

Mike's eNews – 24 July 2015

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As always, feel free to forward this eNews to your members; it's going to be published on the eNews page at <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/enews> on Monday so if you would rather send them a link please feel free to do so.

Apologies for the rather unscheduled nature of this eNews, I'm not sure whether I'm late for the first week of July or early for the August edition! It's that sort of time in the office with lots going on.

World Orienteering Championships 2015

Starts next week and I'm not going to spend long on WOC as you can find out far more from the [British Orienteering](#) and [WOC2015](#) websites.

Hopefully many of you will be up in Inverness for the Scottish 6 Days or just to watch WOC. Although I'd like to be at WOC throughout the pressure of work in the National Office is significant and with Scott the only administrator and other staff either in Scotland or on holiday it is fairly desperate. I'm hoping to get up there for a few days but there are some on-going urgent matters that need my attention.

Paul McGreal our Event Director has done a fantastic job in directing and coordinating the work of a significant team of very dedicated volunteers and a small number of professionals. There are times when I've been up to my eyes in WOC matters some of which are on-going but Paul has dealt with by far the larger part of directing WOC for which I am incredibly grateful.

I know Paul in turn has relied on many people, mainly volunteers, to support him but I'll leave it to him to recognise and thank them for their work.

WOC will be a great experience I'm sure and a great opportunity to see the best orienteers in the world in action – if you are up in Scotland take the time to have a look and if you're not going, see if you can catch any of it on TV or the internet.

An example of the type of coverage we're getting is shown in last weeks' BBC2 Adventure Show (it features Ali MacLeod) and can be found at <https://vimeo.com/134254584>; and yes, we do have permission to share it.

Scottish 6 Days

The entry is now approaching 5,000 so this will also be a great experience and will live up to, probably exceed, past experiences at the S6Ds.

As a partner event for WOC it will be fantastic and something everyone interested in orienteering can experience, many of the areas and arenas are the same as for WOC so what an opportunity.

Safeguarding

Not a topic I've given much coverage to in eNews but recent events really do reinforce the need for clubs and Welfare Officers in particular to be more aware of the procedures described in O-Safe. So far this year there have been 4 safeguarding issues, not minor matters, all significant. Two have been within orienteering and two others related to members, so far one of these has led to a prosecution. I am not able to go into details but safeguarding is an issue that must be taken seriously.

If matters arise either inside orienteering or in connection with a member of your club or regular orienteer you must report it to me. Even if you think it's outside the sport and you've known him or her for a long time therefore it will be a misunderstanding and all get sorted out please let me know.

O-Safe is being updated as a result of these issues and I'm hopeful there will be a 2 page summary that serves as the summary and is easily read and understood.

If you have any doubts or safeguarding worries please get in touch.

British Orienteering Website

I'm sure you will have noticed that our website has had an update. The underpinning reason for the update was to make the site responsive to tablets and smartphones as we've seen a significant increase in the number of people accessing the site using them. It has also freshened up the pc/notebook view which is timely.

Over the summer we'll be trying to reduce the amount of text on some of the pages so that they can be viewed better but this will take time and we decided to go live with the update before the pages have been improved – otherwise it might have been a while before the site was made live.

Other significant changes made during this update include:

- The site contains an SSL Certificate which adds a degree of protection to data being transferred from your pc etc to the server and back again.
- The Sage Pay software that handles our financial transactions has been updated to provide better protection and meet new standards.
- The pages that contain changing data such as the news, event schedule and the results pages have been reworked completely to try and improve the look and make them more responsive to being viewed on different width screens.

Anyway I hope you enjoy the fresh look.

Ordnance Survey

It feels like this topic has been going on forever which is reflective of orienteers being very different users of OS mapping from their usual partners.

I can now confirm, thankfully, that we do not need to add loads of OS symbols etc to our maps but are required to include the following copyright statement:

© Crown Copyright 2015 OS 100015287

This contains the year the map is to be printed and contains our licence number. OS do require this statement to be printed in the correct font (Source Sans Pro) at a minimum of 6pt size.

If the map also involves Lidar data it will need both the Lidar and OS copyright text.

I'll also take this opportunity to remind people responsible for printing maps that OS state that all maps *derived from* OS must carry this copyright statement. 'Derived from' is an interesting term as they have confirmed that this includes:

- Orienteering maps that are created in any way using OS maps
- Maps that have any references to the National Grid ie, grid references

Whilst we can argue with OS about this they will claim legally that almost all maps are included within this, including Lidar, as the national grid is used for alignment etc.

CASCs – Community Amateur Sports Clubs

The rules relating to CASCs changed this year and whilst you may decide becoming a CASC is not for you there is a case for considering gaining CASC status.

Information about CASC can be found [here](#).

Further help at:

<http://www.sportenglandclubmatters.com/club-planning/club-structure/casc/>

And for HMR&C regarding taxation at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-to-rules-for-community-amateur-sports-clubs-casc>

Thanks to Roger Edward (LEI) for reminding me and point out the following:

“Does Orienteering want an extra £25K!?”

LEI make aggressive use of gift aid, permitted within the CASC scheme. Our accounts are likely to show £2K gift aid when they are published in October 2015. Surely this is an income stream that should be tapped more fully. Despite this financial benefit few clubs are registered, and Roger thinks the ones that are may make little use of Gift aid.

Clubs of course will need to think how they can exploit Gift Aid and how voluntary donations are contributed may be a key part of this.

Conservatively, 50 clubs claiming £500 (a quarter of the LEI figure) would begin to achieve the £25K target.

Use of gift aid could help fill club coffers and enable more money to be brought into orienteering.”

It may be well worth the time for the club to consider whether CASC status could help your club. Roger may be happy to talk to people and his practical experience will be far better than our theoretical knowledge.

Major Events – the ‘BOC’ Option

Again, thanks for the feedback on this option; I’ll briefly remind you what the option is.

The British Orienteering Championships include the following:

BOC Long & Relay	2 days	1,500 entries
BOC Sprint & Middle	2 days	1,000 entries
BOC Night	1 day/night	300 entries

The BOCs can practically be organised by many associations, through their clubs. Currently they are organised through a Partnership Scheme where the income and risk is shared 2:1 by British Orienteering and the association and in this option it is suggested the BOCs be delivered on the basis of a ‘super levy’. If this option is taken up the level of the ‘super levy’ will be determined but is likely to be in the range of £3.00 to £5.00 and the levy would be administered in the same way as the current levy. It is also unlikely in this option that there will be much, if any, support from the Major Events Manager.

The association would be free to budget and deliver knowing the ‘super-levy’ payable and would therefore be able to aim to generate a surplus for the association or clubs as they decide. This will reward clubs for organising an event cost effectively.

In this option it is agreed that the BOC Nights with only a relatively small entry should continue to be a normal levy event.

The feedback also generally agreed that the JK is too large and all-consuming for many associations to organise and bear the financial risk to although a few did indicate they could.

If there are any further thoughts about the ‘BOC Option’ please let me have them otherwise we will be looking more deeply into this option.