



British Orienteering Annual Report & Review 2024



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Governance

Introduction

As the national governing body, the British Orienteering Federation is responsible for overseeing the administration and development of the sport of orienteering in the United Kingdom.

Whilst the objects of the company are set out in detail in the Memorandum Articles of Association, these may be summarised to undertake all and any activities to increase participation in orienteering and secure international success.

Except for the Chief Executive, the directors of the company are either elected at the AGM or appointed by an Appointments Panel for terms of up to three years. No Non-Executive director may serve more than three terms consecutively.

Directors

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2024 to the date of this report.

Darren Bernstein	Senior Independent Director
Duncan Birtwistle	Elected Director
Alison Howe	Elected Director, Vice Chair
Lauren Pagé	Independent Director
Andy Robinson	Elected Director, Treasurer
David Rosen	Elected Director
Laura Kaye Tomlinson	Independent Director
Pauline Tryner	Elected Director
Drew Vanbeck	Independent Director, Chair

Other changes in directors holding office during 2024 are as follows:

- Peter Hart (Company Secretary & CEO) - resigned 15 September 2024
- Peter Brooke (Acting Company Secretary & CEO) - appointed 16 September 2024
- Scott Collier - resigned 5 October 2024
- Keith Willdig - appointed 5 October 2024

Diversity Progress Statement as at December 2024

As of 1 December 2024, 36% of the Director positions were women (4 of 11) and 9% of the occupied Director positions were ethnically diverse (1 of 11).

The Board met its targets in respect of gender diversity (minimum 30% of either gender) and other identified protected diversity characteristics.

The Board continues to work towards maintaining gender diversity and increasing representation of young people, diverse ethnicities and people with disabilities.

As of 1 December 2024, three of the five members of the British Orienteering Executive Team with senior management responsibilities were women.

Governance Progress Statement as of December 2024

In November 2016 a Code for Sports Governance was published which sets out a range of requirements that British Orienteering and other organisations in sport must meet to be eligible for public funding.

The Board regularly reviews this status. Much of the work to remain compliant is now embedded into the work programme of the Board and policies and activities were reviewed and performed in accordance with the annual Board work programme.

Following the review commissioned in 2020, improvements to the Code are being implemented across the sector. BOF is working with our funding partners to ensure that these recent additions to the Code are being appropriately implemented in accordance with best practice.

In early 2024, Governance United conducted an independent assessment of the Board and how it operates. Overall British Orienteering received a positive assessment of a well run Board with some areas to consider in order to improve efficiencies and process.

Director Attendance at Board Meetings

Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Darren Bernstein	2/5	David Rosen	5/5
Duncan Birtwistle	5/5	Andy Robinson	5/5
Peter Brooke ****	1/1	Laura Kaye Tomlinson	2/5
Scott Collier	3/4	Pauline Tryner	5/5
Peter Hart ***	4/4	Drew Vanbeck (Chair)	5/5
Alison Howe	5/5	Keith Willdig **	1/1
Lauren Pagé	3/5		

Notes

* Scott Collier stood down at the AGM.

** Keith Willdig replaced Scott Collier in October.

*** Peter Hart retired as CEO in September.

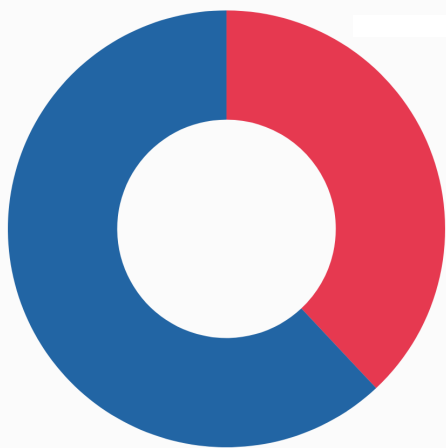
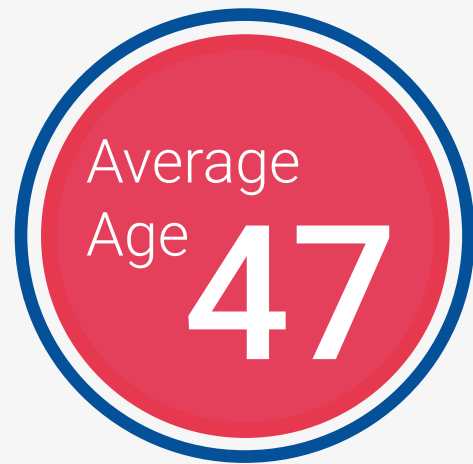
****Peter Brooke replaced Peter Hart as Acting CEO in September.

Facts and figures

2024
Membership **8963**



16–40 Age range
1948



38% Female
62% Male



Participation
(Competitions)
147,774

Special acknowledgements

The Orienteering Foundation is a registered charity (number 1118793) that promotes and supports orienteering, helping to ensure that our amazing sport is here for the enjoyment of generations to come.

The Orienteering Foundation is independent of British Orienteering, but the two organisations cooperate closely.

The Foundation uses the donations it receives to give grants to deserving projects and individuals, recent examples being:



- JROS Coaching provision at Lagganlia
- Supporting several clubs engaging Club Development Officers
- Enhancements to the Peter Palmer Junior Relays including GPS tracking and commentary
- Dan Heppell to attend the European Youth Orienteering Championships
- Lagan Valley Orienteers for a project targeting juniors and families.

If you want to find out more about making grant applications, donating or leaving a legacy, visit the Orienteering Foundation website: www.orienteeringfoundation.org.uk or email admin@orienteeringfoundation.org.uk.



Dan Heppell at EYOC 2024



Lagan Valley Orienteers event

In memory



David Peregrine

In August 2024, British Orienteering was sad to learn of the passing of former Chair David Peregrine following a short illness.

David was an active West Anglian Orienteering Club (WAOC) member, along with his wife Satu. As an active orienteer, David supported the club through a variety of roles including serving on the clubs committee. He went on from the role of WAOC Chairman to become Chairman of EAOA and then of the British Orienteering Federation from 1997 – 2000 and on the Council for 20 years. David also mapped many areas for WAOC, coached Juniors to great effect and enjoyed Mountain Marathons.

David received an honorary WAOC membership at the 2023 AGM.

Chair's report

2024 saw the World Championships come to Edinburgh. I'd like to congratulate everybody involved in making a fabulous event come to fruition.



There were challenges in funding the event given the COVID related delay, the rate of inflation during that period and some other cost pressures. I'd like to thank Edinburgh Council and Events Scotland for their generous support. British Orienteering also supported the event with funding of approximately £40,000 made from reserves.

We also had some excellent international success during 2024 – congratulations to the athletes involved; there's more detail in the CEO's report. We continue to receive funding from Sport Northern Ireland, sportscotland and Sport England. We are obviously grateful for the funding but also for the constructive and flexible approach the sports councils have taken over the years.

British Orienteering understands that our clubs are at the heart of the sport and that clubs and volunteers perform the work to make events happen. We have been working to provide additional support to clubs and continue to welcome ideas about central support for clubs.

This is my last Chair's report as I am passing the role to Rob Woods at the end of the AGM in May; I am confident that I leave the sport in safe hands with Rob, and I wish him well in the Chair role.

I will have served as Chair for six years and would like to thank all the directors, staff, clubs, members and others from the orienteering family that have worked so hard during that time to support the sport.

Our directors are volunteers and, as I've said before, it feels right to me that in a sport where clubs and volunteers are at the heart of the sport that our directors should be volunteers too. I'd also like to thank individuals who have personally engaged with me to provide different perspectives and constructive challenge over the years.

I'd like to thank the previous and current CEOs for their service to the organisation and for the seamless handover between them.

Peter Hart was CEO for almost the entire period I've been Chair, and I'd like to thank him both for his professionalism but also for his advice to me particularly in the early days as I was settling into the role.

Peter Brooke was recently selected as CEO after a rigorous selection process with some strong external candidates. Peter was the only orienteer in the final group of applicants and was unanimously selected by the selection panel. I wish him well as CEO, congratulate him on his appointment and thank him for his years of service as Operations Manager.

Club of the year Award Winner 2024



Airienteers

Airienteers is a strong club and is using this strength to keep its members active, inspiring others in the community to do the same.

The Club prides itself on providing a range of activities for its members, which encourages their progression and development as orienteers.

From the Wednesday night series (now every fortnight throughout the year), its Saturday Introductory Series (targeted at welcoming newcomers to orienteering), to several other local and regional events (including night events).

In addition, they host occasional extras such as indoor sprint events and Blue Plaque events. There are also training sessions available to Juniors & Seniors, string courses, and Club Leagues (including Night, Spring, Summer and Annual).

Activities have ranged from the really informal street mass start events to significant competitions. By JK 2025 they will have run every major event in the UK calendar at least once over the previous decade.

Recruiting, retaining and rewarding volunteers

The club rotates its helper groups, giving them vouchers, and they have a dedicated Volunteer Coordinator.

Using their Club Development Officer and Junior Development Officer, they find that this relieves the strain of volunteers. Perhaps more crucially, they feed their committee members with pizza at committee meetings!

Building relationships with local and regional partners

Thanks to their Junior Development Officer, Simon Martland, Airienteers have great relationships with local schools, particularly Bradford Grammar School. They have also developed strong links with Councils, the Civic Society, Friends of Parks (for POCs), and so on.



Members of Airienteers

Inclusion

Airienteers has diversity and inclusion at the heart of its strategic plan (which was started by ex-Chair, Liz Carter).

They have been running informal events in areas that have disadvantaged communities and have found these to be a success by using various communications channels to pre-publicise them, as well as placing adverts in visible areas locally. This has worked especially well for the Saturday afternoon series.

Simon Martland (Junior Development Officer) works in local schools at least one day a week and runs a school competition.



One of Airienteers 'Come and try it' events



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Newcomers enjoy a 'Come and try it' event

Looking ahead to the future

The club has a thriving younger junior cohort, assisted by junior and mixed-age training events, who are moving through the ranks and providing increasing numbers of members of the YHOA junior squad.

They have developed links with schools and their Club Development Officer (Lois Parker) has recruitment and retention as one of their key tasks.

Their financial position is comfortable enough for them to subsidise adult members at inter-club competitions and fully subsidize all juniors at regional and national competitions and relays. In addition, white and yellow competitors at most events are free or very low cost.



Members of Airienteers

CEO Report



Chief Executive,
Peter Brooke

I start my first Chief Executive's report by recognising the efforts of all our clubs, associations and members in what has been another positive year, highlighted by the successful World Orienteering Championships held in Edinburgh in July.

After stepping up as Acting CEO from September, it has been an honour to lead the organisation following Peter Hart's retirement. I'd like to express my gratitude to Peter for his hard work and dedication since 2018.

Peter has steered us through arguably the toughest period for any sport in 2020 whilst ensuring British Orienteering has a firm governance structure and delivered the new Strategic Plan which provides clear direction for the future growth of our sport.

Highlights and achievements



World Orienteering Championships 2024

Held in Edinburgh in July, orienteers from across the world descended on the Scottish capital to showcase everything positive about our sport.

The event, alongside the WOC Tour, was a huge success. Special mention to Andy Mitchelmore, Jon Cross and their teams of volunteers who worked extremely hard throughout.



International success

Our athletes continued to shine on the international stage. Notably Ralph Street's victory at the World Cup event in Czechia, James Hammond's silver medal at EYOC 2024 in Szczecin, Poland, and at the World University Orienteering Championships in Bankso, Bulgaria, our Mixed Sprint Relay team of Rachel Brown, Peter Molloy, Eddie Narbett and Fiona Bunn took an excellent gold medal. Finally, we received four gold medals and a bronze at the World Masters in Turka, Finland.



Engagement

Clubs and associations continue to deliver exciting events from the JK to local club events, with over 100 extra events run in 2024 compared to 2023.

As a sport, our social media presence has grown, allowing us to connect with a broader audience and promote the sport more effectively.

Challenges

Financial pressures

The financial viability of hosting major events like WOC in Edinburgh was a concern. However, with substantial support from Edinburgh Council and Events Scotland, we managed to navigate these challenges successfully.

We are also conscious of the current cost of living, and we are not immune from rising costs and a static income stream. We have taken responsible approaches and made difficult decisions to ensure the sport remains financially sound.

Participation

Participation in 2024 was on course for an increase on 2023 levels, however some poor weather late in the year saw a significant number of events postponed or cancelled. As a sport, we need to get ourselves into a position where one or two bad weather weekends does not see us miss out on year-on-year growth. Having essentially missed out on two years of newcomers during the pandemic, we are starting to feel the impact in volunteering capacity and participation levels. As a sport and the team at British Orienteering, participation is a key focus for 2025. Get this right and more members and volunteers will follow.

“ As a sport, we need to be brave, take risks and be prepared to change the norm. Orienteering is such an exciting and lifelong sport for any ability, with many adaptations to suit every taste. But we can't sit still, we must think of simple ways to engage new people. ”

As a sport, we need to be brave, take risks and be prepared to change the norm. Orienteering is such an exciting and lifelong sport for any ability, with many adaptations to suit every taste. But we can't sit still, we must think of simple ways to engage new people.

This may mean introductory events with simpler maps or concepts. Questions to ask are, how do we get to a point where someone can just pick up a map and go? Do we utilise our local events to their full potential?



Future plans

Strategic plan implementation

We will continue to focus on delivering our strategic plan which includes a focus on participation, and particularly the 16-40 age group.

Development programmes

We will continue to develop our support for members by continuing to enhance our coaching structure, adding to our portfolio of eLearning courses and delivering relevant webinars to bring to life excellent initiatives and best practice.



Cutting briefly into 2025, in February, we announced that Rob Woods would take up the role as Chair of the Board of Directors from Drew Vanbeck in May. Likewise, I was honoured to be confirmed as the new CEO. I look forward to working with Rob to help drive our exciting sport to new audiences and maintain the good governance structure put in place by Peter Hart and Drew.

In summary, the year has been a very positive one. There remain areas that need improvement, and we should continue to do so. We have great ideas within the British Orienteering team and the membership, and we need to pull together in the same direction whilst being positive ambassadors for the sport. There is a crowded marketplace of events jostling to capture people, and we will only see increases in participation with positive messages, being prepared to take new approaches and thinking differently.

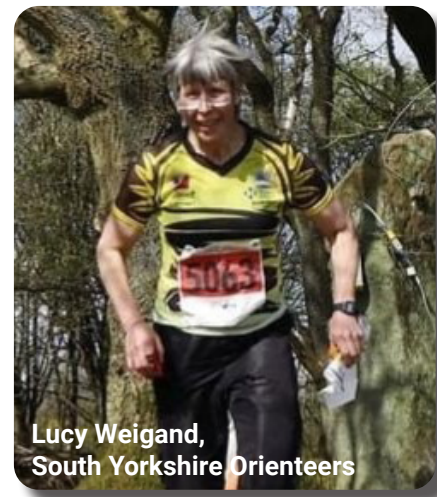
I would like to thank the Board for their support, the expertise and commitment they have brought to the organisation and to the staff team for their energy, enthusiasm and expertise. Equally I would like to thank all of those involved in delivering and developing our sport at local, regional and national levels.

I would also like to thank the continued support from Sport Ni, sportscotland and Sport England as without their support the sport would not be as strong as it is today.

Finally, I would personally like to thank Peter Hart and Drew Vanbeck, who have given an enormous amount of time to the sport and support to myself, and who have carried the sport through a very difficult period and positioned us in an excellent place to ensure the future of the sport.

Volunteer of the Year Award Winner 2024

Lucy Weigand
South Yorkshire Orienteers



Lucy provides invaluable contributions as Permissions Officer at the Club. She has been in this role for at least 14 years, and she fits it perfectly.

This has played a particularly important role during SYO's growth in recent years, as the club has expanded its need for additional new areas and increased use of existing areas to host its successful Schools Saturday series (10 events a year with up to 600 runs), Wednesday night coaching/training (during school terms and attended by 80-100 club members) and an increased events schedule.

Lucy's skills and knowledge are currently in full demand in dealing with very significant permission issues for the JK 2025 (Sheffield Sprint map, Tankersley Middle, Wharnccliffe Long - and Wombwell relays until permission was withheld in view of the event size).

Why Lucy is so valued

- Both within SYO and outside SYO (so with Local Authorities, Forestry England, etc) throughout the years, Lucy has developed excellent relationships and mutual respect.
- Her communication is excellent, whether by email, social media, or verbally, so people understand what the issues are and her view on them.
- She is pragmatic about what really matters and what just needs dealing with.

- Although employed outside orienteering, Lucy can juggle many tasks concurrently, from events happening within the month to those two years away. And these can be related to Local Authority concerns around land access or parking, to the RSPB and ground-nesting birds, to crayfish in Sheffield ditches, etc.
- She is firm, determined, and confident in her ability and what she needs to perform her task effectively. Moreover, she can be trusted to deliver on time.
- As an experienced international orienteer of long-standing, she understands from a competitor's viewpoint the issues around permissions and the potential sensible mitigation factors.
- Lucy provides constructive informed input about what information is required on maps regarding out-of-bounds areas.

She is one of the key individuals who has facilitated SYO's growth in the last few years by enabling SYO members to compete and train regularly throughout the year.

Silva Award Winner 2024

Ian Cooper

South Yorkshire Orienteers



Ian Cooper has been orienteering and volunteering for almost 50 years. He started his orienteering journey in 1976 (after the World Orienteering Championships) and quickly became involved in volunteering, surveying and drawing his first map of Thorndon Park and Harts Wood (HAVOC) in 1978.

During 1980 he assisted with surveying Epping Forest, before moving to South Africa in 1981. He was cofounder of Rand Orienteering Club and the South African Orienteering Federation in 1982. He then created South Africa's first 5-colour O map of Delta Park, Johannesburg in 1982. This was followed by (pre-OCAD) maps of Gillooly's Farm, Braamfontein Spruit, Jan Van Riebeeck Park, Laurentia Farm, Moffat Park, Enrich West, Smilin Thru, Michael House School and various remaps. He also planned, organised, and controlled numerous events.

Ian returned to the UK in 1986, joined SYO, and has been a member for almost 40 years. He immediately took up a position on the committee and served as publicity officer from 1987 to 1990. He also continued with his passion for mapping and in 1988 created the Strines map and remapped Ewden Valley for the British Champs in 1989. His mapping expertise continued to grow with remaps of Ecclesall Woods and Limb Valley in 1993 for the Harvester Trophy and a new map of Wharncliffe in 1995. In 1994 he received a Certificate of Merit for Mapping for his map of Burbage.

In December 1997 he moved to Sweden and joined IFK Lidingsö. Although he wasn't involved in mapping in Sweden because all the mapping was professionally done, he continued to be heavily involved in other aspects of volunteering for his Swedish club. He returned to Sheffield in 2002 and continued mapping, controlling, planning and organising for SYO. He is level B controller and has controlled numerous events for SYO, MDOC, DVO and NOC.

The maps completed for SYO are too numerous to mention, but include Wharncliffe, Burbage,

Big Moor, Tankersley/Hesley Wood (including for 2021 CSC Final), Blacka Moor, Ecclesall Woods, Rivelin, Wombwell. In 2010 he was awarded the Chichester Trophy for his map of Burbage and he received the Bonnington Trophy for services to mapping in 2014. He is currently mapping (still as an amateur) Sheffield City Centre for 2025 JK Sprint and Burbage (yet again) for 2026.

In 2021 he was a presenter at the BOF 2021 mapping webinar and is a contributor to the IOF Map Wiki. He has served on the SYO committee numerous times and has been SYO mapping officer on several occasions since 1986.

He is SYO's current mapping officer - a hugely demanding job given the numerous events and activities the club runs each year, particularly with the added pressure of being the JK mapping officer in 2025.

While Ian's expertise lies primarily in mapping and controlling, he is passionate about the development of the sport and very supportive of the club's juniors. He is always the first to praise and congratulate when one of our juniors has a good run.

Although not a qualified coach, he regularly assisted with coaching the juniors at our club night for many years and even now continues to step up if we're coach down! He also volunteers to help at almost every event despite now being an M75!

Ian puts hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours into the sport every year. His impact on the sport is immense. SYO would not be the club it is today without his expertise, passion and commitment.

Treasurer's Report



I'm extremely pleased to report that we are showing a deficit for the third year in a row. In 2024 it was even bigger than 2023 at £60,661.

Of course £40,000 of that was money well spent ensuring that the World Championships in Edinburgh was the success it turned out to be. So the underlying deficit wasn't really all that big. The reserves now stand at £499k which is still well in excess of that required by our reserves policy which is £321k. So still plenty of scope to allow reserves to drop further.

The deficit is analysed in the two tables. One for income and the second for expenditure.

We budget in detail for one year ahead and make a projection for two more years. At present we are anticipating smallish deficits (£10k-£25k) for these years – all very manageable. You must bear in mind that our grant aid from Sport England will be reviewed in late 2026 to early 2027. That is always the "elephant in the room" when planning ahead.

It remains for me to thank the efforts of the office staff in the preparation of these figures and for their hard work over the year. Both Peter's (Hart and Brooke) and Kelly have been doing a tremendous job.

Income	2023	2024
Membership	113.3	120.5
Levy	167.5	194.5
Major Events	202.3	196.5
Athletes' Contribution	69.0	65.8
Commercial	48.8	18.5
Sport England	321.2	348.8
Sport Northern Ireland	39.4	68.1
Interest	16.5	15.2
	969.0	1036.7
Surplus/deficit	-51.1	-61.7

Expenditure	2023	2024
Membership	32.6	39.4
Major Events	173.8	165.4
Governance	14.4	21.8
Development	91.5	132.6
Performance	164.1	158.0
Marketing & Commercial	26.1	20.3
Payroll & Expenses	446.8	451.8
Special Projects	0	40.9
National Office & Finance Costs	70.8	68.2
	1020.1	1098.4

Membership & Participation Data

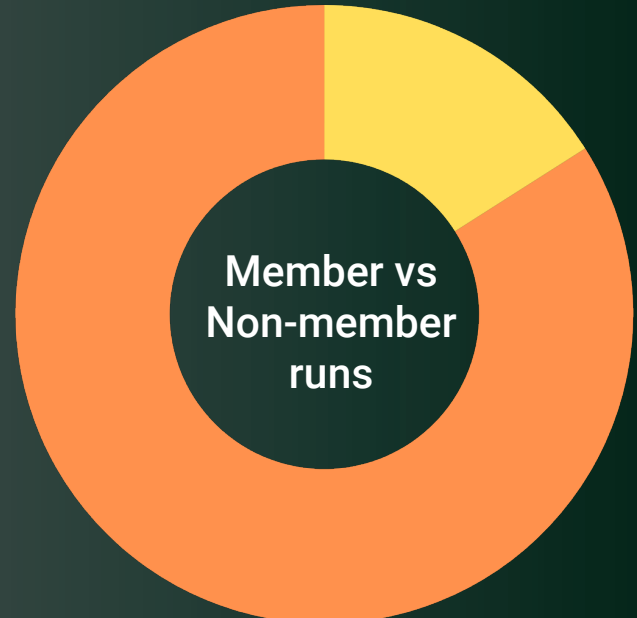
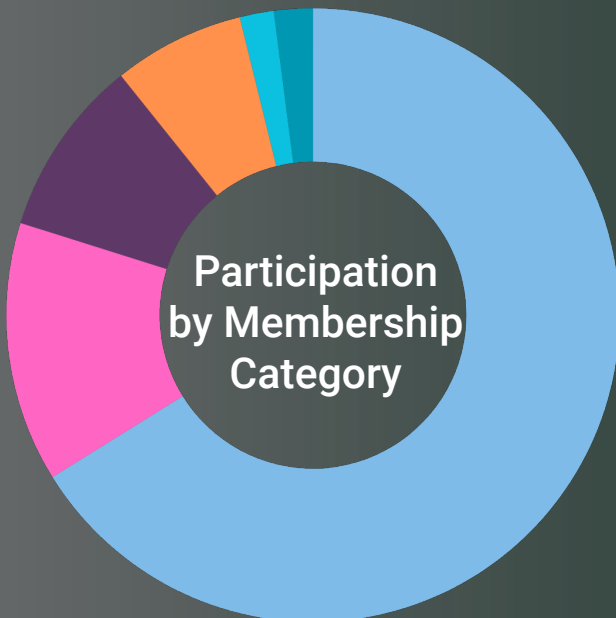
Total number of competitions registered

1,603



2024 total runs

147,774



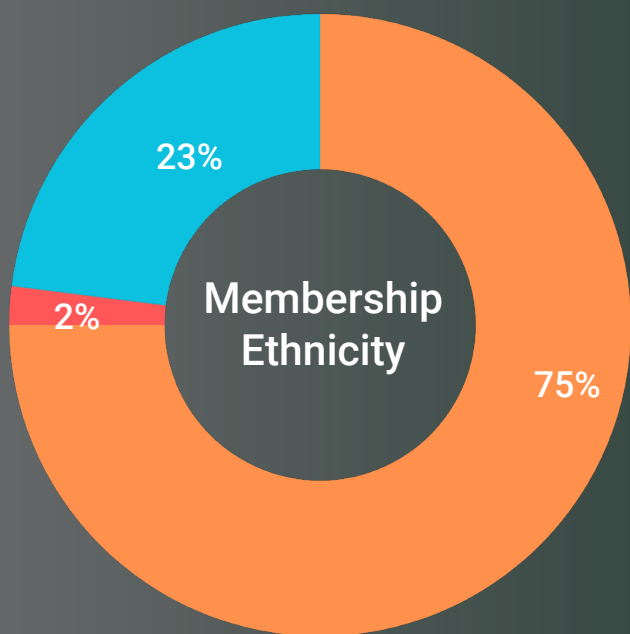
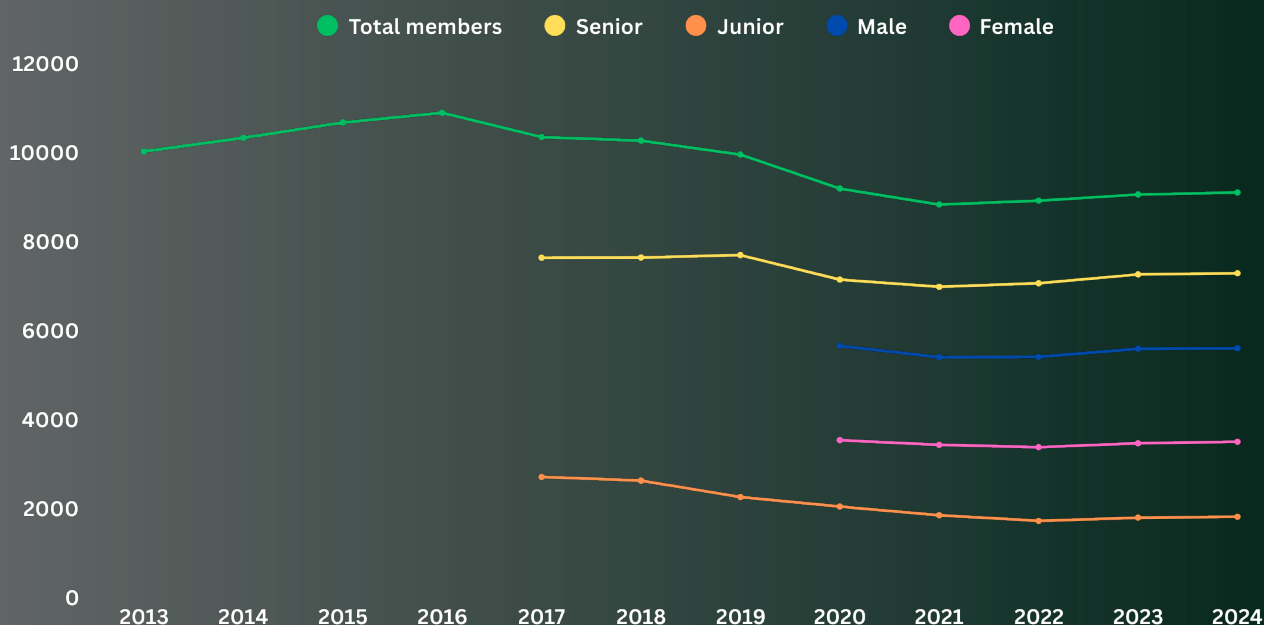
- Senior members 66.2%
- Junior members 6.9%
- Senior non-members 9.4%
- Junior non-members 13.7%
- Senior non-paying 1.8%
- Junior non-paying 2%

- Members 83%
- Non-members 17%

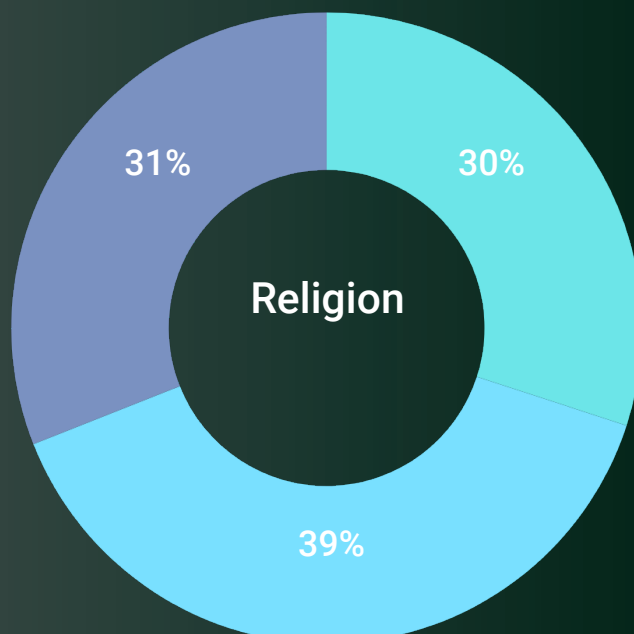
Competitions and participation breakdown (per level)		
Level	Number	Participants
Level D	1,273 (+110)	70,142 (+1,903)
Level C	248 (-7)	40,197 (+844)
Level B	69 (-1)	25,415 (-5,425)
Level A	13 (0)	12,020 (-256)
Total	1,603 (+102)	147,774 (-2934)

Membership statistic overview

Yearly Membership Trends (taken 31 December 2024)



- White
- Prefer not to say
- Other



- No religion or belief
- Christian
- Prefer not to say

Coach of the Year Award Winner 2024

Jon Musgrave
MAR Orienteering Club



Jon Musgrave has stood down as the lead coach of ScotJOS (Scottish Junior Orienteering Squad) after 6 years. He has had an incredible impact on lives of numerous Scottish junior orienteers.

His patience and understanding as well as humour has motivated juniors to embrace the challenges of the sport and to believe in themselves and to love the sport of orienteering.

Jon's knowledge of the sport and performance and the way he can relate this to everyone to make concepts and ideas accessible to all is unsurpassed.

He instilled the concept of team and motivated juniors to provide the best performances possible. He thought about the juniors holistically and was determined to get the best from them whilst caring deeply about their welfare. His encouraging words and comments (especially on Attackpoint) are valued by all.

He encouraged not just those interested in the elite performance but also those who show a flair for planning, coaching or mapping, also passing on his skills and wealth of expertise in these areas.

Jon thoroughly deserves this nomination for his work with coaching Scottish junior orienteers. As a coach he is held in the highest respect by all.



Jon Musgrave

Performance

2024 was the culmination of several years of preparation for the World Orienteering Championships on home soil. WOC 2024 did not disappoint, with a week of stunning races and two podium positions for Great Britain!

Aside from WOC, we fielded junior or senior teams at a total of 8 other international races in 2024, with some fantastic performances by up-and-coming athletes.

2024 saw some staffing changes in the Performance team. Pippa Archer stepped into the role of Performance Pathway Manager in May and Tom Bray stepped down from his role supporting our Development Squad athletes at the end of the year. British Orienteering would like to thank Tom for all the support he has provided to our elite athletes over the past few years. In March 2025, Graham Gristwood and Mark Nixon joined the Performance team in the roles of Performance Programme Coordinator and Development Squad Lead, respectively.

Membership of the Performance Pathway Steering Group was also refreshed in 2024. This group sets the strategy for the Performance Programme, which is then delivered by programme staff and an amazing array of dedicated volunteers – thank you all! Within this structure, athletes in our Performance, Development, and Talent Squads are supported to work towards their long-term goals in both forest and sprint orienteering.

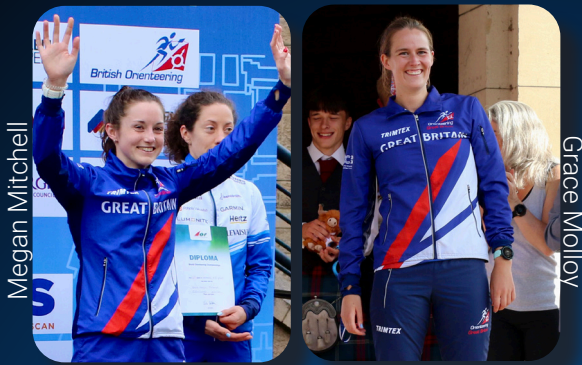
The task of the Performance Pathway Programme is to support athletes throughout their elite careers as they work towards the ultimate goal of winning a medal at WOC. The future certainly looks bright as we reflect on the depth of strength across our junior and senior squads, and we wish the athletes all the best for 2025 as they prepare for international races in Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Switzerland, China, Italy, Czechia and Scotland!



A few of the Senior GB Squad at the final day of WOC 2024.



Performance Key Highlights



Megan Mitchell

Grace Molloy

Podium Places for two of the GB Team at the World Orienteering Championships 2024

For many of us, a highlight of 2024 was seeing GB athletes standing on the podium at the 2024 World Orienteering Championships in Edinburgh last summer.

Grace Molloy kicked off the week with a 6th place in the individual sprint, while Megan Carter Davies (now Megan Mitchell) rounded off a week of top ten places with 5th in the Knock-Out Sprint. These performances are testament to the dedication and hard work of Megan and Grace, but they are only the headlines in what was a week of impressive racing by the whole GB team, cementing our status as one of the best countries in the world for sprint orienteering.

International success for our Junior athletes

Success was not limited to the seniors. Our junior athletes posted some outstanding performances at both the Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC) in Czechia and the European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC) in Poland.

There was a double celebration in the Long Distance at EYOC, as James Hammond won a nail-biting Silver in the M18 class, just 6 seconds behind the eventual winner, and Finn Selmer Duguid finished 6th in the M16 class. A few weeks later, in one of the most hotly contested fixtures in the calendar, Imogen Pieters secured a trio of top-20 positions in all three individual disciplines at JWOC, with the highlight being her securing 10th place in the Sprint.



Fiona Bunn, Eddie Narbett, Peter Molloy & Rachel Brown

Gold for GB in the Mixed Sprint Relay at the World University Orienteering Championships (WUOC) in Bulgaria

Another highlight of 2024 was team Gold in the Mixed Sprint Relay at the World University Orienteering Championships (WUOC) in Bulgaria.

The team of Rachel Brown, Peter Molloy, and Eddie Narbett were anchored home by Fiona Bunn, who also secured individual 6th places in both the individual sprint and the middle distance.

WUOC has long been an important stepping stone for GB athletes as they move through the senior ranks, and the 2024 competition was yet another chance for some of our younger senior athletes to gain confidence and shine on the world stage.



James Hammond



Finn Selmer Duguid



Imogen Pieters

Safeguarding



Ensuring the welfare and protection of our participants of all ages remains, and will always be, a top priority for orienteering. It is essential that, as a sport, we continue to foster a positive culture around safeguarding and welfare at all levels.

We must give proper consideration and attention to the safety of all participants, especially children and adults at risk.

While the number of cases remains low, typically around five each year, it is encouraging to see many clubs and members seeking advice when planning training, events or activities.

In 2024, two cases were received, which following their outcomes have allowed us to update policies and procedures. Even if some cases are not direct safeguarding issues, they do provide a channel for individuals to raise concerns and together, help us to drive positive change.

British Orienteering is confident in our structures and procedures but continue to work diligently in this area. This commitment is supported by achieving the standards required for Adult Safeguarding as recognised in our assessment by the Ann Craft Trust (ACT). Whilst we also continue to receive a 'met' rating from the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU).

Our Orienteering focused eLearning course 'Introducing Safeguarding' remains popular and has helped many coaches reaccredit the safeguarding element of their coaching license, especially as 2024 marked three years since safeguarding was introduced into the coaching license requirements.

Coaching



Orienteering Coach Qualification

The Orienteering Coach Qualification was launched in July, this replaces the Level 2 certificate in orienteering and has the same learning outcomes and now embraces blended learning and flexible delivery.

Nine members are currently working towards their qualification and six have completed their qualification, many congratulations to those members. All Coach educators have been supported and orientated to deliver and support this qualification.

We are on course to formally withdraw from 1st4Sport by 31st March 2025. Many thanks to the Tutors, Coaches and Assessors that have enabled us to stay on track.

Instructor Qualification

The British Orienteering Instructor qualification which replaces the Level 1 has been designed this year by Pat Mee (MDOC) and Hilary Palmer (NOC) for instructors running introductory Orienteering sessions within the safety management systems of the deploying organisation, clubs, outdoor centres, schools and other organisations such as uniformed groups. This is currently undergoing testing.

We were very keen to understand the level of support for this qualification within our club network and therefore conducted a survey in the autumn. The results were very positive with 31 clubs supporting the development of this qualification out of 33 club responses. Many thanks to the clubs that responded and came forward with observations and suggestions that have enhanced the instructor qualification and were gratefully received.



Performance Coaching Qualification

Towards the end of the year we secured the services of Dr Tom Leeder, who conducted the 2023 Coaching Review, to develop a survey to understand both the scope of an Performance Coaching qualification and the Coach educator requirements from everyone involved in the performance community from regional squads upwards, athletes, coaches, support staff and where applicable parents.

Overall we are on track to deliver the current coaching plan and thankful of the commitment, drive and knowledge of the Coaching Advisory Group chaired by Judith Holt (DVO).

Development

eLearning



Aim

Our aim is for eLearning resources to be available and accessible to learners at a time and place of their choice.

Although accessibility is a key driver, we believe that eLearning should be used to enhance the learning experience and, it should be at the benefit of the learners.

Two new eLearning courses developed in 2024

Introduction to Inclusion been designed to support Clubs & their members who wish to explore positive Inclusion changes and make their Orienteering environment even more inclusive & thriving.

Introduction to Event Organising aims provide for prospective Level D/Local event organisers with an overview of the requirements and considerations that may arise in staging a Level D/Local orienteering event. Both courses have been designed with the expert guidance of Pauline Olivant(NOC) and extensively tested by subject matter member experts to whom we are sincerely grateful too .



Course name	Number of enrolments	Average time to complete
Introduction to Inclusion	13	62 mins
The Orienteering Coach (6 bitesize modules)	40	25 mins (per modules)
Event safety	108	59 mins
Introducing Orienteering	21	63 mins
Introducing Orienteering for Secondary Schools	63	49 mins
Introduction to Planning	43	67 mins
Introducing Safeguarding	101	40 mins
Introduction to updating forest maps	12	50 mins
Introduction to sprint and urban maps	21	55 mins

Partnerships

Recognised Delivery Partners

In 2024 we began our Recognised Delivery Partners Pilot Scheme to link in with quality orienteering delivery within educational settings.

Our recognised partners are trusted organisations committed to providing age & stage appropriate Orienteering within education and have met the standards of quality and safety the award commands.

They are committed to not only delivery quality orienteering experiences, but to also promote the sport, our clubs and local events to the audience they serve. In the 2023-24 academic year, 29,000 children and young people took part in an organised School Games Orienteering Competition (Youth Sports Trust statistics, 2024).

We recognise and understand the vital importance of closer working relationships with quality orienteering professionals in broadening the knowledge and skills of the sport to the younger age group.

Revive Active

Revive Active were announced as the Official Supplement Supplier to the GB Squad in February 2024.

Their support to the elite squads covers athletes both in the Performance and Development Squad. These athletes receive WADA-approved Revive products suitable to their needs, to enhance performance, training and recovery.

In addition to their valued support of the GB Squad, Revive have actively supported the British Orienteering Membership throughout the year. They were key sponsors of the 2024 JK Festival, have delivered quality and informative webinars to members on different key themes and have offered a Membership Discount code for members wishing to purchase their products. Their support has been influential across many areas of the sport for 2024 and we are pleased to see it continue for 2025.

More information about each of our Recognised Delivery Partners and their delivery within communities across the UK can be found on the Recognised Delivery Partner Webinar at the recent [2025 Development Conference](#).



FIND YOUR WAY PROJECT

Find your way Project

The three-year, Sport England funded Find Your Way Project ended in September 2024.

The Project was design to develop positive experiences of orienteering through 'virtual orienteering' activities aimed at children, young people and families in 'hard to reach' places. This was to be done by connecting people with their local green spaces and community, in the hope of them becoming more active through 'virtual orienteering' opportunities.

Across the three years, 21 areas across England had FYW activities organised within them, with collaborative work between British Orienteering, local influential partners (Active Partnerships, Local Authorities, schools and Community Groups) and 19 British Orienteering Clubs.

Across the three years

- 6,362 participants took part in a FYW activity – (on app/register, school competition or part of a community day)
- 382 community partners and teachers were trained to deliver a FYW activity 113 areas were newly mapped areas for FYW / wider club use
- 424 new Maprun courses were created for FYW / wider club and community use.

The FYW funding allowed British Orienteering to attend and deliver FYW activities (and knowledge of the sport) at many different events including, the Lincolnshire Show, the OMM Lite Festival, Scouts Gilwell Reunion, the National Outdoors EXPO, Youth Sports Trust conferences and various School PE and Sport Conferences.

Attendance at these events and increasing the profile of the sport through FYW activities has had wider benefits to many of our clubs.

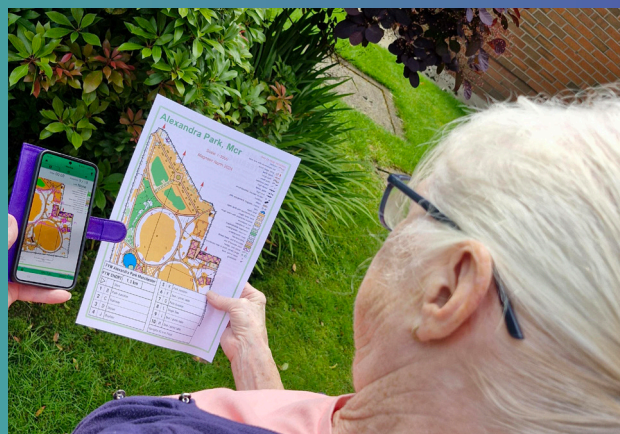
A full analysis of the Find Your Way Project, it's impact and the number of wider benefits it has brought to the sport was delivered via webinar by Partnerships Manager, Kay Hawke in January 2025.



6,362
participants

382
community partners

424
new MapRun courses



Marketing & Communications Analytics

Social Media Growth

January vs December 2024

5,332
followers



5,904
followers

4,819
followers



4,704
followers

1,500
followers



2,546
followers

404
subscribers



497
subscribers

Spotlight on our top Social Media Channels



Reach: 454.3K
(up 92.3%)

Page visits: 49.7K
(up 163.1%)

5,904 followers
(up 8.3%)



Reach: 108.8K
(up 511.12%)

Page visits: 13.3K
(up 56.5%)

2,546 followers
(up 72.7%)

Email Marketing Insights



63.1%
OPEN RATE



11.2%
CLICK RATE



24
EMAILS SENT

Website Analytics



169K
VISITORS



4m 17s
AVERAGE
ENGAGEMENT
TIME



2 MILLION
PAGE VIEWS

RESULTS
FIND AN EVENT
RANKINGS
NEWS
FIND A CLUB

Development

Access

In terms of Access, 2024 was dominated by our relationship with Forestry England. After many months of collaboration, we finalised and published the joint Memorandum of Understanding.

Together with colleagues at Forestry England we worked through a number of challenges concerning members gaining access to the Forestry England estate.

These challenges were for a number of reasons and in the main we were successful in resolving them satisfactorily. It is important to highlight that there will be permission requests that are declined but the vast majority are granted which lends itself to our enduring positive relationship with Forestry England.

British Orienteering commissioned an Ecologist, Miranda Cowan, to complete an [Environmental Impact Assessment](#) at the Middle-Distance stage of the JK in April 2024. Three visits to the site were undertaken and whilst there were signs of our activity at the site, the overall findings affirmed our general perception that we have a very light effect on the environments in which we orienteer.



World Orienteering Championships 2024



WORLD SPRINT ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024



SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS

FACEBOOK

REACH: 87.3K (UP 14.7K FROM PREVIOUS COUPLE OF WEEKS)

52 NEW FOLLOWERS
*figures in pink circle show % increase

+0.9%

22 POSTS/135 STORIES

INSTAGRAM

REACH: 18.8K (UP 1.2K FROM PREVIOUS COUPLE OF WEEKS)

143 NEW FOLLOWERS

+7%

22/135 STORIES

TWITTER

10,925 IMPRESSIONS (UP 5, 213 FROM THE PREVIOUS COUPLE OF WEEKS)

5 NEW FOLLOWERS

+0.1%

25 TWEETS

HIGHLIGHTS

British Orienteering is in **Edinburgh**.
5d · 🌐

Does orienteering get any more exciting than that? 😄

The final day of @woc2024 saw Knock-Out Sprint racing come to the wet streets of Holyrood. GB's top performance came from Megan Carter-Davies who reached the final with the most exciting of sprint finishes, before getting on the podium with a 5th place in the final 🏆

📺 @roberto_lines

245 likes 3 comments 10 shares

81K plays!

britishorienteering

Relive the excitement of the @woc2024 ...

DJ Fresh - Gravity (Radio Edit) (feat. ...)

636 likes 3 comments 2 shares

British Orienteering
@GBRorienteering

And we are ready! @woc2024

9:18 PM · Jul 11, 2024 from Derby, England · 690 Views

View post engagements

1 reply 2 retweets 24 likes

WORLD SPRINT ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024



WEBSITE ANALYTICS

8 NEWS STORIES

2,096 PAGE VIEWS

ON THESE ALONE

180 USERS

SOUGHT TO FIND A CLUB VIA OUR WEBSITE DURING WOC 2024

5.1K NEW USERS

VISITED OUR WEBSITE THROUGHOUT THE COMPETITION

2M 49 SECS
THE AVERAGE TIME A USER SPENT ON OUR WEBSITE

57,801
OVERALL PAGE VIEWS

*2,564 OF THE NEW USERS USED AN ORGANIC SEARCH TO FIND US (GOOGLE, ETC), 1,299 DIRECT (TYPING OUR WEB ADDRESS INTO A BROWSER) AND 1,139 WERE REFERRED (VIA OTHER SITES).



Young Volunteer of the Year Award Winners 2024

Joe Hudd

West Cumberland Orienteering Club



Frank Townley & Joe Sunley

Edinburgh University Orienteering Club



Joe Hudd, Frank Townley, and Joe Sunley were all hugely involved in the organisation of the World Orienteering Championships. They all did huge amounts of work in the lead-up to the competition followed by an even more impressive week of work during the actual competition itself.

- Frank planned the WOC 2024 Sprint Qualifier and Final.
- Joe Hudd planned the WOC 2024 Knockout Sprint Qualifier.
- Frank Townley & Joe Hudd were heavily involved in everything course-related for the races, including putting out controls and barriers and managing over 100 marshalls.
- Joe Sunley was heavily involved with the IT and TV at WOC 2024. He designed radio controls and cable layouts for the MSR, provided website management, and pre-event filming, and helped on the event day with the management of marshalls.



It is fair to say that the World Orienteering Championships 2024 would not have been the success it was without them.

Beyond this, all three were also majorly involved with Sprint Scotland, the WOC test races, and Big Weekend as planners and organisers. This further underlines their exceptional commitment to volunteering in orienteering and justifies why all three are suitable candidates for the award.

University Club of the Year Award Winner 2024



Edinburgh University Orienteering Club

In 2024, the members of Edinburgh University Orienteering Club (EUOC) achieved a truly remarkable feat in support of the World Orienteering Championships (WOC) held in Edinburgh.

The year began with the annual Big Weekend competition from 26-28 January 2024, and there was an exciting twist! The event was adapted to support athletes preparing for WOC, introducing a 2x2 relay race and transforming the Saturday event into a world-ranking sprint.

This innovative approach not only benefited elite athletes but also sparked enthusiasm within the national community, offering participants the unique opportunity to compete alongside their orienteering idols.

The dedication and energy displayed by EUOC members in supporting the event was exceptional, with 85-90% of the club's membership volunteering their time to ensure its success.

In addition to this competition, EUOC played a crucial role in hosting an elite sprint training camp from 22-26 January 2024 and organised the majority of the training sessions leading up to WOC. These efforts significantly eased the logistical burden on the WOC organisers, allowing them to focus more on the competition itself.

However, the most significant contribution from EUOC was in providing planners, organisers, and volunteers to support the WOC Test Races.

This invaluable assistance ensured the smooth trialling of protocols and procedures ahead of the

Members of Edinburgh University Orienteering Club



official competition. EUOC members filled key roles during this process, overseeing two major events—a sprint race and a knock-out sprint—along with additional training sessions held over the weekend of June 28th-30th.

This mammoth effort, fuelled by the commitment and expertise of EUOC members, played an integral part in the preparation for WOC.

Over the past year, the club's members have demonstrated exceptional dedication and hard work in supporting the organisation of the WOC and all its components.

The team's spirit and commitment were further recognised when the Women's Team won several prestigious awards, including Scottish Students Team of the Year, British Universities Team of the Year, and Edinburgh University Sports Union Team of the Year. These awards celebrate the collective achievements of the team, encompassing both performance and recreational athletes.

Further to this, the university club fielded two out of the four athletes in the winning World University Championships mixed sprint relay team while supporting athletes to attend international competitions such as WOC, World Cups, JWOC, and JEC.

Volunteer Award

Winners 2024

Spirit of Inclusion

Award Winner 2024:

David Robertson
Edinburgh Southern
Orienteering Club



David supports inclusion and the promotion of orienteering in many different ways.



His role involves looking after social media for ESOC and he has used social media very successfully to promote the club's activities and successes, which has led to increased attendance of newcomers at events. Furthermore, it has increased the club's spirit with the celebration of club achievements.

David works as a volunteer at East Lothian Outdoor Learning regularly promoting orienteering opportunities and helping to deliver orienteering to schools and youth groups within the area. He has embraced the new MapRun technology and created Postbox Orienteering courses for all the larger towns within the area to help promote orienteering from the school hubs.

He has volunteered to introduce orienteering to many pupils in East Lothian who are struggling academically or have behavioral problems, giving them time outside the classroom in nature to enjoy orienteering. He works with individuals or small groups to build trust and help them overcome difficulties and discover learning when traditional approaches have not been successful.

Having worked with additional support needs (ASN) groups, David has provided orienteering opportunities within local parks for them to enjoy. He has planned wheelchair-friendly orienteering courses and mazes, and orienteering activities for an Active Schools Edinburgh Parasport Festival.

Running weekly after-school orienteering clubs through Active Schools, David has delivered and developed a range of fun orienteering games and exercises.

As a club volunteer for ESOC he is always there to help and his cheerful, friendly, and approachable manner is a great asset. He makes everyone feel welcome and appreciated. He quietly gets on with any task that needs to be done and is often one of the last to leave ensuring that he can do everything possible to help.

Respect the environment Award

Winner 2024:

**Southampton
Orienteering Club**



Members of SOC



Forestry England Southern Permissions team have successfully worked with Southampton Orienteering club for several years. Acting as the New Forest Orienteering co-ordinator Julian Hartwell (SOC) has been an integral part of the planning of many events on New Forest land.

The New Forest is heavily protected, which means that we have important conservation obligations including legal duties on the amount and types of activities that can take place here. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Special Protection Area for Birds, a Special Area of Conservation and a Ramsar site. Due to all these protections, the district undertakes Habitats Regulation Assessments (HRA) of its permissible activities, and work to ensure there is no significant harm or impact to protected habitat and wildlife.

Southampton Orienteering club have always adhered to the HRA in the planning of their own events and of others wishing to use the New Forest. They they have set a 'Gold Standard' of how Southern Permissions aspire to work with other Orienteering clubs. Julian has worked closely with Forestry England to understand their ecology restrictions and he always ensures these are communicated positively back to the event organisers he coordinates.

Volunteer Award

Winners 2024

Continued Contribution to Orienteering Award

Winner 2024:

Robin Strain

East Lothian Orienteers



Robin Strain has been a pivotal figure in countless orienteering events across Scotland, from small club events to the country's largest summer festival, the Scottish 6 Days, and even at several World Orienteering Championships.

For many years, Robin has overseen the SPORTident kit used throughout Scotland. Before clubs had their own SI units, this involved significant effort coordinating the logistics of transporting equipment smoothly between events. Even for smaller clubs organizing larger events, this service remains indispensable and ongoing.

Beyond mere logistics, Robin has played a key role in teaching countless orienteers the art of managing the computing and download desks, whether at club events or during his long tenure as Technology Director for the Scottish 6 Day Company. Many clubs have entrusted him with the task of "sorting out their results," which often included managing RouteGadget, WinSplits, and saving the day when issues arose with voided or timed-out legs.

Robin was also a trailblazer in introducing live results at events - something we now take for granted! Before clubs had the means to host these pages themselves, his website was the go-to source for live orienteering results!

For the past ten years, Robin has overseen the computing operations for the World Ranked Events during Sprint Scotland weekends, in addition to his other duties. Clubs across Scotland have come to depend on him to manage the computing setup for large events, and he is well-regarded for his willingness to volunteer. Robin is known for handling the added challenges, like receiving event details—such as course information—from planners at the last minute, with remarkable patience and rarely a complaint.

Recently, Robin was an essential part of the IT team for WOC 2024, returning to a role he first held at WOC 2015, ensuring the SPORTident timing software was properly set up to meet the demands of an international championship.

In recognition of his immense contributions, he was awarded the Scottish Orienteering President's Medal in 2017, and if anything, his impact on the sport has only grown since then.

Robin's support system has always been his wife of 50 years, Sheila. She's there by his side, ready with a cup of tea when needed and even running the download station, as she did during WOC 2024!

Mapping Award Winners 2024

Bonington Trophy

Bob Beresford

Thames Valley Orienteering Club



Bob Beresford has been orienteering since 1992, with Thames Valley Orienteering Club (TVOC). Bob is one of TVOC's premier mappers and is the spearhead of the TVOC mapping team who, as amateurs, produce all TVOC's high-quality maps.

The area of "Penn Wood, Common Wood and Penn Estate" was brought into regular use entirely through the efforts of Bob, who undertook both obtaining landowners' permission, and production of the map, in 2010. The area has been regularly used for the Chiltern Challenge (Level B) and the Southern Nights Championships in 2017, as well as numerous Level C and D events. Throughout this time, the map has been updated by Bob using OCAD and LIDAR data.

Over the years, Bob has become one of the leading amateur mappers within TVOC, responsible for surveying and updating a large number of different maps for use at a variety of different TVOC events over this time:

- Oxford City urban map for OUOC.
- Oxford University Parks.
- Park Wood, Bradenham Beeches, The Coppice and Naphill Common (with Mark Thompson), Whiteleaf and Great Hampden (with Mark Thompson).
- Abingdon Urban (updated and extended).
- Thame Urban map (updated and extended).
- Deangarden, Keep Hill and Wycombe Abbey, including set-up for Permanent Orienteering Course (with Julian Birkinshaw).
- A number of local schools (with Merlyn Vyner).

Bob has coordinated obtaining the high-resolution LIDAR data available for many of TVOC's areas from the Chilterns Conservation Board for their Beacons of the Past project in the Chilterns. Since then, Bob has championed major updates of TVOC's areas using this LIDAR data.

In October 2023 Bob collapsed at an event which was later diagnosed as cardiomyopathy. Bob was undeterred and switched his efforts to helping other mappers, and continued his mapping of urban areas using visualisation software, as well as providing leadership to TVOC's mappers.

Specifically, during 2024 Bob became instrumental in assisting other TVOC mappers in utilising the LIDAR data for specific areas. This includes the creation of new georeferenced base maps, generation of all the key LIDAR products, georeferencing and perhaps rubber sheeting the old map, and even revising the positions of all ground features and identifying potential new ones. This is then used as the base for a major remap including the vegetation by other club mappers.

Bob is Chair of the TVOC Mapping Group and has recently led a work group in developing a multi-year strategy for the use of all TVOC's areas, ensuring that all maps are updated in a timely manner, and to a high standard. Bob is a champion of the use of the Legibility Checking tool in OCAD ensuring our maps are suitable for older eyes. Bob is the go-to person for OCAD help and coordinates the club's use of the latest versions of OCAD.

In summary, Bob is an invaluable member of TVOC. His overseeing of the club's mapping activities, his introduction of LIDAR data to TVOC maps, and his heavy personal mapping load have helped to provide TVOC with a large number of very high-quality maps suitable for excellent orienteering competition. The recent health issue has not deterred Bob from making an outstanding contribution to the club's mapping efforts. Indeed, this seems to have served only to increase his incredible commitment to mapping. This commitment should now be recognised.



Chichester Trophy Award Winner 2024:

Simon Errington
Hertfordshire
Orienteering Club



Simon Errington receives the Chichester Trophy for designing a completely new survey and cartography based on Lidar data of an area never mapped before.

The area includes a wide variety of terrain including the College Lane campus of the University of Hertfordshire. It was first used for the Hatfield South Urban Race on 18 August 2024.

Standard urban problems of continual building works in the weeks leading up to the event caused multiple late updates, however the map presents very clearly, displaying excellent cartography. The path junctions are good, with a very few less-than-minimum size vegetation areas.



Silva Trophy Award Winner 2024:

Graham Gristwood
Forth Valley Orienteers



Graham Gristwood is awarded the Silva Trophy for map designed for the World Orienteering Championships 2024 (Sprint and Knock-out Sprint Finals).

Described as a "class example of sprint mapping". The map has good clean cartography, and use of contour tags along streets. The level of detail looks be well judged, and despite its complexity it doesn't appear cluttered.

Extracts of the maps are available via the following links:

- [Knock-out Sprint Final](#)
- [Sprint Final](#)

Walsh Trophy

Rudi Paul

St. Andrews Orienteering Club Glasgow

The Glasgow City Centre map is a very large urban map, covering around 3.5 square km of varied urban terrain in the centre of Glasgow. Though certain parts of the area had existing map, the entire map was surveyed and drawn from scratch in the winter and spring of 2024 by Rudi Paul.

It was first used for the Glasgow City Race in May 2024 to good reviews (and, equally significantly for a sprint map, few complaints) and since for frequent sprint training and local events by STAG - a valuable resource for the club, especially due to its central location.

The area includes at least five distinct types of urban terrain, including the intricate campus of the University of Strathclyde, the city centre terrain of Merchant City, varied intricate housing estates, traditional Glasgow tenements and the parkland area of Glasgow Green. This range of terrain presented significant challenges for Rudi to ensure the map is consistent, legible and accurate across its entirety.

If the map is too large to study its entirety in detail, several areas stand out as particularly interesting from a mapping perspective. For example, Rottenrow Gardens in the University of Strathclyde, where it was a significant challenge to maintain minimum gaps between the many parallel walls and hedges. Or the Drygate area further east, with multiple running levels rising from high walls and canopies built into a steep slope – a challenge to map legibly while communicating the important information for the runner. In the steep northern section, particular care has been taken with showing the slopes without impacting the map legibility – both with areas of surprisingly complicated contour detail in Townhead, or in places on the

Strathclyde Campus where as many as 10 contour levels can be found within a single building.

Overall, the map strikes a good balance between legibility and detail, with a good level of generalisation and significant attention to minimum gaps and areas to ensure that the map is easy to read at speed.



Rudi Paul

Development Innovation of the Year Award Winner 2024

Kath Savage Lakeland Orienteering Club



Kath Savage is the Development Officer at LOC and has worked tirelessly to attract newcomers to the sport through innovative and exciting opportunities.

Seasonal orienteering trails

During the school holidays, she organises seasonal orienteering trails around the local towns, this involves working with businesses where they have orienteering posters displayed in their shop window. The trails are free and can be downloaded, with treats for all who complete them, they are well advertised and now an asset to the local communities. Participants are asked to complete the trails and provide a contact address, where orienteering, local events, and club information is then sent to the participants on a regular basis.

LOC Family Workshops

Throughout 2024 have been massively successful, these are based around popular locations, where orienteering skills are introduced in a fun way. These see families work together to solve orienteering puzzles (including the parents in the activity), and then, families can complete the short courses to try out their new skills. Locations are well thought out, including indoor provision for the availability of amenities such as toilets, tea/coffee, and a warm space to make the sessions more inviting, and welcoming and a base for families to stay, socialise and engage with club members afterward. Google Forms are used to capture participant details so that further information can be sent to them about local orienteering



opportunities, and certificates, stickers, and modern, fun advertising is available for each event and widely shared in local non-orienteeing community groups.

Kath has developed the DVO idea of Explorer Awards and has made these navigation achievements something to strive to achieve from the juniors at the club. She has enhanced the awards on offer from the BSOA, updating them visually, and has created a bespoke LOC Courses Collector and Awards scheme. These are regularly celebrated across social media and to LOC members with regular award ceremonies at local events. Together with introducing a free LOC junior kit, these have made newcomers, and existing juniors feel part of a belonging and an identity to the club and have offered inspiration to improve within the sport. This is progressed to older juniors with the new Junior Club which promotes friendship and team building and these juniors can carry on enhancing other skills through the LOC Logbook – with support from SBOC. These skills are aimed at White/Yellow and Orange level volunteers with certificates and badges for completing, again, creating a sense of unity and belonging within the club.

Maprun Meet-Ups, an innovative series of new, novice-friendly courses has been pivotal in attracting newcomers of all ages to the club. These are supported by LOC volunteers and have additional games and skills attached to them to add value to the meetups. These have been brilliant in explaining the app, how to get the best out of it, and promoting other 'Anytime Orienteering' opportunities to those attending, who go away with new confidence in using the app successfully.

Not only has Kath brought in new and exciting opportunities, but she has also ensured that LOC's social media presence is modern and contemporary, with innovative images, posters and advertisements. These are created and shared throughout a wide range of different communities and have created a sense of 'FOMO' about the events and activities on offer and showcase the sport in an exciting way.

Kath's innovative and exciting ideas have made LOC a thriving club full of active juniors and families. The activities and events help attract

newcomers to the sport, but the pre/post event/activity communications, social media and information help for these to see the wider offerings available to them. By showcasing the sport in a rounded way, the newcomers attracted to these initiatives are not only enjoying and confident enough to attend LOC events and activities but are signposted and encouraged to try other clubs' events too, helping them gain a rounded experience of the sport and drive participation within it.



A social media advert promoting Lakeland Orienteering Club's October half term activities.



A team of Lakeland Orienteering Club volunteers helping to oversee one of the family workshops.

Roll of honour

British Championships				
Age group	Long	Middle	Sprint	Night
Senior Women	Fiona Bunn	Megan Mitchell	Megan Mitchell	Fiona Bunn
Junior Women	Imogen Pieters	Emily Gibbins	Emma Crawford	
Senior Men	William Gardner	Ben Mitchell	Nathan Lawson	James Hammond
Junior Men	Euan Tryner	Euan Tryner	Luke Fry	



British Sprint Championships 2024



Yvette Baker Final 2024

Trail O	
Pre O	Ben Kyd
Physically challenged	Colin Duckworth

British Relay Championships	
Women	Edinburgh University Orienteering Club
Men	Forth Valley Orienteers

Club Competitions	
Compass Sport Cup	South Yorkshire Orienteers
Compass Sport Trophy	South Ribble Orienteering Club
Yvette Baker Trophy	South Yorkshire Orienteers
Yvette Baker Shield	North Gloucestershire Orienteering Club



British Sprint Relay Championships 2024