



**British
Orienteering
Federation**

RULES GROUP

REPORT TO EVENT OPERATIONS (29/10/05)

Meeting of
RULES GROUP

held on Saturday 29th October 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre,
Birmingham.

Event Operations is asked to NOTE:

- 05/39b The approval for a change of start time at Harvester 2006.
- 05/39e The concern over the provision of back-up pin punches at Level 3 events.
- 05/39f The decision not to make any changes to the CompassSport Cup until after next year's event.
- 05/43 The progress in the review of Guidelines A, B, C, J and N.
- 05/44 The appointment of three Grade 1 Controllers.

Meeting of
RULES GROUP

held on Saturday 29th October 2005 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre,
Birmingham.

Present:

Barry Elkington	(WMOA) – Chairman
Charlie Adams	(YHOA)
Andrew Cordle	(EAOA)
David May	(SEOA)
Charles Daniel	(SWOA)
Terry Smith	(SCOA)
Ernie Williams	(EMOA)

In Attendance:

Alex Ross (BOF Executive Officer)

05/34 Apologies and Courtesies

Apologies from Alistair Mackenzie and Simon Thompson.

05/35 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2005

The minutes were approved.

05/36 Actions

Deleted: 29, 30, 35, 37, 40, 41 and 42.

Continuing: 23, 36, 38, 39 and 43.

05/37 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

No matters arising.

05/38 Report on Event Operations Committee meeting held on 15th October 2005

Barry Elkington reported on the progress of improving the quality of major events including the processes of registration and promotion. Attendance at the Major Events Conference is to be further promoted following the excellent attendance in 2005. Good practice is to be encouraged through the website and Focus in an attempt to improve Planning Standards particularly in the appreciation of Technical Difficulty for junior courses.

05/39 Matters raised by Association Representatives

a) BOF Membership for Planners and Organisers

It was felt that the Rules were sufficiently clear and flexible on this point. It was agreed that the issues regarding Planners were less critical than those surrounding Organisers with their greater responsibility for the overall event. This point will be clarified in a future edition of Focus.

Action AR

b) Harvester 2006

A proposal from the Organisers of Harvester 2006 to vary the start time due to local conditions was accepted provided the changes and possible consequences were made clear to all teams and competitors prior to entry.

Action AR

c) Letter of Complaint

The group were unable to condone the apparent attitude of an entries secretary to the acceptance of late entries. It was felt that because a level of discretion had to be allowed it was inappropriate to put an absolute deadline in the Rules.

Action AR

d) Digital Compasses

Digital compasses are not excluded under the current Rules. It was felt that as associated navigational aids were of little value in orienteering then no change in the rules was necessary.

e) Electronic Punching

The recommendation that back-up pin punches be provided at Level 3 Events was discussed in the light of a report from Douglas Henderson (RR). It was agreed that good practice should be more widely distributed to the Clubs and to individuals through Focus.

The idea of making such back up compulsory was referred to Event Operations Committee as it might need the introduction of sanctions.

Action AR

f) CompassSport Cup

Discussion centred on a review of the existing structure which was instigated in 2004. At that time it was agreed to allow the guidelines to remain in place for some years before making changes. Although some proposals for change, in particular to the Short Green were received, it was agreed to wait another year before making any change. The present co-ordinator will be asked to note the points made in the

feedback provided and check validity of the claim against next years statistics both in the heats and in the final.

Action BE

05/40 OCAD 8 for Planning

Due to the absence of Alistair Mackenzie this item was deferred until the next meeting.

05/41 Regional Event Experiment

Three observations based on the feedback received were discussed. The pre-entry notification of course lengths although agreed to be desirable was seen as difficult to deliver and might be better recommended as good practice rather than included in the Rules. It was agreed that a Guideline for a Middle Distance Regional Event might prove useful.

Action AR

A method of resolving the issue of courses with very small numbers of competitors will be investigated as part of the review of the Regional Event Guideline

05/42 Appendices – Revision of J

In the absence of suitable progress this item was deferred to the next meeting.

05/43 Guidelines – Revision of A, B, C, J and N

Drafts for A, B and C, reviewed for consistency of Course Lengths were discussed. Final versions will be distributed once any further feedback has been received.

Action BE

A draft version of Guideline J was reviewed. Since this event has decreased in size, suitable suggestions were made on courses and class combinations to be included before approval.

Action AR

An updated version of Guideline J was approved for publication.

05/44 Grade 1 Controller Applications

Applications from the NEOA, SEOA and SWOA to appoint Paul Taylor (CLOK), Simon Errington (HH) and Peter Brett (WIM) respectively as a Grade 1 Controllers were all approved.

Action AR

05/45 Training Courses

The scanning of slides has proved problematic. David May volunteered his assistance.

05/46 Any Other Business

The Guideline for the British Schools Orienteering Championships can be found on the BSOA website. It was felt that the Guideline should be in BOF format and added to the BOF website. A means of achieving this will be discussed at the next BSOA/BOF meeting.

Action AR

The BOF Development Conference highlighted problems at events as a source of discontent. This issue is being addressed initially by promoting good practice through the Event Officials pages in Focus.

05/47 Reporting and Actions

There was not felt to be anything notable that required immediate publication.

05/33 Dates and locations of Rules Group Meetings in 2005 and 2006

25 th March 2006	Birmingham
24 th June 2006	Birmingham
11 th November 2006	Birmingham

Actions

23	05/06	Update Appendix J	AR
36	05/22b	Add item on Controller provision to the agenda for the next meeting.	AR
38	05/22g	Investigate the provision of a badge time calculator	AR
39	05/24	Produce synopsis of desirable features for provision of a planners guide to OCAD 8	AM
43	05/30	Investigate the provision of the Risk Assessment document as an editable Form.	AR
44	05/39a	Include article on importance of BOF membership for Organisers in the next edition of Focus.	AR
45	05/39b	Liaise with Organiser of Harvester 2006 on alteration to Guideline.	AR
46	05/39c	Contact complainant and explain decision.	AR
47	05/39e	Add item on compulsory back-up to Event Operations Committee agenda.	AR
48	05/39f	Liaise with CompassSport Cup Co-ordinator over review and statistics.	BE
49	05/41	Provide Guideline for Middle Distance Regional Event for discussion.	AR
50	05/43	Provide final versions of Guidelines A, B and C for approval.	BE
51	05/43	Incorporate modified course and class combination table into Guideline J.	AR
52	05/46	Add item on BSOC to agenda of next BOF/BSOA meeting.	AR