

Club and Association Conference 2016

To explore how Clubs, Associations and the Board, steering groups and staff of British Orienteering can best work together to implement the strategic plan.

Context: C&A conference 2015 opened the consultation process on the strategic plan. The broad shape of the plan is close to completion. The next step will be decisions on implementation. For a British Orienteering strategic plan to be successful in the new funding climate much of the work to put the Plan in to practice will come from volunteers in clubs. Even with volunteer support there is unlikely to be funding or staff contribution to assist the implementation of the Plan until we find a way to access or raise additional funds.

In planning the club and association conference we've looked back on the last 5 years of conferences and found that the same issues frequently reoccur – many of the issues remain the same and perhaps now, with a new Strategic Plan under development, is the opportunity to find realistic solutions we can all agree.

We want to make this Club & Association Conference a forum where clubs and associations are able to better understand the strategy as it has developed so far and to contribute their thoughts to the next part of the process, adding detail about how our goals will be achieved. The strategy is long term but at the conference we want to be thinking about actions and activities which should take us through the first 2-3 years moving us towards the longer term goals.

When we refer to British Orienteering in the context of the Club & Association Conference we are thinking of the 10,800 members organised in 120 Clubs and 13 Associations and the people engaged at national level with British Orienteering including the Board, Steering Groups & Committees and the employed staff.

Aims: by the end of the Conference we hope we will all have:

- a more detailed shared understanding of the strategy
- a clear picture of current C&As activity that is aligned to the strategy
- identified the things C&As can contribute to implementing the strategy. We understand clubs and associations are different and can contribute different things done in different ways
- identified the support C&As want and need to do these things
- explored a range of means to resource support for implementing the strategy

Outline programme: After a brief introduction to the strategy we will look more closely at the what we can do to link the objectives in the strategy and consider two of the three lead areas; recruiting and engaging more participants, simplifying and strengthening our competition structure. There will be a short lead input on each of these followed by group discussion. We will gather highlights of feedback from group discussion but detailed sharing of information will come from the notes circulated following the conference. The conference will end at 4:30.

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss these matters and hope you will find it a rewarding Conference.

Programme

11am	EGM
11:45	Club & Association Conference Introduction to conference and strategy
12:00	Session one: The Strategic Plan and the participation pathway that underpins and runs through the Plan
12:15	Group work
12:45	Key points feedback
1:00	Lunch
13:45	Session two: recruiting and engaging new orienteering – work from group set up following last year's conference
14:00	Group work
14:30	Key points feedback
14:45	Break
15:00	Session three: competition that lies at the heart of the sport of orienteering and how it can be strengthened
15:30	Group work
15:45	Key points feedback
16:00	Winding up
16:30	Close