

Event Scheduling Group Meeting
7:15 pm – online meeting - Zoom
Monday 16 October 2023
MINUTES



1. Chairman's opening comments.

All welcomed to the meeting.

2. Record of persons present, and apologies.

Mike Cope (MC) – Chairman of the Event Scheduling Group (ESG) and YHOA
Kerina Lake (KL) - WOA
Richard Sansbury (RJS) – SWOA
Jean Payne (JP) – NWOA
Sarah Mansel (SM) – EAOA
Steve Scott (SS) – SOA
Philip Gristwood (PAG) – SEOA
Richard Sharp (RES) – SCOA
Ursula Williamson (UW) - EMOA
Rick Roberts (RR) - WMOA
Allie Wilson Craw (AWC) – NEOA

Apologies - Wilbert Hollinger (WH) – NIOA

3. Declaration of interests and any other business.

MC as YHOA representative and chair of ESG.

4. Minutes of Event Scheduling Group meeting held on 13 March 2023 and actions from the meeting.

- a) Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Although they were sent to BO, they do not seem to have appeared on the BO website.
- b) Actions from meeting.

6d It would be helpful if any group members can compare National and Regional criteria and make comments – Any ESG members. **Comments from SWOA to be passed on to SM to take to Rules Group. No other comments received, and it seems that there has been too much else to do for Rules Group to have looked at this yet.**

8b Still a decision needed about BOC/BRC 2025 – MC. **Nothing except possible areas from Wales.**

8d Decision needed asap about whether Brit Sprints/BSRC will move by a week – RR. **Weekend will not move.**

8e BNC 2025 decision from SOA or alternatives if not – SS, UW, KL. **SOA will host.**

10a Southern Champs 2025 date and club needed – RJS. **Date now fixed.**

11a Could all AFS concerned check for interest in UKOL and for supporting events – MC, RES, SS, JP, PAG, SM. **To deal with at the meeting.**

13a Confirmation of CSC 2024 final club and date is needed – MC. **Confirmed.**

15a JIRCs problem in 2025. SM to confirm 2025 is OK for SOS - SM. **Still not resolved.**

15b PAG checking with HH about YBT final 2024. **HH will host**

15d Offers for BSSC 2024 and 2025 – all to check if there are any offers. **Nothing known.**

5. Events list and scheduling to be done.

Club level B events for the first half of 2025 to be agreed and finalised.

6. Reports from other meetings.

- a. Controller appointments and list.

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Controller appointments for Major events are now made by Alan Rosen. BO office is in the process of producing an up-to-date list of controllers in a form that is searchable by those needing controllers.

- b. Changes to groups on the BO website.

Some updating of the group structure has been done.

7. Reports from associations.

- a. EAOA written report.

This mentioned progress with the programme of big events that EAOA has recently hosted and will be hosting in the next few years – rather more than EAOA has done in the past which is pleasing to note. The only disappointment is that in spite of plenty of Local and Regional events, participation numbers have not got back to pre Covid levels.

- b. SWOA written report.

The SWOA report highlighted the fact that it is only possible now to put on about 75% of the pre Covid number of events. Problems mainly come from lack of access to suitable areas especially in the Spring. It is very difficult to find an area on a specific date and it is more a case of taking whatever is offered when. Permissions are cancelled or approved only a very short time before events. One sad casualty of the situation is that SWOA have had to abandon the Tamar Triple.

- c. Forestry England continues to cause problems. Nothing is known about progress with the new Forestry Agreement. There are problems with FE permissions in all areas – EMOA, WMOA, SCOA and YHOA were all mentioned. It was thought that FE now employing contractors for tree felling was causing some issues as neither FE or the contractors could specify dates for their works. Timescales for permissions and long complex form filling were still issues. Other organisations are sometimes getting as difficult as FE.

8. JK, British Long/Middle/Sprint/Relays/Mixed Sprint Relays/Night Champs.

- a. JK rota. All confirmed that the current rota is OK.
- b. BOC/BRC rota. All confirmed that the current rota is OK. The 2025 problem with no host remains. MC will inform E&CC, BO and others. MC will ask MasterPlan Adventure and try to get a few words in CompassSport magazine in the hope that some club might take it on. A provisional date remains in the database so that a spare weekend is preserved. There are areas in Wales which could be used. Post meeting there is a possible offer from SO to host BRC alongside the British Middles and it maybe that BOC has to be part of the JK Long.
- c. British Middles. 18/19 April 2026 OK for HOC and hopefully another WM club for Midlands Champs. Following a similar pattern of combining the British Middles with an Area Championships weekend, EAOA may host in 2027 and NWOA may host in 2028 – SM and JP to investigate.
- d. British Sprint and Sprint Relays. RJS to ask SWOA to settle on a date for 2026 as soon as is possible. MC and SS to further investigate YHOA and SOA hosting in 2027 and 2028. Post meeting there is an offer from SO to host in 2026 or 2028 – latter more likely.
- e. BNC. Possible offers for BNC up to 2029. SE will host on 7 Feb 2026. WOA/SBOC in 2027, WM in 2028 and LEI in 2029. PAG to check club and date. KL, RR and UW to confirm hosting years.

9. International Events.

The database has been updated using information from IOF Eventor.

10. Area and Association Championships

- a. Northern, Midlands, Southern. Rota OK. Dates will soon be needed for Northern and Southern in 2026 – MC and RES.

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- b. Scottish Champs. As on planner.
- c. Welsh Champs. As on planner.
- d. Irish Champs. As on planner.

11. UKOL and Year Outline Plans.

- a. 2024 UKOL to be finalised. The year planner has been updated after going through the list at the meeting. There are now a possible 25 events on the list. Confirmation that participation is OK with a venue and type of event is needed urgently. Yellow on the year planner means that venue information or confirmation is needed. JP, SM, SS, KL, RES, RJS
- b. Outline plans for 2025 and 2026. Plans have been updated with most of the usual events included, but no extras.

12. UK Elite Orienteering League and Junior Elite League. MC will add these to the year planner when information is known.

13. Compass Sport Cup and Trophy.

- a. PFO for 2024 final on 20 Oct and CLOK for 2025 final on 21 Sept. Hosts are needed for 2026 onwards.
- b. 2024 heats are all to be on 18 Feb. SOA-FVO, NWOA-SROC, YHOA-EBOR, WMOA-WCH, EAOA-SUFFOC, SWOA-WIM, SE-SLOW. There will be no SCOA heat, but the SWOA heat is near enough for many SCOA clubs. CSC coordinator will be sending out information to clubs within the next few days.
- c. Heat dates for 2025 and 2026 have been put back a week to either avoid half term or use the last Sunday of half term. Dates are now 23 Feb 2025 and 22 Feb 2026.
- d. Heat hosts for 2025. These should be SOA, NWOA (SELOC), YHOA (AIRE), WMOA (WRE), EMOA (NOC), SEOA (CHIG) and post meeting SWOA (QO). RES to enquire about SC heat. The requirement to cater for 300 entrants and adequate car parking is stressed. There is a danger that the CHIG event may be oversubscribed as it will be nearer than the NOC event for some in EAOA.
- e. There was some discussion about having to have the CSC heats all on one date. When some flexibility was allowed in 2022, the experiment failed. Some clubs wanted to go to other events on their allocated CSC heat date and there was much work for the coordinator trying to solve problems and satisfy requests. It was agreed to aim for one date, but with the possibility of varying the date for one association in exceptional circumstances.

14. Home Internationals and Interland.

- a. All His and dates in place for 2024.
- b. 2025 – JHI and VHI OK. JP will enquire about the SHI being much later than usual and hosted by a northern NWOA club to help solve a problem with the JIRCs.
- c. 2024 Interland will be in Belgium on 24 March. Post meeting, the Interland 2025 date is 2 March 2025.

15. JIRCs, YBT, PPJTR, BSOC, BSSC, BUCS.

- a. JIRCs. There is a possible solution for 2025. EAOA will definitely host the JIRCs in 2026, but not in 2025. Planner has been changed. The hope is that JP can persuade a southern NWOA club to host the JIRCs in 2025. JIRCs should take priority over SHI if NWOA can only do one. SHI problem could be easier to solve elsewhere if necessary. Post meeting – strong possibility that NWOA will do JIRCs in 2025.
- b. YBT final 2024 host will be HH. SO offer for YBT final in 2025 is accepted.

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- c. YBT heats for 2024. EM, EA, WOA, SW, SE, SC, NE and YH have heats planned – some added after the meeting. Heats (or confirmation that there will be no heat) needed for NE, WM.
 - d. PPJTR. Hosts needed for 2024 onwards. No progress.
 - e. BSSC. Post meeting possible offer from WIM for 2024 and SBOC for 2025.
 - f. BSOC. OK until 2025.
 - g. BUCS. Process of finding a host for 2025 should be happening. Howard Blackman from BO is checking. Likely to be Aberdeen University. 22/23 March 2025 has been suggested.
16. Harvester.
- a. No hosts have come forward.
17. Other National events requested by clubs/associations.
- a. Check 2024. No need for this to be done.
 - b. All requests for National events for the first half of 2025 were confirmed.
18. There are some club nationals in the database beyond mid 2025. Others could be added so that all are aware of plans. Club Nationals to the end of 2025 to be confirmed at the next meeting.
19. Any BO fixtures database issues. None from the group, but there is one which Tony will take forward.
20. Any other business. Some items mentioned earlier in the minutes.
21. Dates of next meetings. The date of the next meeting is revised to Tuesday 5 March 2024 and then provisionally Monday 14 October 2024.

ACTIONS

- 8b MC to contact E&CC, BO, MasterPlan Adventure and CompassSport magazine about BOC/BRC 2025.
- 8c SM and JP to investigate hosting British Middles in 2027 and 2028.
- 8d British Sprint and Sprint Relays. RJS date for 2026. MC and SS to confirm YHOA and SOA hosting or SO alternative for 2027 and 2028.
- 8e British Nights. PAG to check club and date for 2026. KL, RR and UW to confirm hosting years.
- 10a 2026 dates for Northern and Southern Champs – MC and RES.
- 11a JP, SM, SS, KL, RES, RJS – confirmation of participation, venue or event type is needed for UKOL list.
- 13a All to ask about possible CSC final hosts for 2026 onwards.
- 13d RES and RJS to enquire about SW/SE CSC heat in 2025.
- 14b SHI 2025 to go later in the year. JP checking.
- 15a JIRCs 2025 linked to above. JP checking.
- 15c Hosts are needed for YBT heats 2024. NE, WM – AWC, RR.
- 15d Ask for PPJTR 2024 onwards hosts. All.

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Event	Southern Champs	Scottish Champs	Welsh Champs	Irish Champs	JHI	SHI	VHI	Harv
Level	Nat	Nat	Nat		Nat	Nat	Nat	Nat
2024	SE	SOA 25/26 May	WOA	Connaught	E-EA	SOA	NIOA	
WOC 12- 16/7	04-Feb-24 GO	North?	03-Mar SWOC	3-6 May West	12/13 Oct N Norfolk?	7/8 Sept FVO	5/6 Oct FERMO	30-Jun
2025	SW	SOA 24/25 May	WOA	NIOA	WOA	E-NW 13/14 Sept?	SOA	
	09-Mar-25 SARUM	East?	02-Mar-25 ERYRI	2-5 May North	11/12 Oct SWOC		4/5 Oct	29-Jun-25
2026	SC	23/24 May	WOA		SOA	NIOA 12/13 Sept	E-YH	
			01-Mar-26 SBOC	1-4 May	10/11 Oct		3/4/Oct	21-Jun-26
2027	SE				E-NE	E-SE	WOA	
	SN							
2028	SW				NIOA	SOA	E-EM	
2029	SC				E-SW	WOA	SOA	
2030	SE				SOA	E-WM	NIOA	
2031					WOA	E-NW	E-SC	

