



Meeting of
RULES GROUP

held on Saturday 13th November 2004 at the Victoria Centre, Crewe.

Event Operations is asked to NOTE:

- 04/34 Concern over the effect of choice of punching system on neighbouring associations.
- 04/35 The production of a competitors digest of the Rules.
- 04/38 The proposal to allow Rules Group to perform the function of Senior Competitions Group.
- 04/39 The availability of the Checklist for Planners and Organisers
- 04/41 The updating of a number of Guidelines being undertaken.
- 04/42 The agreement to sanction an alteration to the BEOC Middle Race Rules to allow inclusion in a World Ranking Event.
- 04/43 The progress made on the provision of the CSC in 2005.
- 04/44 The approval of three Grade 1 Controllers.
- 04/46 The revision of the Risk Assessment Forms being undertaken.

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held on Saturday 13th November 2004 at the Victoria Centre, Crewe.

Present:

Barry Elkington	(WMOA) - Chairman
Andrew Cordle	(EAOA)
David May	(SEOA)
Ian McMillan	(YHOA)
Katy Stubbs	(SCOA)
Simon Thompson	(NWOA)
Robin Walker	(SWOA)
Ernie Williams	(EMOA)

In Attendance:

Alex Ross (BOF Executive Officer)

04/33 Apologies and Courtesies

No apologies

04/34 Minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2004 and Notes of meeting held on 19th June 2004

Minutes accepted as a true record. There was some concern expressed regarding item 04/08 where a region might have agreed the use of an alternative punching system and the problems this might cause when events, such as the CompassSport Cup attracted competitors from neighbouring regions. There is a need to clarify the position.

04/35 Actions

Delete 97, 98, 99, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06 and 07

- 99 Andrew Cordle agreed to produce a Short Digest of the Rules for Competitors.
- 04 The major responses concerned technical difficulty and the importance of it being maintained.
- 05 The identity of those offering expertise in OCAD 8 to be published in Focus

04/36 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

No matters arising.

04/37 Report on Event Operations meetings held on 24th April 2004 and 11th September 2004

Barry Elkington reported on the major items from the two meetings of Event Operations, highlighting the progress on Major Events, Junior Course Length Issues, Trail-O issues, Event Guidelines, the Relay Working Group and the intention to create a system for gaining appropriate feedback from events.

04/38 Representation on ECG, SCG and JCG

Presently Barry Elkington represents Rules Group on both ECG and JCG. A representative is likely to be required on SCG. There being no volunteers the idea of Rules Group taking on the role was floated for consideration at Event Operations.

04/39 Matters raised by Association Representatives

Concern was raised over the disregard being paid to the Guidelines at National Events. It was agreed that all organisers of such events should receive an up to date copy of Guideline C and be made aware of the existence of the Checklist Document for National and Regional Events which should be available from the website.

Action AR

The correctness the Controllers decision to delete appropriate split times from a course where a control was misplaced and publish reduced winning times was questioned. Since no objections were raised by the competitors and it was felt that the spirit of good fellowship should prevail, no action could be agreed.

04/40 Appendices – Revision of J

A revision of Appendix J, in line with the scheme approved by Development Committee was discussed. A number of alterations were suggested for incorporation.

Action AR

A proposal of investigating the amalgamation of the Badge and Ranking systems into one incentive schemes was thought worthy of investigation.

Action AR

04/41 Guidelines – Revision/Renewal of C, D, F, J and M

C Document to include the revised junior course lengths is complete and approved.

D and F Documents including the revised course lengths will be made distributed to Group members and provided for approval at the next meeting.

Action BE

J Document in the proper format to be distributed to Group members and previous event organisers and provided for approval at next meeting.

Action AR

M Approved for 2005 and until further notice.

04/42 BEOC Middle Distance as WRE

The UK is entitled to host three world ranking events and regards taking up the full allocation as providing ample opportunity for UK athletes to maximise their IOF Ranking Points.

If the BEOC is to be used as a WRE there are issues created by conflict between BEOC and WRE rules. It was agreed that an appropriate variation in the BEOC rules could be sanctioned for a WRE Middle Race incorporating the BEOC Middle Championships.

04/43 CompassSport Cup

Peter Guillaume, Fixtures Group Chairman, is co-ordinating the competition and based on feedback received following last year's event he provided a draft guideline for discussion. The new scoring system was seen as positive and should produce an interesting competition. Some feedback already received from clubs suggested some changes that could be made to enhance the competition further. The changes were agreed for 2005. The revised guideline will be sent to clubs and published on the website.

04/44 Use of Chasing Starts for Ranking purposes

Historically, Chasing Start events have not been included for ranking purposes. As they are specifically excluded from IOF World Ranking Events it was agreed to maintain the present position.

04/45 Grade 1 Controller Applications

Applications from George Esson (GRAMP), Chris Burden (AIRE) and Ray Collins (WCH) for Controller Grade 1 status were all approved.

Action AR

04/46 Training Courses

All training courses for Planners and Controllers have now been updated. Katy Stubbs was warmly thanked for all her efforts. It was agreed that all Club and Association Secretaries should be made aware of the updates and encouragement given to their use.

Action AR

04/47 BOF Web Site

An update on the web site was provided. There was some concern expressed over the provision of documents solely in .pdf format.

Action AR

04/48 Risk Assessment

The present forms supplied to clubs are designed mostly to identify hazards but not to rate their seriousness. Some ideas for modification were discussed and Simon Thomson agreed to distribute possible solutions and provide modified forms for the next meeting.

Action ST

04/49 Any Other Business

Concern was expressed that the finish controls were sometimes unmanned. It was agreed that Ian McMillan would draft an amendment to Appendix E (Event Safety) to emphasise the need for the finish to be manned.

Action IM

There is evidence that at some junior centred events the Technical Difficulty of some courses is being reduced and the courses compromised. It was agreed that the fixed nature of TD be emphasised to planners.

It was agreed that articles be included in the next edition of Focus.

Action BE

A vote of thanks from the Group to Katy Stubbs (SCOA) for her contribution to Rules Group was unanimously endorsed.

Action IM/EW

04/50 Proposed dates and locations of Rules Group Meetings in 2004

5 th March 2005	TBA
18 th June 2005	Birmingham
12 th November 2005	TBA

Actions

08	04/39	Publicise availability of an updated Checklist for AR Planners and Organisers of National and Regional Events.	AR
09	04/40	Revise Appendix J and distribute for comment with alterations highlighted.	AR
10	04/40	Raise amalgamation of incentive schemes at AR Development Committee	AR
11	04/41	Revise and distribute for comment updated Guidelines D (BOC) and F (JK)	BE
12	04/41	Reformat and distribute for comment updated Guideline J (BNC)	AR
13	04/45	Arrange for letters of appointment for Grade 1 AR Controllers	AR
14	04/46	Publicise updating of training materials and encourage provision of courses.	AR
15	04/47	Consult webmaster regarding the format of published documents.	AR
16	04/48	Revise and distribute for comment updated Risk Assessment Form.	AR
17	04/49	Prepare amendment to Appendix E	IM
18	04/49	Prepare two articles for Focus.	BE
19	04/49	Prepare formal letter of thanks for Katy Stubbs.	IM/EW