

## Summary of the British Orienteering AGM 2025 – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Venue: Bampton Memorial Hall, The Lakes.**

### Attendance:

- 421 Proxy Votes had been submitted via Mi-Voice
- 18 members present in person
- 7 members attended virtually
- 4 apologies received

Represented 6% of the voting membership.

### Chair's Report

Drew Vanbeck, the Chair thanked the clubs and volunteers for the work they do in supporting the sport and making it happen.

He thanked everyone who was involved in delivering a successful WOC 2024 in Edinburgh. There were some significant challenges along the way particularly regarding the financial viability of the event. Contributing factors included the delay to the event and inflationary pressures. Significant financial support was received from Edinburgh Council and Events Scotland which was greatly appreciated. British Orienteering also contributed £40,000.

Drew discussed what a fabulous event it was and the really positive, independent feedback that was received. Well done to everyone involved from the organising team to all the volunteers.

Drew touched on the role of British Orienteering and how rather than being the centre of the sport, we are the support for the sport. So, thank you to all the clubs, volunteers, the Board and Peter Brooke and his team. British Orienteering recognises that clubs and volunteers are at the centre of our sport.

He thanked the Sports Councils for their continued and generous support of the sport.

Drew congratulated all the athletes on the 2024 roll of honour domestically and internationally, he congratulated James Hammond on his silver medal at the EYOC and at The World University Orienteering Championships, the Sprint Relay team on achieving a gold medal.

He highlighted and thanked the Board and previous CEO Peter Hart for their support on all orienteering matters over his six years as Chair.

Drew concluded with introducing Rob Woods as the new Chair of British Orienteering who he felt will do an excellent job.

### Rob Woods – new Chair

Rob Woods new Chair gave an overview of his background and reflected on taking part in orienteering all his life but more seriously in the last 18 years with his RAF colours and recently within with Swansea Bay Orienteering Club.

He acknowledged the tremendous work from Drew for the last six years as a volunteer and thanked Drew for the time and effort he had put in.



Rob stated his commitment to carry on the good work of Drew and the rest of the Board, he wants to encourage people's views to come forward, young and old and will listen to everyone. Rob highlighted that he is a regular competitor and if you see him at an event, do feel free to come up for a chat.

Rob concluded that he was delighted to come into this role and looks forward to getting to know more and more of the members and clubs in the future.

## **Treasurers Report**

Andy Robinson, Treasurer, referred to the annual accounts, which had been available on the British Orienteering website.

He informed the meeting that in 2024 we recorded a deficit of £61K, however at the start of the year this was expected to be £100K, staffing levels at times accounted for some savings in this area. It must also be considered that £40K of this was support for WOC 2024, therefore without WOC, the deficit ends up being a modest £20K.

British Orienteering reserves are still above the levels required, but coming down slowly and controlled.

Andy thanked the Sports Councils for their continued and generous support of the sport and highlighted that the next round of funding from Sport England was due from April 2027 which we need to be conscious of.

Andy concluded by thanking the staff and in particular Kelly Perryman (Financial Manager) at British Orienteering for their support.

## **Chief Executive's Report**

Peter Brooke, the Chief Executive referred to the Annual Report.

He highlighted that it was an honour to lead the organisation as Acting CEO from September and then as CEO from February. He thanked Peter Hart for his hard work in leading the organisation since 2018, developing the strategic plan, providing a firm basis of governance inline with the Code for Sports Governance.

Peter congratulated those who have achieved domestic and international honours in 2024 and thanked, clubs, volunteers, The Board and Sports Councils for their hard work and ongoing support.

He reflected on challenges facing the sport such as the financial pressures everyone is familiar with and participation. 2024 was on course for another year on year increase in participation since the pandemic, however, a couple of big events were cancelled and a couple of weekends of events lost due to bad weather. Where this is disappointing and unavoidable, as a sport we need to get ourselves into a position where we can absorb the effects of cancelled events due to bad weather and still see growth.

Participation remains a key focus for 2025.

Peter discussed how as a sport we will need to take risks. There is a big market out there for adventure sports such as ours. The Quid Games event in January 2025 showed this and further events are in the pipeline. There are some great ideas within the British Orienteering staff and

membership, we need to pull together, try new things, be positive ambassadors for the sport and stand out.

Peter finished off by thanking Drew Vanbeck for his six years as Chair and all the work that he had put into Board. British Orienteering was stronger for it. He then welcomed new Chair, Rob Woods on board and looked forward to working with him.

British Orienteering would also like to thank Border Liners for their support in arranging the AGM venue and linking with their event as part of the Northern Championships weekend organised by MDOC.

## Key Resolutions

Key Resolutions

Resolution Number	Detail	Voting																								
Resolution 1:	<p>To authorise the Board to appoint the Bates Weston as auditors for the 2025 accounts and to fix their remuneration.</p> <p>Proposed by: The Board</p>	The Resolution was <b>approved</b> For the motion – 405, Against – 4, Abstain – 26																								
Resolution 2:	<p>To approve the member and club affiliation fees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.</p> <p>Proposed by: The Board</p> <table><tr><th colspan="3">Membership and Levy Fees</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>2025 Fees</th><th>2026 Fees</th></tr><tr><td>Senior</td><td>£16.00</td><td><b>£17.00</b></td></tr><tr><td>Junior</td><td>£5.00</td><td>£5.00</td></tr><tr><td>Young Adult</td><td>£10.00</td><td>£11.00</td></tr><tr><td>Family</td><td>£37.00</td><td><b>£39.00</b></td></tr><tr><td>Club affiliation</td><td>£90.00</td><td><b>£95.00</b></td></tr><tr><td>University Club</td><td>£25.00</td><td>£25.00</td></tr></table>	Membership and Levy Fees				2025 Fees	2026 Fees	Senior	£16.00	<b>£17.00</b>	Junior	£5.00	£5.00	Young Adult	£10.00	£11.00	Family	£37.00	<b>£39.00</b>	Club affiliation	£90.00	<b>£95.00</b>	University Club	£25.00	£25.00	The Resolution was <b>approved</b> For the motion – 402, Against – 22, Abstain – 11
Membership and Levy Fees																										
	2025 Fees	2026 Fees																								
Senior	£16.00	<b>£17.00</b>																								
Junior	£5.00	£5.00																								
Young Adult	£10.00	£11.00																								
Family	£37.00	<b>£39.00</b>																								
Club affiliation	£90.00	<b>£95.00</b>																								
University Club	£25.00	£25.00																								
Resolution 3:	<p>To approve the levy fees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.</p> <p>Proposed by: The Board</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>2025</th><th>2026 Proposal A</th><th>2026 Proposal B</th></tr><tr><td>Senior members</td><td><b>£1.80</b></td><td><b>£1.85</b></td><td><b>£1.95</b></td></tr><tr><td>Junior members</td><td><b>£0.60</b></td><td><b>£0.60</b></td><td><b>£0.65</b></td></tr><tr><td>Senior non-members</td><td><b>£2.75</b></td><td><b>£2.80</b></td><td><b>£1.95</b></td></tr><tr><td>Junior non-members</td><td><b>£0.60</b></td><td><b>£0.60</b></td><td><b>£0.65</b></td></tr></table>		2025	2026 Proposal A	2026 Proposal B	Senior members	<b>£1.80</b>	<b>£1.85</b>	<b>£1.95</b>	Junior members	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.65</b>	Senior non-members	<b>£2.75</b>	<b>£2.80</b>	<b>£1.95</b>	Junior non-members	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.65</b>	The Resolution was <b>approved for Proposal A</b> , For Proposal A – 283, For Proposal B – 115, Against both proposals – 24, Abstain – 13				
	2025	2026 Proposal A	2026 Proposal B																							
Senior members	<b>£1.80</b>	<b>£1.85</b>	<b>£1.95</b>																							
Junior members	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.65</b>																							
Senior non-members	<b>£2.75</b>	<b>£2.80</b>	<b>£1.95</b>																							
Junior non-members	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.60</b>	<b>£0.65</b>																							

<b>Resolution 4:</b>	<p><b>To appoint the President for the ensuring year: Steve Cram CBE.</b></p> <p><b>Proposed by: The Board</b></p>	<p>The Resolution was <b>approved</b></p> <p>For the motion – 410, Against – 8, Abstain – 17</p>
<b>Election of Directors</b>	<p><b>David Rosen and Pauline Tryner reached the end of their second terms respectively of office.</b></p> <p>Both David and Pauline were seeking re-election. Only two nominations for the vacant positions were received from David Rosen and Pauline Tryner.</p> <p><b>Therefore, both David Rosen (SROC &amp; LOK) and Pauline Tryner (SYO) were elected unopposed.</b></p>	

Thank you to all those that attended and voted.