

# Summary of the AGM 2023 - Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Attendance:

- 753 Proxy Votes had been submitted via Mi-Voice (1 vote was spoilt)
- 25 members present
- 10 members attended virtually

Represented over 10% of the voting membership.

## Chair's Report

The Chair thanked the clubs and volunteers in the work that they do in supporting the sport.

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

He highlighted the outstanding success of the senior athletes at the World Championships in 2022

The Chair outlined some of the challenges faced by the COVID delayed World Championships and the financial challenges that the organisers were facing.

He outlined the support that British Orienteering were offering to the organisers subject to a formal agreement, to ensure that the event was a success.

- a. A fixed cash award of £30,000,
- b. A conditional cash award of up to £50,000. This award is conditional on the SOA and the 6-Day Company jointly committing funding which in total matches the amount of this award drawn down from British Orienteering, on a £1 for £1 basis.
- c. A cash loan facility of up to £20,000, which will be made available to the Scottish Orienteering Association when the funding agreement is signed and can be drawn down by SOA at any point between then and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024. The loan including interest is to be repaid in full by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2033.
- d. Staff support in-kind up to the value of £10,000,

He highlighted and thanked Ruth Beale for her contribution to Board and wider orienteering matters. Ruth was stepping down after two terms in the Board and he welcomed Alison Howe (SAX) to the Board.

The Chair concluded with his thanks to everyone involved in the sport and the support that he had received from the Board.

## 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 2022 we recorded a deficit of £13K which was less than planned.

The main costs were increasing the staffing levels to pre COVID level and the performance pathway programme.

British Orienteering's reserves at the end of 2021 were £611K. These are substantially in excess of the level required by our Reserves Policy as the sum required for this is £358K.

The Treasurer highlighted that a forward plan had been presented to the Board regarding activating the Strategic Plan which would result in a deficit in 2023 and 2024.

He informed the meeting that the Board had approved additional expenditure for marketing and WOC 24 support which will bring the reserves down to just below the Policy requirement at the end of 2024.

## Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive referred to the Annual Report

He informed the meeting that by the end of 2023 we should return to normal levels of membership and activity.

2022 was difficult because of the additional financial challenges and inflation whilst managing it against a static income.

He thanked the clubs and volunteers in their enthusiasm and perseverance in finding ways of delivering activities and competitions no matter what barriers are put in their way - like many sports we all find it much more difficult in finding venues and dealing with increasing levels of bureaucracy and permissions.

He referred to the time spent realigning/recruiting staff against the strategic plan.

Andy Thorton asked questions about the Find Your Way Project.

## Key Resolutions

Resolution Number	Detail	Voting
Resolution 2:	<b>To AUTHORISE the Board to appoint the auditors for the 2023 accounts and to fix their remuneration. which was proposed by the Board of Directors</b>	The Resolution was <b>approved</b> For the motion – 723, Against – 6, Abstain – 47
Resolution 3:	<b>To CREATE part-year membership fees for new members;</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New members joining British Orienteering between 1st January and 30th April will pay the full annual membership fee for that year</li><li>• New members joining between 1st May and 31st August will pay two-thirds of the annual membership fee</li><li>• New members joining between 1st September and 31st December will pay one-third of the annual membership fee.</li></ul>	The Resolution was <b>approved,</b> For the motion – 751, Against – 16, Abstain – 9
Resolution 4:	<b>To CREATE a membership category for families;</b>  From January 2024, to introduce a new membership category of family membership.  The CEO informed the meeting that a family would be two adults and any number of children at the same address.	The Resolution was <b>approved</b> For the motion – 758, Against – 11, Abstain – 7
Resolution 5:	<b>To CREATE a membership category for young adults between the ages of 21 and 25</b>	The Resolution was <b>approved.</b>

	The Chair informed the meeting that in line with our strategic focus on increasing membership and participation in the 16 to 40 age group	For the motion – 737, Against – 27, Abstain – 12
<b>Resolution 6:</b>	<p><b>To CREATE a levy fee category for senior non-member participants.</b></p> <p>the proposal had been put forward because the members subsidising the cost of non-members and therefore there is no membership benefit or becoming a member.</p> <p>The proposal was developed after a consultation and was supported by the majority of clubs that responded earlier this year. We were requested to keep it simple. This model was developed over a number of Board meetings.</p> <p>A number of members asked for the Resolution to be withdrawn or amended.</p> <p>The Chair has committed the Board to review this proposal at a future meeting.</p>	<p>The Resolution was <b>approved</b></p> <p>For the motion – 532, Against – 217, Abstain – 27</p>
<b>Resolution 7:</b>	<p><b>To APPROVE the member, levy and club affiliation fees from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024</b></p> <p>The proposal was for a small increase on club affiliation fees and a tempting increase on the levy for both senior and juniors.</p> <p>Fees are:</p> <p>No change to individual membership fees</p> <p>Young Adult = £10</p> <p>Family = £35</p> <p>Club Affiliation = £80</p> <p>University Affiliation = £25</p> <p>Senior Member Levy = £1.65</p> <p>Senior Non Member levy = £2.50</p> <p>Junior member and non member levy = £0.50</p>	<p>The Resolution was <b>approved.</b></p> <p>For the motion – 672, Against – 78, Abstain – 25</p>
<b>Election of Directors</b>	<p><b>Ruth Beale</b> did not seek re-election.</p> <p><b>Duncan Birtwistle (OD) and Alison Howe (SAX) were elected unopposed.</b></p>	

Thank you to all those that attended and voted.