

BRITISH ORIENTEERING FEDERATION LIMITED

Registered in England & Wales No.1606472

44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY, 17th May at 16:00

At

Bampton Memorial Hall

Croft End

Bampton

Penrith

CA10 2RS

- Proposal 1:** To appoint the auditors for the 2025 and authorise the board to fix their remuneration;
- Proposal 2:** To approve the member and club affiliation fees from 1st January 2026;
- Proposal 3:** To approve the levy fees from 1st January 2025;
- Proposal 4:** To appoint the President of British Orienteering;
- Proposal 5:** To elect the Directors;

PROPOSALS

Ordinary Resolution 1: To APPOINT the auditors for the 2025 accounts and authorise the Board to fix their remuneration.

Supporting Statement

British Orienteering Federation Limited's articles of association and company law do not require us to undertake a full audit. However, the Board continue to take the view that the reassurance that a full audit brings to the members in respect of the finances is appropriate, given the staffing levels of the Federation.

Following an open and competitive tender exercise in 2023 the Board appointed [Bates Weston](#) as auditors for the 2023 accounts and within the tender exercise agreed remuneration for the 2024 audit and accounts.

The Board therefore recommends the appointment of Bates Weston as auditors for the financial year 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

Proposed: The Board of Directors

Ordinary Resolution 2: To APPROVE the member and club affiliation fees from 1st January 2026

Supporting Statement

Although British Orienteering currently holds reserves in excess of the level required by the reserves policy, the Board have set a deficit budget over the next year in order to invest in the delivery of the strategic plan. The Board believes this investment is vital to safeguarding the future of the sport but recognises that this approach long term is not sustainable. Given the challenging financial environment, British Orienteering needs to increase its income in order to remain on a sustainable financial footing in the long term.

Recognising the challenges that sporting organisations more widely are facing in recruiting and retaining members, the Board is proposing a measured response aimed at ensuring the sustainability and continued growth of our organisation in making a small increase in some of the membership categories and increases in the club affiliation fees. Even with these adjustments, our fees remain below the market rate in the sports sector.

The proposed fee structure, to have effect from 1st January 2026 until amended, is as follows:

Membership and Levy Fees		
	2025 Fees	2026 Fees
Senior	£16.00	£17.00
Junior	£5.00	£5.00
Young Adult	£10.00	£11.00
Family	£37.00	£39.00
Club affiliation	£90.00	£95.00
University Club	£25.00	£25.00

British Orienteering will retain the system of part-year fees for new members agreed at the 2023 AGM, where new members joining between 1st May and 31st August pay two-thirds of the annual membership fee and those joining between 1st September and 31st December pay one-third.

Proposed: The Board of Directors

Board Proposal

Context

Event levies are one of three primary funding sources for which the “normal” activities of British Orienteering are financed (together with membership subscriptions and funding from sports councils).

These income streams are essential for supporting member services, staffing the National Office, and covering necessary expenses such as membership management systems, rules, map copyright, event and public liability insurance, health and safety, safeguarding, Great Britain Team support, and other statutory and non-statutory obligations.

Race/event levies are common across many National Governing Bodies of sport, and British Orienteering is no exception. Following a club consultation, the Board has decided to remove the public liability insurance cover for non-members attending competitions from 1st January 2026.

Since the insurance policy renewal process begins in September, British Orienteering cannot confirm the exact savings this change would generate. Additionally, British Orienteering’s three year insurance deal is ending, which may lead to an inflationary increase in the overall policy cost. The Board anticipates a reduction in the policy costs, which has been factored into the proposed levy fees for 2026.

To address inflation and aim for a break-even or surplus budget within a few years, the Board has recommended a small overall increase in levy income. They have made two proposals for the 2026 levy.

The Board wish to put both proposals out to a member vote.

The proposed fees table and considerations are outlined below:

	2025	2026 – Proposal A	2026 – Proposal B
Senior Members	£1.80	£1.85	£1.95
Junior Members	£0.60	£0.60	£0.65
Senior non members	£2.75	£2.80	£1.95
Junior non members	£0.60	£0.60	£0.65

Proposal 2026 A – Considerations

This proposal maintains the current structure where non-member incur a higher levy when they enter competitions. With the removal of insurance costs, the additional income generated would be used to minimise the levy fee for members. Under Proposal A, senior members would incur 10p less per run in levy fees than under Proposal B.

While many non-member participants are new to the sport, a significant number are regular orienteers who, for whatever reason, have chosen not to join British Orienteering. This includes individuals who have joined a club and/or association but not British Orienteering. As a membership organisation, this additional amount incurred by non-members would help to

support the day-to-day operations of British Orienteering and its efforts to develop and grow the sport.

Non-member participation has been increasing since 2021, with a general trend towards the 'pay and play' model. While it is always positive to see new people enjoying the sport, if they do not become members, they do not contribute to the sport's development as a member would through their membership fee.

Charging non-members an additional fee instead of a membership fee to enter races is common in other sports. Before the introduction of the non-member levy at the start of 2024, a number of clubs already charged an additional fee as a way to encourage non-members to take out a membership.

How the non-member levy is paid or absorbed is very much up to the club. In most cases it is passed directly on to participants via the entry fees, but clubs can choose to subsidise this fee.

Proposal 2026 B - Considerations

This proposal removes the distinction between members and non-members for senior participants in respect to paying levy, meaning both will incur the same levy fee.

Under Proposal B, senior members will incur an additional 10p per run in levy fees, compared to Proposal A, in order to maintain the levy income necessary to support British Orienteering's daily operations.

Following the Board's approach of setting junior levy at one third of the senior levy, the junior levy will increase by 5p per run.

As always, clubs are free to set their own entry fees and would continue to be required to accurately record member and non-member participation.

Proposal voting

Members are requested to vote as follows: (Members can only pick one option)

- For Proposal A
- For Proposal B
- Against both proposals
- Abstain

Ordinary Resolution 4: To APPOINT the President of British Orienteering

Steve Cram CBE

Steve Cram is a British retired track and field athlete and former orienteer and has been President since 2022.

Along with fellow Britons Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, he was one of the world's dominant middle distance runners during the 1980s. Nicknamed "The Jarrow Arrow", after his home town, Steve set world records in the 1500 m, 2000 m and the mile during a 19-day period in the summer of 1985. He was the first man to run 1500 m under 3 minutes and 30 seconds. He won the 1500 m gold medal at the 1983 World Championships and the 1500 m silver medal at the 1984 Olympic Games.

In 2000, Steve co-founded international children's charity COCO (Comrades of Children Overseas) with British Army Major Jim Panton after running the Bosnia Comrades ultramarathon in 1998. Steve remains chairman of COCO, an organisation which currently provides sustainable sources of quality education to children living in poor, remote parts of East Africa.

In 2008 Steve was appointed Chancellor of the University of Sunderland, and in 2009 was elected as President of Jarrow & Hebburn Athletics Club.

Steve now works as a television presenter and athletics commentator, motivational speaker and athletics coach.

Steve's introduction to Orienteering as a teenager seemed like a marriage made in heaven for a map-loving, running enthusiast. He has so many happy memories of belting through forests and across moorland, often recklessly, occasionally with surprising accuracy! *"The thrill of the find always outweighing the sense of bewilderment at my own navigational shortcomings. It also gave me on my mantras I hold to this day....the map is never wrong!"*.

Proposed: The Board of Directors

Ordinary Proposal 5: Election of Elected Directors

The Articles of Association require that Board of Directors of British Orienteering constitute eleven members, including:

- The Chair, appointed in accordance with Article [26](#);
- Six Elected Directors, elected by the membership in accordance with Article [30](#);
- Three Independent Directors, appointed in accordance with Article [31](#); and
- The Chief Executive, ex officio.

At the 2025 AGM, two Elected Directors, David Rosen and Pauline Tryner, reach the end of their second terms of office.

David Rosen and Pauline Tryner are seeking re-election for their third terms.

We have received two nominations for the vacant positions. Article 30.4 states If there are the same number of candidates as there are vacancies for a post, those candidates shall be declared elected unopposed at the annual general meeting.

No further nominations were received by the deadline of 28th March and therefore both candidates will be declared elected at the AGM.

1. David Rosen (South Ribble Orienteering Club and London Orienteering Klubb)

Statement

I started orienteering as a teenager and am now an M70.

I'm now retired; previously I was an IT manager at Birkbeck College.

A selection of my past and current roles in orienteering

- Member of the British Team in the 1970s.
- Event Director for the 1998 World Cup in the Lake District.
- Grade A Controller.
- Senior Event Adviser for WOC 2012.
- Chair of LOK 2013-2022.
- Chair of the Rules Commission of the International Orienteering Federation.

I was instrumental in introducing SPORTident punching to the UK and I helped develop the current ranking system.

I enjoy orienteering and want to put something back into the sport. In my six years as director of BOF I've tried to ensure that the members' requirements are reflected in BOF's work.

I'm willing to take on responsibility, and I am not afraid to speak my mind.

Proposed by: Julian Lailey SROC

Seconded by: Julie Cleary LOK

2. Pauline Tryner (South Yorkshire Orienteers)

Statement

Having been a keen orienteer as a junior, my participation in the sport gradually waned in my late teens. I then rekindled my interest in my late 20s and have orienteered enthusiastically ever since.

I joined SYO in 2004 and, as my children have got older, have become more involved in the sport from a coaching and development perspective, qualifying as a level 2 coach and serving as a club development officer.

I am keen to see the development of the sport become a key focus for the board with the aim of enabling clubs to increase participation, develop active club members and address the increasing issues around permissions and volunteering.

We need to promote our unique sport to the wider population. What other sport offers a high level of physical and technical challenge while allowing participants to enjoy the outdoors and can be enjoyed by each member of the family at a level that's right for them?

Proposed by: Jenny Johnson SYO

Seconded by: Emily Pieters SYO