southern Championships in 2009
- c. George Chambers to confirm by email with WCH that they do not wish to upgrade their event and host the Midland Championships in 2009. The proposed date 29th November 2009 is unsuitable as it clashes with the annual M/W16 Coaching weekend at YMCA Lakeside.
- d. Peter Guillaume to ask if BOK will host the Midland Championships as part of their National event on 3rd May 2009 if WCH formally drop out.

2010

East Anglia were due to host the Midland Championships in 2010, but withdrew to allow LEI to host who have already invested in the possibility of hosting this. Thanks were offered to EAOA.

Region	Date	Club - Area
South	7 th February 2010	NGOC – Forest of Dean
Wales	28 th Feb or 7 th March 2010	
North		EPOC
Midland	21 st March 2010	LEI - Grantham
Scotland	31 st May 2010	
Northern Ireland		

ACTIONS:

- a. John Shucksmith to ask NGOC if they if they wish to upgrade to National status to host the Southern Championships.
- b. Dawn Watson to ask EPOC if they wish to upgrade to National status. If not, to see if another YHOA club wishes to host.
- c. Brian Hughes to clarify date for Welsh Championships.

2011 Onwards

Updated to reflect the above

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
North	NWOA	YHOA	NEOA	NWOA	YHOA
Midland	WMOA	EMOA	EAOA	WMOA	EMOA
South	SEOA	SWOA	SCOA	SEOA	SCOA
Scottish	SOA				
Welsh	WOA				
Irish	NIOA				

10. Major Events 2007 – 2012

These were reviewed and updated.

2008		
JK	SEOA	21 st – 24 th March 2008
British Elite Orienteering Championships (M)	OD	Saturday 5 th April 2008
British Sprint Championships	OD	6 th April 2008
British Orienteering Championships & Relays	SOA	19 th - 20 th April 2008
British Elite Orienteering Championships (L)	SOA	19 th April 2008
World Schools	SOA	20 th – 26 th April 2008
Future Champions Cup Final	EBOR	3 rd & 4 th May 2008
National Event	EBOR	4 th May 2008
Harvester	TVOC	17 th May 2008

National Event – Scottish Championships	SOA	Saturday 24 th May 2008
National Event	HOC	8 th June 2008
Junior Inter Regional Championships	NEOA	28 th /29 th June 2008
Peter Palmer Relay	AIRE	7 th September 2008
Junior Home International	MEROC	20 th /21 st September 2008
Senior Home International	SOA	25 th /26 th October 2008
Veteran Home International	NIOA	4 th October 2009
British Schools Score	NOC	Saturday 11th October 2008
Compass Sport Cup Final	OD	19 th October 2008
British Schools Champs	BKO	16 th November 2008
Yvette Baker Trophy Cup Final	EAOA	7 th December 2008

2009		
British Night Championships	SEOA	24 th January 2009
National - Southern Championships & Interland	HH	22 nd February 2009
Welsh Championships	SWOC	1 st March 2009
British Orienteering Championships & Relays	SCOA	14 th /15 th March 2009
British Elite Orienteering Championships (L)	SCOA	14 th March 2009
Compass Sport Cup First Round	ALL	29 th March 2009
JK	NEOA	10 th - 13 th April 2009
National - Northern Championships	LOC	19 th April 2009
Future Champions Cup Final Middle	NGOC	2 nd May 2009
National, Future Champions Cup Final Long & Midland Championships ??	BOK	3 rd May 2009 (Triple O 7)
British Orienteering Middle Championships and Elite Middle Championships	EMOA	10 th May 2009
National & Scottish Champs	SOA	23 rd May 2009
Harvester	???	???
Junior Inter Regional Championships	NIOA	4 th -5 th July 2009
Peter Palmer Relay	WMOA	27 th September 2009
National Event	AIRE	12 th Sept. 2009
Junior Home International	WOA	5 th /6 th September 2009
Senior Home International	NIOA	???
British Schools Score	EAOA	Saturday 10 th October 2009
Compass Sport Cup Final	LEI	18 th October 2009
Veteran Home International	EMOA	14 th /15 th November 2009
British Schools Champs	NATO	22 nd November 2009
Yvette Baker Trophy Cup Final	SO	6 th December 2009

2009 ISSUES

Harvester – Offers requested

British Sprint Championships – Offers requested

2010		
Welsh Championships	WOA	7 th March 2010
British Night Championships	SOA	6 th March 2010
Midland Championships	LEI	21 st March 2010
Compass Sport Cup First Round	ALL	
JK	SWOA	2 nd – 5 th April 2010
Future Champions Cup Final		
British Orienteering Championships & Relays	WMOA	1 st /2 nd May 2010
British Middle Orienteering Championships	NWOA	17 th /18 th April 2010 ??
British Sprint Orienteering Championships	NWOA	17 th /18 th April 2010 ??
British Elite Long Orienteering Championships	WMOA	1 st /2 nd May 2010 ??

British Elite Middle Orienteering Championships		
British Elite Sprint Championships		
Scottish Championships	SOA	29 th May 2010
Harvester		
Junior Inter Regional Championships	NIOA	3 rd /4 th July 2010
Peter Palmer Relay		26 th September 2010
National Event		
Junior Home International	SOA	
Senior Home International	EOA	(South Central)
British Schools Score	PFO/ SELOC	Saturday 9 th October 2010
Compass Sport Cup Final	AIRE	
Veteran Home International	WOA	
British Schools Champs	SEOA	21 st November 2010
Yvette Baker Trophy Cup Final	WMOA	

2011		
British Night Championships	WMOA	
Welsh Championships		
Midland Championships		
Southern Championships		
Northern Championships		
British Orienteering Championships & Relays		26 th -27 th March 2011
Compass Sport Cup First Round		
JK	NIOA	22 nd – 25 th April 2011
British Orienteering Championships & Relays	YHOA	
British Middle Orienteering Championships	SEOA	
British Sprint Orienteering Championships	SEOA	
British Elite Long Orienteering Championships	YHOA	26 th -27 th March 2011
British Elite Middle Orienteering Championships		
British Elite Sprint Championships		
Future Champions Cup Final		
Scottish Champs		
Harvester		
Junior Inter Regional Championships		
Peter Palmer Relay		
Junior Home International		
Senior Home International	WOA	
British Schools Score		
Compass Sport Cup Final		
Veteran Home International	SOA	
British Schools Champs		
National Event		
Yvette Baker Trophy Cup Final		

2012		
JK	SOA	6 th – 9 th April 2011
British Orienteering Championships & Relays	NWOA	5 th – 6 th May 2011
British Middle Orienteering Championships	YHOA	
British Sprint Orienteering Championships	YHOA	
British Elite Long Orienteering Championships		
British Elite Middle Orienteering Championships		
British Elite Sprint Championships		

11. Regional Events 2007 - 2009

The planners were updated up to 31.12 2009. It was agreed that 2010 requests for Regional events would be taken as they would form the core of future Regional events under the new structure.

ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Pat Martin with 2010 Regional event requests

12. Compass Sport Cup 2009

ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Peter Guillaume 2009 dates.

13. Yvette Baker Trophy Rounds 2008

ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Peter Guillaume 2008 dates.

14. Nopesport Urban League

The list of scoring events for 2008 was circulated. The league is using existing events.

15. British Orienteering Fixtures and the Web Site

a. Mike Hamilton gave a demonstration of the fixtures planning and registration section of the new web site.

b. When the system is usable Richard Tiley has volunteered NWOA to be a pilot Association.

16. Any Other Business

George Chambers suggested that a date in the Fixture List be designated a National Development date when Clubs and Associations could organise courses. This was felt to be a good idea.

ACTION: Chairman to raise with Development Committee

Dates of Future Meetings

Saturday 19th or 26th July 2008 to be confirmed

Saturday 18th October 2008 at Tally Ho! – Birmingham (booked)

Saturday 21st March 2009 at Tally Ho! – Birmingham (booked)

Both - (lunch at 12.15pm, for a 12.30pm start)

Item	ACTIONS Fixtures Group Saturday 15 th March 2008	Completed
7	(vi) It was reported that the Events Review group believed that in some Associations clubs were being prevented from staging events by the Association. None of the persons present at the meeting felt this was an issue or were aware of this. ACTION: Fixtures Chairman to contact Events Review Group for evidence of this so that the issue can be taken up with the relevant Associations. (vii) Fixtures Group felt that the new structure should be fully implemented from 2009, otherwise the impetus for this would be lost. ACTION: Chairman to contact Rules Group to request the various guides are progressed to facilitate this.	
8	ACTION: A club to host the 2009 British Sprint Championships is required. (ix) It was queried if the current British Night Championships would be Level 1 ACTION: Peter Guillaume to check with Major Events Group	

9	<p>(iv) It was queried if the current Regional Night Championships would be Level 1 or Level 2 ACTION: Peter Guillaume to check with Major Events Group</p> <p>Area Championships 2009 ACTIONS:</p> <p>a. Richard Sharpe to confirm his verbal report that TVOC are happy to allow HH to take on the Southern Championships</p> <p>b. Philip Gristwood to ask HH if they will host the Southern Championships in 2009</p> <p>c. George Chambers to confirm by email with WCH that they do not wish to upgrade their event and host the Midland Championships in 2009. The proposed date 29th November 2009 is unsuitable as it clashes with the annual M/W16 Coaching weekend at YMCA Lakeside.</p> <p>d. Peter Guillaume to ask if BOK will host the Midland Championships as part of their National event on 3rd May 2009 if WCH formally drop out.</p> <p>Area Championships 2009 ACTIONS:</p> <p>a. John Shucksmith to ask NGOC if they if they wish to upgrade to National status to host the Southern Championships.</p> <p>b. Dawn Watson to ask EPOC if they wish to upgrade to National status. If not, to see if another YHOA club wishes to host.</p> <p>c. Brian Hughes to clarify date for Welsh Championships.</p>	
11.	<p>ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Pat Martin with 2010 Regional event requests</p>	
12	<p>Compass Sport Cup 2009 ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Peter Guillaume 2009 dates.</p>	
13	<p>Yvette Baker Trophy Rounds 2008 ACTION: All fixture secretaries to email Peter Guillaume 2008 dates.</p>	
16	<p>George Chambers suggested that a date in the Fixture List be designated a National Development date when Clubs and Associations could organise courses. This was felt to be a good idea. ACTION: Chairman to raise with Development Committee</p>	