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Dear All

Three months into the role as Chief Executive and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you that I have met for for the suggestions and views I have received.

My initial thoughts about the association are that as a headquarters we do need to engage the membership more with our thoughts and plans. I feel that headquarters could provide stronger leadership and framework to assist you and the sport with its development and ensure that we use our limited resources more effectively and efficiently.

An initial part of my understanding has been working with the Board, understanding the strategic aims and objectives. I will be reviewing and developing the current plan and establishing some clear and measurable targets for the sport so that you can see what we are trying to achieve and measure if we are being successful. However, at this stage in the association's development I will be looking at stability rather than growth.

The JK and the British Championships like other major competitions are a fantastic show piece of the sport and bring together so many parts of the operation from mapping, event organisation, volunteer co-ordination, land owners, performance, coaching, development and participants – approximately 25% of our membership participated in the JK this year.

Looking around at the JK it became clear to me how friendly the sport is, the range of abilities that are catered for, the massive, and in my opinion, “bonkers” demand placed on volunteers (read “unpaid professionals”) including the organisers. There were a large number of different types of disciplines and courses required to deliver all of which require support in various ways. I would question is it sustainable at this level but the counter argument is that it has been going on for years – a big question for me is – is it right that we continue down this road or do we review this to ensure sustainability in the future?

From an outsider's view point I did feel that we could make life easier for the sport and learn from other sports experience but then deliver it in the context of orienteering. My main areas of concern are surrounding competitions: competition calendar, the complexity of the rules and the level of support that we currently provide.

However, I have seen some excellent practices which other sports can learn from us – the presentations – having both male and female presentations at the same time was really effective – I will be interested to see how the national anthems work in international events with this type of presentation!

The work that the volunteers do behind the scenes at all levels from clubs, associations to major events always amazes me, often with people doing some pretty thankless tasks but these are required to make the event work. We all must make a commitment to thank them for what they do every time we attend a training session or an event.

Moving forward, I will be attending events and please feel free to talk to me about your thoughts on the future of the sport – this is one area that I have been constantly asking people when I meet them - the responses are interesting. I accept that for some people things have happened in the past but we all have to learn from this and move on rather than dwell on them.

I hope you are having a good season and not spending too much time checking out the ground against the map trying to relocate as I was at an event on World Orienteering Day in South Yorkshire – it was still fun though.

Moving onto other issues

GDPR

Thank you for your patience on this matter. There was a huge amount of conflicting information surrounding the implementation of this regulation and hopefully it is starting to settle down now and the guidance is beginning to become slightly more consistent but we still have to be aware of the regulations whilst administering data.

The Sport and Recreation Alliance (SRA) have published some excellent documentation/templates if you still need to review the club or association's Privacy statement or Policy. These can be found here:

<https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/pages/gdpr-national-organisations>

You will have to login/register.

Taking Photographs at Events & GDPR

One of the areas that we now have some clarity on is about photographs and posting them on social media and in newsletters.

The response:

As a data controller if you are taking photograph images either at your events and shows you need to have:

- a) Posters stating images are being taken and have a point of contact to obtain a copy of any image taken where the person is the main focus
- b) Have in your privacy notice how, when, why you will take images, how long you will retain, use, share and secure the information.
- c) How an individual can exercise their rights to access, object and request images to be erased. If posted on 'Information societies' e.g. social networks/search engines/websites how they can exercise their right 'To Be Forgotten'.

Therefore, the organisation running the event need to ensure, via posters, to make the attendees aware of whom the photographer is and individuals should have the option of not being photographed. Permission should certainly be sought before photographs are used for publicity/marketing.

Be extra aware of photographing children.

Always seek written parental permission before taking a photograph, using a picture, sharing it on social media such as Facebook or Instagram, even in private groups. The new regulations are –quite rightly– very strict regarding children’s data.

Child Protection

We have just undertaken our review with the Child Protection and Sport Unit (CPSU). There is a little work to be done to ensure that we continue to be compliant and in particular imbed safeguarding in all areas of our operation.

We want to alert you to an organisation called the Independent Child Safety & Protection Audit (ICSPA.) This is an organisation that may contact you regarding safeguarding and child protection issues. This organisation is not known to either British Orienteering, Sport England or the Child Protection in Sport Unit. We are advising all our clubs and welfare officers that if you are contacted by them, then do not respond.

Guidance for using non-formal accommodation such as village halls

We have received some enquiries about using village halls for accommodation.

We have confirmed with the insurers that our third-party liability insurance does cover the club for these activities providing they are registered as a club activity.

In addition to this it should be recognised that a full risk assessment must be carried out and that additional thought has to be given over supervision and sleeping arrangements.

We have provided some [guidance for clubs who use non-formal accommodation arrangements](#).

Activities - Reminder for those that register events and activities

A big thank you to all of you who register the events and activities for your clubs. We appreciate the amount of time and coordination that it takes to ensure that this happens regularly and consistently. However, it is really important that events and activities are registered correctly due to the insurance implications, reporting and for enabling as many people as possible to find and access orienteering.

Rest of the document can be found [here](#)

World Orienteering Championships (Sprint) 2022

I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend the IOF inspection for the above event. I was hugely impressed with the partnerships forged between the Scottish Orienteering Association, Scottish 6 Day Event Company, Event Scotland, City of Edinburgh and Edinburgh University. For me it demonstrated what can be achieved when sharing resources and working together.

I truly believe that the IOF were impressed with what they saw, the technicality of the event areas and the organisational expertise that underpins this sort of event.

We find out if we are successful in early August – fingers crossed.

Club / Association Conference

A date for your diary – 20th October 2018

I welcome thoughts on what you would like this conference to focus on – please let me know

peter.hart@britishorienteering.org.uk

Independent Directors

A note to let you know that Elizabeth Pariag has not sought re-appointment as an Independent Director. Whilst the impact on many of you will be minimal she has contributed a huge amount to the sport over the last six years especially giving us a huge amount of guidance and advice on legal and governance issues.

We will be advertising and recruiting a new independent Director with a portfolio including legal and governance. The advert will go live week commencing 11th June and if you know anyone with a strong background and who is prepared to help out British Orienteering in this area please approach them. As this appointment is for Independent Directors, candidates must not have been employed by British Orienteering, been Directors of British Orienteering, or have been involved in any national-level committee or group of British Orienteering in the ten years prior to their application.

Thank you again for being so welcoming and I look forward to working with you.

Peter Hart

Chief Executive Officer, British Orienteering

