

# BRITISH ORIENTEERING FEDERATION LIMITED

Registered in England & Wales No.1606472

---

## 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

---

SATURDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> May at 16:00

At

**Bampton Memorial Hall**

Croft End

Bampton

Penrith

CA10 2RS

## Contents

2025 AGENDA .....	2
Introduction .....	3
AGM Arrangements .....	3
Joining the Meeting .....	4
Protocol.....	4
VOTING .....	5
PROPOSALS .....	6

## 2025 AGENDA

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of British Orienteering Federation Limited will be held at 16:00 on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Bampton Memorial Hall, Bampton, Penrith, CA10 2RS.

The AGM is called for the transaction of the following business:

1. Apologies for absence
2. To receive the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024
3. Chair's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
  - 4.1. To receive from the Board the Company's accounts
5. Chief Executive's Report
6. Proposals
  - 6.1. to appoint the auditors and authorise the Board to fix their remuneration;
  - 6.2. to decide the annual subscriptions and affiliation fees;
  - 6.3. to transact such other business as may be legitimately brought before it;
    - 6.3.1. to decide on the levy fees from 1 January 2026
  - 6.4. to re-appoint (as appropriate) the President,
  - 6.5. to elect the Elected Directors in place of those retiring or seeking re-election; and
  - 6.6. to elect Honorary Members
7. Any Other Business
8. Closing of AGM

Directions to The Bampton Memorial Hall can be found [here](#)

## Introduction

Notice is hereby given that the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of British Orienteering will be held on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025 starting at 16:00.

In order to increase engagement with the members, the meeting will be hybrid, permitting both online and in-person participation. All members are invited to attend and participate in the AGM virtually and instructions on how to do are contained within this document. It will not be possible to vote at the AGM if attending online; those intending to attend online should submit a proxy vote in advance.

Mi-Voice have been appointed by British Orienteering to provide the platform to host the meeting and to administer voting arrangements for this year's AGM.

All resolutions will be decided by a poll.

Members will be asked to consider and vote on the resolutions below. All the resolutions will be proposed as ordinary resolutions which require a simple majority to be passed.

**Resolution 1:** to appoint the auditors for the 2025 and authorise the board to fix their remuneration;

**Resolution 2:** to approve the member and club affiliation fees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026;

**Resolution 3:** to decide the levy fees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026;

**Resolution 4:** to appoint the President of British Orienteering;

**Resolution 5:** to elect the Directors;

## AGM Arrangements

The arrangements for the 2025 British Orienteering AGM are as follows:

Members are welcome to join the AGM in person.

The meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting to allow for members to attend virtually, using Microsoft Teams platform.

The AGM will be quorate if at least fifty voting members are present in person including virtually or by proxy, as required by the Articles of Association.

Members will be able to vote either at the meeting, by submitting a proxy in advance (recommended) via the MI-Voice platform or appointing a person to act as their proxy. Details of how to submit a proxy are set out on [here](#).

The AGM will only transact the formal business of the meeting as set out in the Notice of AGM.

In addition, should a member have a question that they would have raised at the AGM, we ask that where possible they send it by email to [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk) in advance of the meeting, ideally by 17:00 on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025, although we will also endeavour to address questions that are raised during the meeting.

## Joining the Meeting

### In person registration

Please arrive at least 5 mins early and ensure that you complete the register of attendance.

If you plan to attend in person, please complete [this form](#) by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### Registration for virtual attendance

If you wish to attend the AGM via the Microsoft Teams platform, **you will need to register**. You can do this ahead of time or immediately before joining the meeting.

Click this [registration link](#) to open the Registration page.

Click **“Register”**. Enter your contact information and fill out any other required fields. Once you have successfully registered, you will see a **“Confirmation Page”** and receive joining confirmation via email. You will also receive a reminder email the day before the AGM with the joining instructions should you mislay your original email.

### Joining the AGM

Shortly before the AGM start time, you can join the webinar. Your confirmation email will contain a link which will quickly take you to the waiting room, or straight into the meeting if it has gone live.

### Problems

If you have any problems registering for or joining the AGM, please either email Peter Brooke [pbrooke@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:pbrooke@britishorienteering.org.uk) or call 07540 150963

## Protocol

- Please join the meeting 5-10 mins before it starts, so that you can test out your connection and microphone.
- If you are late, join quietly and do not interrupt the conversation or the presentation. The Chair will notice that you've joined.
- Background noise and audio feedback can disrupt the meeting. Mute your mic whenever you are not speaking, and turn off your phone or anything else that might distract you or the other participants.
- When you want to raise a question, use the chat facility or use the raise your hand function.
- Members will be invited to orally ask questions at the meeting by the Chair.

## VOTING

All individual members of British Orienteering are entitled to vote at the AGM provided they will be 18 years of age or older on the 31 December 2025. Each member has only one vote.

If you are a member eligible to vote on the resolutions, you should have received an email by Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from [elections@mi-voice.com](mailto:elections@mi-voice.com). Please check your junk/spam folder.

If you are not able to locate your email please contact Mi-Voice using [support@mi-voice.com](mailto:support@mi-voice.com) before 11:00, Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

Proxy voting closes at 16:00 on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### Voting at the meeting (in person only)

If you have not already voted online in advance and wish to vote in person at the AGM itself, you are able to do so. You should not vote at the meeting if you have previously submitted a proxy vote and not withdrawn this by Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### Voting by proxy (non-attendees or attendance via Teams)

Members who wish to vote but are not attending the meeting may do so by submitting a proxy in advance of the AGM. To ensure that their vote counts, members must either:

1. appoint the Chair of the AGM to act as their proxy or
2. appoint another person to act as their proxy.

***Note: If you are not physically attending the meeting you will not be able to vote during the AGM.***

To appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf, you must complete a Proxy Voting Form via the link sent to you via the Mi-Voice email.

Only one Proxy Voting Form can be accepted from each member. The completed Form must be received by the National Office before 11:00 on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 in order to be valid.

If completing the Proxy Voting Form and appointing either the Chair or another person to act as your proxy, you may decide if you wish to instruct your Chair how to vote on your behalf or leave it to their discretion. If you instruct the Chair or Proxy how to vote on your behalf, they are legally required to vote in accordance with your instructions.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

[Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024](#)

[Accounts for the financial year 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.](#)

[Annual Report](#)

## 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	<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

*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

### Ordinary Resolution 3: To DECIDE the levy fees from 1st January 2026

#### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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