

Event Scheduling Group Meeting Minutes
7 pm – 9:30 pm on Zoom
Tuesday 18 October 2022



1. Chairman's opening comments.

Welcome to all. Thanks to Paul for hosting the meeting on Zoom. Welcome to Steve who will be taking over from Paul as SOA representative. Thanks to Paul for his many years of service as representative for SOA and for his contributions to the group.

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
Allie Wilson Craw (AWC) – NEOA
Sarah Mansel (SM) – EAOA
Rick Roberts (RR) - WMOA
Paul Caban (PC) – SOA
Wilbert Hollinger (WH) – NIOA
Philip Gristwood (PAG) – SEOA
Steve Scott (SS) - SOA

Apologies

Richard Sharp (RES) – SCOA
Ursula Williamson (UW) - EMOA

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 12 March 2022 and actions from the meeting.

- a. Accuracy. **Agreed as accurate.**
- b. Actions from meeting.

8c BOC/BRC 2025 date needed. RJS. **Was no longer possible in SWOA, but this may have changed now – details under item 8.**

8e Still no host for BSRC 2023. **LOK to host on CoL weekend.**

8f BNC 2025 host needed. All and MC request to clubs. **No offers but provisional date reserved.**

10a Just the query over whether SINS 2023 can include the Midland Champs. **Now agreed.**

11c All to consider any possible extras for UKOL 2023 for decisions at next meeting. All. **Some additions made. On agenda for finalising.**

13a Hosts needed for CSC finals from 2024 onwards. All plus MC request to clubs. **2025 offer to host, but nothing for 2024.**

13b CSC heats. All to consider the implications of only 5 England/Wales heats for 2023 unless SWOA and/or SCOA can add something. Do 5 heats have the capacity? **More heats now in place.**

15 Hosts needed for 4 junior events. Most urgent is now BSOC 2023. All and MC to ask clubs. **No known responses.**

19b MC plea to clubs for about 7 events mostly from 2024. MC. **Done but not much response.**

5. Events list and scheduling to be done.

Club National events for the first half of 2024 to be agreed as well as all the other big events ideally up to at least 2025.

6. Reports from other meetings etc.

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- a. A number of proposed rule changes are now available on the BO website.

These include changes to the British Sprint Championships, tidying up of rules affected by changing Area Championships to B/National level, relaxing the rule requiring a B controller from another region, and entry methods where competitors choose their own start time.

Members noted that it was pleasing to see proposed rule changes on the BO website well in advance.

The labelling of events within the rules was mentioned – A B C D should be replaced by Major, National, Regional, Local. MC has sent an email to Terry Smith asking if anything can be done.

- b. Possible CSC rule changes will be delayed until 2024. There was a survey, but not enough time for the CSC group to fully discuss all the possible changes.

7. Reports from associations.

- a. The EAOA report included a couple of queries which were either answered or will be followed up. SOS regional event clashing with BSRC in 2023 – not ideal but accepted. Possible NOR National to go with Midlands Champs in 2024 to make a UKOL weekend, but a clash with the Chiltern Challenge. Possible urban UKOL in 2024, but unlikely as it is in between two other UKOL weekends.

MC is following up a suggestion that the Chiltern Challenge and Sarum Saunter could swap dates to remove the CC clash with the Midlands Champs. Finalised swap post meeting.

- b. The YHOA report was mainly concerning big events hosted by YHOA.
- c. Permission concerns are still a big headache in SWOA – worse than anywhere else. A large proportion of events are having to be rescheduled or cancelled. For some areas, the season effectively closes at the end of January. Forestry England is the problem and BO's Access Officer has not been able to help. The Tamar Triple for 2024 is in doubt, but provisionally the 3 day event has been put in the BO database.
- d. In WOA, ERYRI and MWOC are no longer able to stage more than a few Local events. Both clubs do have good areas, some well mapped, and they would be happy to allow other clubs to use them. There was disappointment that the recent combined Welsh Champs/VHI weekend was poorly supported from outside Wales. All big events in Wales can now only be hosted by SWOC and SBOC which is of concern as they may soon become overloaded.

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

- a. JK rota. All OK as far as is known. NWOA 2023 should be fine so long as there is no more serious wind damage. EM/WM 2024 seems to be progressing. Some initial planning for 2025 has been done in YHOA. Beyond 2025, associations are aware of their place in the rota.
- b. BOC/BRC. 2023 and 2024 are OK as far as is known. Post meeting, SWOA have had to withdraw from hosting BOC/BRC 2025. There was hope that military areas might be used, but complications with assured access and costs have ruled out this idea. Two dates have been reserved in the BO database – 29/30 March and 18/19 October just in case something turns up. There are possible fallbacks. One is to use an area in Mid or North Wales and get help to host the event from individuals rather than a particular club. Combining with the JK could be a last resort, but is far from ideal. SS is asking if BOC/BRC could be combined with the S6D.

Beyond 2025, the rota seems OK. A 2026 date (WOA) will soon be needed - KL.

- c. British Middles. WOA now cannot do this in 2025. There may now be an offer from MV (using Holmbush and Buchan Country Park near Crawley). This is being followed up and a date is needed as soon as possible. As fallbacks perhaps the Middles could go with an Area Championships or with the JK, but these fallbacks are unlikely/undesirable.

Will soon be looking for hosts in 2026 and beyond most likely by combining it on a weekend with an Area Championships. Some likely possibilities are noted on the planner.

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- d. British Sprints and Sprint Relays. Will soon be looking for a 2026 host and there are possibilities as noted on the planner.
- e. BNC. Host urgently needed for 2025. 8/2/22 date suggested and reserved. Will probably wait for a reply from BL who are expected to either offer BNC or YBT final after 9 Nov meeting.
- f. Can we maintain the running of the JK and 6 British Championships? There are difficulties at the moment, but ESG will keep trying.

9. International Events.

The database has been updated for a selection of events with information from IOF Eventor and the Swedish Base programme. All of these entries in the database should be treated with caution as things change and dates may not be 100% accurate – some differ from different sources.

SS mentioned that the Junior European Cup 2025 might be in Scotland and will need adding when details are known.

10. Area and Association Championships

- a. Northern, Midlands, Southern. 2023 and 2024 checked. For 2025 regions noted on the planner are correct. Host clubs need to be identified and dates found – NW, EM, SW. Rotas beyond 2025 have been checked and are shown on the planner.
- b. Scottish Champs. Areas of Scotland identified for 2024 and 2025. One may need to change from the usual date.
- c. Welsh Champs. Rota just between SBOC and SWOA.
- d. Irish Champs. As on planner.

11. UKOL and Year Outline Plans.

- a. 2023 UKOL is almost finalised. There are potentially sufficient events and a spread over types of events. The geographical spread is less good. BNC and the November Classic now have supporting events. SINS now OK with Days 2 and 3. 2 of S6D days identified. The Eurometing in October is the remaining query.
- b. Plan for 2024. The usual Championships are provisionally included. Some ideally need a supporting event to make up weekends. All events are in the first half of the year so suggestions are needed for additional events for the second half of the year. Further work needed at the next meeting.

12. UK Elite Orienteering League and Junior Elite League. World Ranking Events.

Details are being worked on. They will be added to the year outline plans when fixed so that members of ESG are aware.

PAG expressed concern about the lack of WREs and so the lack of opportunities for elite athletes to gain world ranking points. It seems that there are only the 3 JK ones for 2023 and we could have many more. SS has provided some details. The deadline for 2023 applications has passed, but it may still be worth trying as late applications are known to have been accepted for 2022. MC suggested that the 3 British Champs are considered. It may be that 2 days of S6D and the 3 days of the Eurometing are already in the pipeline, but this is not confirmed. MC will try to chase up.

The deadline for 2024 is 30 September 2023 and plans ought to be made in time for this. It ought to be considered at the March 2023 ESG meeting.

13. Compass Sport Cup and Trophy.

- a. A host is urgently needed for 2024 final. There were no known offers. All to ask and MC to check for ideas with CSC coordinator.
- b. 2023 heats. These are now sorted out and information has been sent to clubs. There are more heats than usual including one in EAOA and well as in EMOA. All are on one of two dates except for the WSX SWOA/SCOA heat which is in January. It was noted that the 2/3 dates are

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not helping with the crowded calendar, but that there was little alternative. Heat choice could present difficulties for some clubs as popular events in neighbouring areas could clash with a CSC heat date.

- c. 2024 heats possibilities. The aim is to have all heats on one of the two dates – 18 Feb or 17 Mar. Heats are assumed to be in SOA, NWOA(SROC probably 17/3) , YHOA (EBOR 17/3), WMOA (WCH date and venue tbc in Nov), EAOA (SUFFOC 18/2), SWOA, SCOA and SEOA (SLOW 17/3). The list needs confirming at the March 2023 meeting. It would help to identify dates and clubs provisionally before next March.

14. Home Internationals.

- a. 2023 arrangements are OK.
- b. 2024 host clubs needed, but not known yet. Dates should be OK.
- c. 2025 host clubs needed. Not known yet except for JHI (SBOC). Dates should be OK.

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

- a. JIRCs OK except for the possible swop of host regions for 2025 and 2026. JP to chase up.
- b. YBT final – host needed for 2024. Could be an offer from BL which will be known after a meeting on 9 Nov. HH suggested. MC, PAG and JL to chase up.
- c. YBT 2023 heats are identified for NWOA, YHOA, EMOA, EAOA, WOA and SCOA. Still looking for heats in NEOA (may not be able to host one for only 3 clubs), WMOA (WCH event in March or late February), SWOA (RJS checking) and SEOA (tbc in November).
- d. PPJTR. 2024 host still needed.
- e. BSSC. 2024 host still needed.
- f. BSOC. Host urgently needed for 2023. 2024 host still needed.
- g. BUCS. 2025 – SHUOC again and then revert to 4 year cycle for SHUOC and EUOC with another in between. MC to pass on information to SHUOC. Since the meeting, there have been some developments with BUCS and the method of allocating to university clubs may change to a bidding process.

16. Harvester.

- a. BAO in 2023. No hosts for 2024 and 2025. SS will check if FVO are interested in trying again.

17. Other National events requested by clubs/associations.

- a. Check 2023 if necessary. No known problems.
- b. National events for first half of 2024 to be confirmed. All (not many) in database agreed. Any additional ones made known in the next few weeks can be checked with others and then added.
- c. Ideally others for the remainder of 2024 should be added for confirmation at the next meeting.

18. Any BO fixtures database issues.

- a. Possible issues navigating from club to club when searching for editing were mentioned.
- b. A possible minor blip meant that some menus were lost briefly – seems to be no trouble now.
- c. The title 'Major Fixtures' under 'Find an Event' with the word 'Major' used for more than that level of event could be confusing. A new word ought to be used.

19. Any other business.

- a. MC asked that Association Fixtures Secretaries pass on the message to all clubs that they should look at the database before putting in any event to check that the dates proposed do not lead to unwanted clashes. There are no imposed restrictions on Regional and Local events, but for the benefit of all it is worth considering if clashes will create difficult decisions for potential competitors. Problems with clashes.

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20. Dates of next meetings. It was decided that an evening meeting was better than a Saturday afternoon one. Future meeting dates decided on as Monday 13 March 2023 and Monday 9 October 2023.

ACTIONS

- 8b BOC/BRC 2025 host and date or alternative needed – RJS, SS, KL and MC.
- 8c British Middles 2025 host and date or alternative needed – PAG and MC.
- 8d BNC 2025 host needed – MC and all.
- 10a Dates and hosts are needed for Area Champs in 2025 – NW, EM and SW – JP, UW and RJS.
- 11 MC finalising UKOL list.
- 12 MC will try and chase up possible WRE events and add Elite League details.
- 13 All to ask about a 2024 CSC final host. MC to ask CSC coordinator.
- 15a Possible JIRCs swap. JP and MC to chase.
- 15b 2024 host for YBT final – MC, JP, PAG.
- 15def MC will ask others for ideas if no offers appear.

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Event	S6 L5 W6	JK	BOC BRC	British Sprints	British Middle	Brit Sprint Relay Champs	BNC	CSCF	Northern Champs	Midland Champs	Southern Champs
Level		Maj	Maj	Maj	Maj	Nat	Maj	Maj	Nat	Nat	Nat
2018	Lakes 5 29/7 - 3/8	WM 30/3 - 2/4 WM	SOA 19/20 May MAROC	SW 01-Sep SW	SW 02-Sep SW	NE 09-Jun NATO	WOA 24-Feb SBOC	WM 21-Oct WCH	YH 22-Apr EBOR	EM 18-Mar LEI	SE 25-Nov SN/SLOW
2019	Scottish6 28/7 - 3/8	SC 19-22 Apr SC	YH 5-6 May AIRE++	EM 14-Sep LEI	EM 15-Sep DVO	YH 04-May AIRE++	SOA 23-Feb MAROC	SE 20-Oct MV	YH 10-Mar SYO	WM 26-May HOC	SW 01-Dec BOK
2020	Welsh 6 25-31 July	NE 10-13 Apr NE	SE 6/7 Mar SEOA	NW 21-Jun	NW 09-May LOG	NW 20-Jun	SC 22-Feb TVOC	WM 18-Oct OD	NW 10-May MDOC	EM 09-Feb DVO	SC 29-Nov BKO
2021	Scottish6 1-7 Aug	SW 2-5 Apr Cornwall	SWOA 2 Oct (no BRC) DEVON/BOK	NW 22-Aug	NW 05-Jun LOC	NW 21-Aug	SW 27-Nov NGOC	YH 17-Oct SYO	NW 06-Jun MDOC	WM 30-May WRE	SE 12-Dec MV/SAX
2022	Lakes 5 7-12 Aug	WOA 15-18 Apr with help	SE 26/27 Mar SEOA	YH 12-Jun AIRE	EAOA 06-Mar EAOA	YH 11-Jun YH	YH 19-Feb AIRE	SOA 16-Oct FVO	NE 03-Apr NATO	EM 30-Jan NOC	SW 17-Sep DEVON
2023	Scottish6 30Jul-4Aug Euromet 13-15Oct	NW 7-10 Apr	SC 25/26 Mar SC	NIOA 06- May	NIOA 07- May	SE 17-Sep	SW 18-Feb	SW 12-Nov	YH 26-Feb	WM 28-May HOC(with SINS)	SC 25-Mar SC
2024 WOC 12- 16/7	Welsh 6 21-27 Jul	EM/WM 29/3-1/4	NE 13/14 Apr	WM 23-Jun OD	YH 27-Apr AIRE	WM 22-Jun HOC	NW 10-Feb WCOC	??? 20-Oct	YH 28-Apr AIRE	EAOA 09-Mar NOR	SE 04-Feb GO
2025	Scottish6	YH 18-21/04	??? 29/30 Mar or 18/19 Oct?	EA 31-Aug	SE? ?? MV??	EA 30-Aug	??? 8/2/25?	NE 21-Sep CLOK	NW	EM	SW
2026	Lakes 5	SOA 05-Apr	WOA SBOC/SWOC	SW?	WM April HOC	SW?			YH	WM April HOC	SC
2027	Scottish6	SE 28-Mar	NW	NE?		NE?			NE	EA	SE SN
2028	Welsh 6	SW 16-Apr	YH		NW??				NW	EM	SW
2029	Scottish6	SC 01-Apr	WM						YH	WM	SC
2030	Lakes 5	NE 21-Apr	SOA						NE	EA	SE
2031		WM 13-Apr	SE						NW		

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Scottish Champs	Welsh Champs	Irish Champs	JHI	SHI	VHI	Harv	
Nat	Nat		Nat	Nat	Nat	Nat	
SOA 26-27 May INVOC/MOR	WOA 3-4 Mar ERYRI		SOA 6-7 Oct STAG/ESOC	EOA-NW 8-9 Sept PFO	WOA 29-30 Sept SWOC	SE 24-Jun SO	2018
SOA 25-26 May SOLWAY	WOA 2-3 Mar MWOC		NIOA 12-13 Oct LVO	WOA 7-8 Sept SBOC	SOA 21-22 Sept ESOC	x x x	2019
SOA 22-23 Aug INT/ESOC	WOA 20-Sep SWOC	Munster - South	SEOA 10-11 Oct SLOW	(SOA) 21-22 Nov MA	NIOA 3-4 Oct FERMO	SOA 28-Jun FVO	2020
SOA 13-Jun ESOC	WOA 12-Sep SWOC	Munster 30/4 to 3/5 South	SEOA 9-10 Oct SLOW	SOA 4-5 Sept MAROC/GRAMP	E- SE(wasSC) 4-5 Dec SLOW	x x x	2021
SOA 28-29 May GRAMP/MAROC	WOA 01-Oct MWOC	Munster 29/4 to 2/5 South	SOA 8/9 Oct BASOC+INT	E-SC 5/6 Nov SOC+?	WOA 1/2 Oct? MWOC?	SOA 13-Aug FVO	2022
SOA 27-28 May West Scotland	WOA 11-Mar SBOC	Leinster 28/4 to 1/5 East	E-WM 7/8 Oct OD/COBOC	WOA 9/10 Sept SWOC	E-SW 30 Sep/1 Oct NGOC	NEOA 25-Jun BAOC	2023
SOA 25/26 May East?	WOA 03-Mar SWOC	Connaught 3-6 May West	E-EA 12/13 Oct N Norfolk?	SOA 7/8 Sept	NIOA 21/22 Sept	30-Jun	2024
SOA 24/25 May North?	WOA 02-Mar- 25 SBOC	NIOA 2-5 May North	WOA 11/12 Oct SWOC	E-NW 13/14 Sept	SOA 4/5 Oct	29-Jun- 25	2025
	WOA 01-Mar- 26 SWOC		SOA	NIOA	E-YH		2026
			E-NE	E-SE	WOA		2027
			NIOA	SOA	E-EM		2028
			E-SW	WOA	SOA		2029
			SOA	E-WM	NIOA		2030
			WOA	E-NW	E-SC		2031

