

Meeting of
RULES GROUP

held on Saturday 5th March 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham.

The meeting of Rules Group was inquorate. It was agreed to continue with the meeting as normal with the following recommendations. See 05/01

Event Operations is asked to NOTE:

- 05/01 Action agreed by attendant members in the face of an inquorate meeting.
- 05/03 Recommendation that Map Group produce an easy steps guide for OCAD 8 relevant for Planners.
- 05/06 The agreement to a waiver of the rules for the National Event associated with the World Cup.
- 05/07 The revisions to Appendix E and I.
- 05/09 The approval of Rob Hickling as a Grade 1 Controller.

Meeting of
RULES GROUP

held on Saturday 5th March 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham.

Present:

Barry Elkington	(WMOA) – Chairman
Charlie Adams	(YHOA)
Andrew Cordle	(EAOA)
David May	(SEOA)
Simon Thompson	(NWOA)
Ernie Williams	(EMOA)

In Attendance:

Alex Ross	(BOF Executive Officer)
-----------	-------------------------

05/01 Apologies and Courtesies

Apologies from Arthur Vince (SWOA) and Alistair Mackenzie (NEOA).
The meeting was inquorate and a number of options were discussed:

At the next quorate meeting agree, subject to approval from Event Operations, a reduction in the number of association representatives required to form a quorum;

Ask Event Operations to approve the recommendations from this meeting;

Circulate the other members of the Group with the recommendations made by today's meeting for electronic approval.

It was agreed to provide appropriate minutes so that this third option could be implemented and reduce any delays in making recommended changes.

05/02 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2004

The minutes were approved.

05/03 Actions

Deleted: 08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Continuing: 10

Andrew Cordle circulated a draft Rules Digest. Members were asked to read and comment on prior to April 3rd so that a version might be approved for circulation to all members.

Action All Members

Members recommended that Map Group be asked to produce an easy steps guide to OCAD 8 that might be used by planners.

Action Event Operations

05/04 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

No matters arising.

05/05 Report on Event Operations meetings held on 5th February 2005

Barry Elkington reported on five items:

Relay Competition: A number of ideas regarding the review of relay competition were discussed. Rules Group are tasked with making some suggestions for implementation for 2006.

Map Registration: A procedure has been put in place to ensure the timely registration of maps with the Federation in order to counter some insurance concerns.

Major Events: A stricter regime to ensure the proper registration and sanctioning of such events will be introduced and communicated to members. The current difficulties over BOC and JK 2007 were communicated.

Event Feedback: The attempts to provide a suitable feedback system to provide Event Operations with suitable material to inform decision making was described.

Action AR

05/06 Matters raised by Association Representatives

Surrey 50 National Event: A paper from David May (SEOA) asking for a one-off waiver of the National Event requirements to allow the unique needs of the World Cup was discussed. The waiver to Rule 1.5.5 was agreed.

National Event 2: A number of issues arising from this event were discussed. It was agreed that the V and N courses needed more explanation and marketing. Although an increase in the speeds attained by veterans was accepted it was felt that as there was no groundswell of opinion indicating a need to change ratios presently in use. It was conceded that a review of those ratios might prove worthwhile. A suggestion to use absolute distances for TD 1-3 courses was not accepted. The proposal that Event Guidelines should include the map scales to be used for individual classes was accepted as a useful benefit to planners and organisers and would be included in the ongoing review of Event Guidelines.

Appendix J (Badge Scheme): Comments on Appendix J from Michael Napier (NOC) were accepted and the suggested changes confirmed. A revised version of the Appendix will be produced.

Action AR

Score Event Guideline: An offer from Roger Lott (TVOC) to produce a Score Event Guideline for inclusion on the Guidelines page of the website was accepted.

Action AR

Embargoes: A proposed SOA statement on embargoes was accepted with the proviso that the BOF Guidelines for BOC and JK, when hosted in Scotland, should be maintained.

Action AR

05/07 Appendices – Revision of E and I

E (Event Safety): A suggested updated text was discussed. It was agreed to include this in a revised version of Appendix E and advertise the change through a news item on the website.

Action AR

I (Electronic Punching): Recent disqualifications have raised the issue of back-up pin punching. It was agreed that at Level 1 and 2 Events a minimum of three boxes should be included on the map and a pin punch be available at each control to allow such back up should an electronic unit fail. At Level 3 and lower Events such back up should be recommended. The wording of the Appendix I and the Competitors Digest should be altered to reflect this

Action AR

05/08 Guidelines – Revision of D, F, J and K

D and F (BOC and JK Individual): The initial revamp to accommodate updated junior course lengths had provided an opportunity to rationalise all course lengths and map scales in order to assist Organisers and Planners. It was agreed to recommend the adoption of the new version.

Action AR

J (British Night Championships): A reformatted guideline was discussed. It was agreed to update the course and combination information in line with that presented for National Events.

Action AR

K (British Sprint Championships): The updated guideline was recommended for adoption. As the provision of Sprint Events in Britain is low it was felt that Development Committee might give some thought to possible solutions to increase that number.

Action AR

05/09 Grade 1 Controller Applications

An application from the SOA to appoint Rob Hickling (GRAMP) as a Grade 1 Controller was approved.

Action AR

05/10 Relays

It was felt that the Relay Classes at the JK were working well although some reduction in leg lengths might be worthwhile.

Historically the classes used at BOC are different from those at JK and it was felt that this difference was worth maintaining. Decreasing the number of age classes, reducing leg lengths and introducing different leg lengths were all thought worthwhile trialling for a few years before reviewing the effects of any changes.

It was agreed to publish some ideas (Focus and Website) and allow consultation before some proposals were made, hopefully in time for the 2006 season.

Action BE

05/11 Training Courses

Updated Training Course materials are now available for C2, C3, P2, P3 and O3 and are being trialled. Each course could now be made available on a CD. The idea of supplying each Club and Association with all the materials was discussed.

Action AR

05/12 Risk Assessment

Simon Thompson provided an updated copy of the Risk Assessment document illustrating the change in language and content. It was agreed to recommend the adoption of the new version.

05/13 Remit of Senior Competitions Group

Suggestions of which competitions might usefully be the responsibility of this group were made. They included CompassSport Cup, Harvester and Masters Cup NE Series. Development Committee will also be discussing this question so no decisions were taken or proposals made.

05/14 Any Other Business

Age Classes

A letter from Bob Climie was discussed regarding the limiting of Age Classes to 75. It was agreed to seek a change to the BOF Database to accommodate older classes.

Action AR

V and N Classes

A number of comments regarding the profile and background knowledge of these classes have been received. It was agreed that this was a marketing and communication problem which could be dealt with by an article in Focus.

Action AR

05/15 Proposed dates and locations of Rules Group Meetings in 2004

25 th June 2005	Birmingham
12 th November 2005	Birmingham

Actions

10	05/40	Raise amalgamation of incentive schemes at Development Committee	AR
20	05/03	Comments on Competitors Digest of Rules to be passed to Andrew Cordle.	All members
21	05/03	Event Operations to ask Map Group to produce easy steps guide to OCAD 8	Event Operations Committee
22	05/05	Provide Rules Group members with URL for Event Feedback Section	AR
23	05/06	Update Appendix J	AR
24	05/06	Send copy of existing Score Guideline to Roger Lott.	AR
25	05/06	Confirm decision on SOA Embargoes Proposal	AR
26	05/07	Update Appendix E	AR
27	05/07	Update Appendix I	AR
28	05/08	Circulate Updated Guidelines D and F for approval.	AR
29	05/08	Update Guideline J	AR
30	05/08	Add item on Sprint Competitions to Development Committee Agenda	AR
31	05/09	Inform Rob Hickling of approval as Grade 1 Controller.	AR
32	05/10	Publish ideas on possible changes to Relay structure for consultation.	BE
33	05/11	Investigate possibility of supplying each Club and Association with P, C and O training materials.	AR
34	05/14	Communicate change in Age Classes to Bob Climie.	AR
35	05/14	Prepare article on V and N classes for Focus	AR