

Rules Group

21st June 2008

Minutes of meeting



Minutes of the meeting of
Rules Group
on Saturday 21st June 2008
at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Carrs Lane, Birmingham,
commencing at 12.30 p.m.

Present:

Barry Elkington	(WMOA) – Chairman
Andrew Cordle	(EAOA)
Charles Daniel	(SWOA)
Terry Smith	(SCOA)
Simon Thompson	(NWOA)

08/01 Apologies:

Charlie Adams	(YHOA)
Neil Crickmore	(SEOA)
David May	(WOA)
Paul Taylor	(NEOA)
Ernie Williams	(EMOA)

AC agreed to take the Minutes for this meeting.

08/30 British Orienteering meeting guidelines 2008

British Orienteering meeting guidelines had been published and Rules Group meetings must now follow these. Previous meetings, and business transacted in the past by email, had largely followed these guidelines.

08/27 Minutes 8th March 2008:

Agreed.

08/28 Actions Arising:

07/83 Control visibility. Update Appendix B.

ACTION: CD

08/05 Update on Event Review Structure Review. Ranking List review is with the Working Party. DM to report back at next meeting.

ACTION: DM

08/06 Sprint Championships Guidelines. On agenda as 08/37.

08/07 Middle Race Guidelines. On agenda as 08/38.

08/08 JK Sprint Guideline. On agenda as 08/36.

08/09 Road Crossings. On agenda as 08/46.

08/10 Review of appendices. On agenda as 08/39, 40, 41.

08/11 Removal of splits. Check that Revised document is on website.

ACTION: BE

08/13 Grade 1 Controllers. Discuss with Major Events Group the concept of the Event Jury acting as assessors.

ACTION: BE

08/18 Map Scales. On agenda as 08/42.

ACTION: BE

08/19 Controller age limit. Action Complete.

08/20 StreetO Risk Assessment. Circulate draft to Group.

ACTION: ST

08/21 Support for IOF Training. BE noted that Mike Forrest is implementing a more formal process of inviting suitably qualified and experienced Grade 1 Controllers to attend IOF Event Advisor clinics.

08/23 Training Courses for event officials. BE advised that funding is being sought for a part-time post to set up, publish, and help deliver the training materials.

08/29 Matters arising not elsewhere on Agenda:

None.

08/31 Update on Event Review Structure:

BE updated the Group as follows -

Working towards an implementation date of 1st January 2009, but with transitional arrangements for events already in the process of being planned and organised.

Level 1 (National) events -

- JK, British Championships (Sprint, Middle, Long, Night, Relay), Area Championships
- Aimed at experienced orienteers
- Organising club must agree to standards required at such events
- Policed by Major Events Group (who may delegate requests for variations to the appropriate special interest Groups)
- Extra ranking points

Level 2 (Regional) events -

- Serious competition
- Not all the trappings of Championship events, but high standards for organisation and planning
- Include sprints and city races as well as cross country
- Co-ordinated by Fixtures Group
- Ranking points can be gained on any course
- Cross country will use colour-coded courses, but, for example, at events such as Regional Association Championships age classes can be allocated to a particular course
- Probably about 100 such events per year

Level 3 (Local) events -

- The majority of previously level 4 and 5 events
- Handled by Clubs / Regional Associations

Concern was expressed that Level 3 events covered everything from an informal evening park event to a serious colour-coded league event, which would be governed by the same Rules and Guidelines. The organisation, planning and controlling would need to be appropriate for the size and purpose of each event.

It was felt that Colour Coded standards are only meaningful if achieved at events of a certain level of competition. If not, then there was a danger of awards being gained which were not proper indications of someone's ability.

08/32 Guidelines for new event categories 1, 2, 3

A new Guideline needs to be created.

ACTION: BE

08/32 Guidelines for cross country events at level 2 and 3

A new Guideline needs to be created based on existing Guidelines A and B.

ACTION: BE

08/34 Guidelines for JK and British Championships

The existing Guidelines need to be reviewed for changed terminology

ACTION: BE

The British Night Championship Guideline also needs to be revised.

ACTION: CD

08/35 Guidelines for Area Championships

A new Guideline based on the existing National Event Guideline needs to be created.

ACTION: BE

08/36 Guideline for JK Sprint

DM needs to update in line with his 2008 experiences and work with next year's planner and organiser.

ACTION: DM

08/37 Guideline for Elite and non-Elite Sprint Championships

Two Guidelines are needed. Should be called Elite Championship and Age Class Championship.

ACTION: CA

08/38 Guideline for Elite and non-Elite Middle Distance Championships

Two Guidelines are needed. Should be called Elite Championship and Age Class Championship.

ACTION: CA

BE to co-ordinate the development of the above Guidelines and to look at all other Guidelines to see if they need amendment. Target date for the preliminary drafts is July 20th. They will then be sent to other British Orienteering Groups for comment. The final drafts (subject to correction rather than change) will need to be published in parallel to the existing Guidelines by September.

ACTION: BE

08/38 Appendix B - Course planning

Updates are in hand.

08/40 Appendix L - Seeding and start times

The updated Appendix needs to be shared with the Entries Secretaries of high-profile events. (The Elite Seeding and Selection document will be published as a separate Appendix M.)

ACTION: TS

08/41 Other Appendices

BE to co-ordinate the development of the above Appendices and to look at all other Appendices to see if they need amendment. Target date for the preliminary drafts is July 20th. They will need to be sent to other British Orienteering Groups for comment. The final drafts (subject to correction rather than change) will need to be published in parallel to the existing Appendices by September.

ACTION: BE

08/42 Map Scales - British Championships 2008 and in general

The map scales required at each of the Major Events will be published within the specific Event Guideline for that event.

ACTION: BE

08/43 JK Individual - start times

For multi-day events, start times can be allocated to reduce unfairness caused by early or late starts and running in an empty forest. Look at Appendix L and provide feedback to TS.

ACTION: All

08/44 JK relay - classes.

The Elite Competitions Group (ECG) would like to decrease the number of laps in the JK Trophy from four to three. This would make it easier for clubs to get teams together, and be in

line with the World Championships.

To improve competition the ECG also suggested that the 120+ classes would remain, but could share courses and start times with the Trophy courses.

These two suggestions were supported by Rules Group.

The ECG also suggested removing the Men's Short class in order to increase numbers on the Men's Trophy course. This was not supported by Rules Group as the difference in standard between the Men's Trophy teams and those at the back of the Short Open is too great.

In addition to the ECG suggestions, the total number of courses could also be reduced by running more classes on the same courses. This would provide more competition, more of a spectacle, and reduce the planner's workload.

BE to take views back to Elite Competitions Group, Major Events Group, and Events Committee.

ACTION: BE

08/45 Land use prior to major events

The Embargoes and eligibility document on the web site to become an appendix.

ACTION: BE

08/46 Road Crossings

Add to Organiser's Best Practice on the web site and publish summary in Focus.

ACTION: BE

08/47 Summary of Events Committee Meeting 14th June 2008

Covered under Event Structure Review Update.

08/48 IOF Rules Commission

We need to review our rules in the light of changes to the IOF Foot-O rules which apply to all World Ranking Events, and as agreed previously we would also apply to all British Orienteering Major Events. In particular, the prohibition of removal of splits and the procedure to consider requests to vary the rules being considered locally need to be addressed.

Event officials need to be notified, and this information published in Focus.

ACTION: BE

08/49 Scottish 6 Days and embargoes

The request to hold local events on areas which should be within the 12 month embargo period for the Scottish 6 Day Event was considered wrong in principle, unfair to competitors outside the local area, and likely to affect the prestige of the event. However, holding Regional events after the 6 Days (when most of the competitors for the Regional will already have competed on the area) was considered more acceptable.

ACTION: BE

08/50 Grade 1 Controller Applications

None had been received.

08/51 Any Other Business

ST suggested that following his experience, the IOF Advisor and the Controller for an event should always be two different people. It was agreed that where no IOF Advisor was required for Level 1 events, an Elite Advisor should be appointed. Major Competitions Groups and organising clubs to be informed, and the appropriate Appendix updated.

ACTION: BE

08/52 Reporting and Actions

08/53 Dates and Locations of meetings in 2008

22nd November 2008 at Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham, at 12.30 p.m.

08/54 Proposed Dates and Locations of meetings in 2009

7th March 2009 at Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham, at 12.30 p.m.

20th June 2009 at Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham, at 12.30 p.m.

21st November 2009 at Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham, at 12.30 p.m.