

FINAL

EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting held on Saturday 23rd June 2018 in the
Lloyd Room at The Priory Rooms Meeting and Conference Centre,
40 Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF,
from 11:00 to 17:00.

Present: Chris Phillips (Chair) (CP), Craig Anthony (British Orienteering Head of Development) (CA), Barry Elkington (BE), Neville Myers (NM), Terry Smith (TS), Ernie Williams (EW).

1. Apologies for Absence:

Mike Cope (ESchG) (MC), Peter Hart (CEO) (PH).

2. Minutes of the E&CC Meeting held on 11th November 2017 at the Priory Rooms in Birmingham:

The Minutes were received as an accurate version of the meeting held on 11th November 2017.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting not covered elsewhere on the Agenda:

(i) Item 4 (b) (iii): 2018 UKOL:

Due to the cancellation of two UKOL Events (the EUOC organised Edinburgh City Race and the LEI organised Midland Championships) due to bad weather and unforeseen circumstances, Martin Ward, the UKOL Coordinator, had proposed that the number of scoring Events be changed from 12 out of 24 to 11 out of 22 thereby being an appropriate proportion of 50% of the maximum number of Events during the calendar year. E&CC formally approved the proposal and thanked the UKOL Coordinator for bringing the matter to their attention.

ACTION: CP

(ii) Item 5: The future structure of E&CC and its Sub-Groups:

CP as Chair of E&CC had met once with British Orienteering Chair Judith Holt and twice with new CEO Peter Hart in recent months, and indicated that Judith Holt is to discuss with the Board the formation and role of a 'Diversity Committee' linked to the 'Diversity Action Plan - 2017-2022' dated 31st October 2017, together with other matters related to 'Diversity', 'Equality', and the role, responsibilities, and work of Steering Groups and Committees, with all linked to the efficient operation of a national organisation such as British Orienteering. There is an expectation that E&CC will continue working and functioning on behalf of the Board and the membership spread throughout the UK until such time as a new organisational structure has been put in place.

4. Changes to the Yvette Baker Trophy Rules and inclusion of a 'Shield' Competition for smaller Clubs:

An update Paper '*YBT revised rules for the YB Shield*' (dated June 2018) from the Youth Advisory Group had been circulated prior to the meeting, together with a revised '*Competition Rule L: Yvette Baker Trophy and Shield (v2.9.1 dated November 2017)*', and both documents aided the discussion with reference to a range of sections within Competition Rule L, for example:

Section 1 – Administration: It was agreed that a YBT Coordinator shall be appointed by E&CC. The role is to advise and support all organisers to deliver successful competitions, to publish the qualifying teams after qualifying races and to encourage attendance at the respective Trophy and Shield Finals, together with consulting E&CC to make decisions on circumstances that may arise and not be covered by the Rules of Orienteering and Competition Rule L.

Section 2 – Eligibility: This is to be confirmed re membership of Club and British Orienteering, together with, on the 1st October preceding the year of competition (as for CompassSport Cup and Trophy competition), the requisite number of eligible Junior Competitors in a 'Large Club' entering the 'YB Trophy' shall be 25 or more and for a 'Small Club' entering the 'YB Shield' the requisite number of eligible Juniors shall be less than 25. Also, it is important that "The Trophy and Shield competitions are to be treated as entirely separate Competitions taking place at the same Event".

Section 2.3 – Scoring: “For the Trophy each Club counts its 9 highest scores from across all 8 classes to produce its highest points” and “For the Shield Competition each Club counts its 5 highest scorers from across all 8 classes to produce its highest points”.

Section 2.3 – Tie-break: Concerns were raised about the possibility of ties arising in the Shield Final because of potentially low numbers. It was suggested that the Youth Advisory Group should be invited to consider that, in the event of there being a tie between two or more Clubs with equal points at the conclusion of the Trophy and Shield Finals, then the results shall stand as a ‘Tie’ rather than looking at the positions of the best scorers from each of the respective teams in 10th, 11th, 12th position etc. and the same for the Shield Final, i.e. the best scorers from each of the respective teams in 6th, 7th, 8th position etc.

Adult competitors taking part at the same venue on the day of the Finals: It was agreed that the YBT Trophy and Shield Finals are to be held as Level 2 National Events and that no adults should be taking part and entering the competition area at a parallel ‘Colour Coded Event’ until after the Trophy and Shield Finals have been concluded. Also, the ‘Event Finances’ should be set such that the ‘Junior Entry Fees’ cover the outgoings of the Finals.

Following the lengthy discussion CA agreed to take all proposed amendments to Competition Rule L to the Youth Advisory Group and to then circulate all E&CC members with a final draft for agreement and then publication prior to 1st October 2018 for the 2019 Yvette Baker Trophy and Shield Heats and Finals.

ACTION: CA

5. Operational Matters:

(i) Chair’s Report (CP):

(a) 2018 Major Events Conference:

Christine Vince (KERNO) has agreed to host the 2018 Conference at the Lydiard Academy, Swindon, on Saturday 10th November 2018. CP has two suggestions for guest speakers and further suggestions from E&CC, Regions, and Club members would be welcome. Also, if required, a Grade A Controllers Course could be part of the programme.

b) Future IOF World Ranking Events in UK:

The Coordinators of JK 2019 had indicated that applications for WRE status for Days 1, 2, and 3 may not be made. TS stated that the IOF criteria including the ‘Liebnitz Convention’ of 4th August 2000, particularly in relation to Days 1 and 2, would not be easy to implement:

“It is of decisive importance to raise the profile of the sport to further the spread of orienteering to more people and new areas, and to get orienteering into the Olympic Games. The main vehicles to achieve this are:

- to organise attractive and exciting orienteering events which are of high quality for competitors, officials, media, spectators, sponsors, and external partners*
- to make IOF events attractive for TV and Internet*

We shall aim to:

- increase the visibility of our sport by organising our events closer to where people are*
 - make our event centres more attractive by giving increased attention to the design and quality of installations*
 - improve the event centre atmosphere, and the excitement, by having both start and finish at the centre*
 - increase television and other media coverage by ensuring that our events provide more and better opportunities for producing thrilling sports programmes*
 - improve media service by better catering for the needs of media representatives (in terms of communication facilities, access to runners at start/finish and in the forest, continuous intermediate time information, food and beverages, etc.)*
 - pay more attention to promoting our sponsors and external partners in connection with our IOF events*
- We, the Members of the IOF, expect that these measures shall be considered by all future organisers of IOF events.”*

Currently the only application that has been made for WRE status is for the British Sprint Championships being held at Loughborough University on 14th September 2019. Duncan Archer, Coordinator for JK 2020, has indicated that applications re IOF WRE status for Days 1, 2, and 3 are being given serious consideration by the Organising team. (See also Item 5. b) (iv))

ACTION: EW

(c) 2018 Yvette Baker Trophy Final:

The SCOA Regional Heat had to be cancelled - another casualty of the bad weather – and, as it was not possible to re-schedule the Heat, Sarah Mansel, YBT Coordinator, requested guidance as to the best way to proceed from CP and BE, and the two teams involved were granted a ‘bye’ to the Final.

(d) Appointment of Board Representative attending E&CC Meetings:

CP has had a discussion with Judith Holt regarding the appointment of a successor to David Maliphant and this will be discussed at the Board Meeting on 13th July.

(e) Competition Rule D – British Orienteering Relay Championships:

CP had received a request for clarification and interpretation of the Rules 2.1.2, 2.1.9 and 2.3.1 in Competition Rule D re the Junior Ad Hoc Classes and eligibility at the British Relay Championships. CP agreed to contact the Event Official and discuss the matter with him and arrange that any text revisions be submitted using a Rule Change Form to ensure greater clarity.

ACTION: CP

(f) Paper received from EMOA re hosting of future Major Events: (see Agenda Item 9)

(ii) Event Officials Group Report (EW):

(a) East Midlands Regional Championships Level B Event in January 2018:

Following comments received from competitors EW had provided a Report to E&CC and to the Chairman of the host Club and a response had been received from the latter which was distributed to E&CC members present. It was agreed that the matter had been resolved and that all Clubs within the UK needed to be made aware of the importance of the application of the correct Technical Difficulty for each Age Class and Course (Appendix B – Course Planning) and the application of the criteria for each Level of Event (Rule 17: Event Structure and Level Requirements).

ACTION: CP and EW

(b) Details of Major Event Official Appointments:

EW circulated a detailed list of all Level A Major Events for 2018 through to 2021, which included date, venue, host Region and/or Club, venue with postcode, contact details, Organisers and Planners where known, and Controllers where appointment has been confirmed. Appointment of a Controller to one Event in 2019 was still to be made and E&CC agreed to the appointment, if possible, of a Controller from the same Region but definitely from a different Club. EW also indicated the need for each host Club and/or Region of Major Events to provide, as soon as possible after registration, contact details, venue details, and nearby postcode to him and to Mike Cope, re ESchG Event Planner/Schedule and the national website Event Fixtures details.

ACTION: EW

(c) Details received of Major Event Organisers/Planners:

Details had been received and circulated to E&CC members re approval as follows:

2019 BOK Trot & Southern Championships on 31st March at Moseley Green and Cannop Ponds (BOK);

2019 British Long Distance and British Relay Championships on 5th and 6th May in YHOA Region at Kilnsey North & Arncliffe and Middleton Park;

2019 British Sprint Championships on 14th September at Loughborough University (LEI);

2019 British Middle Distance Championships on 15th September at Chinley Churn (DVO);

2019 CompassSport Cup & Trophy Final on 20th October at Pippingford Park (MV);

JK 2020 - 10th to 13th April in NEOA Region – Venues and Event Officials information received.

(d) Formal Appointment of Grade A Controllers:

The following had completed the required criteria for upgrading from Controller Grade B to Controller Grade A, their applications approved by E&CC, and confirmation had been made to each applicant by EW:

Neville Baker of TVOC/SCOA

Roger Edwards of LEI/EMOA

Graham Louth of WAOC/EAOA

Terry Smith of SOC/SCOA

(e) Availability of contact details of Grade A and Grade B Controllers:

A contact list suitable for use by Major and National Event Coordinators and Organisers seeking to appoint Event Juries had been made available by Scott Parker at National Office in March 2018 for EW to supply upon request.

ACTION: EW

(f) Availability of Event Officials Training Course Materials:

Re Safety & Welfare Training:

There is a continuing need to ensure that all British Orienteering Regions, Clubs, and members are aware of Appendix C; section 1.1.6 – before acting in the capacity of Organiser or Planner or Controller, officials must have the mandatory safety training prescribed within the British Orienteering Event Safety & Welfare Workshop.

Updating of Grade C Controller Training Course Materials:

Following work by David May and Katy Stubbs these are now available and have already been requested for Courses to be run later this year in the North-West and the Midlands. David and Katy have been thanked for their work and involvement regarding this important and much needed update.

Updating required of other Training Course materials:

Planner Training Course materials and Controller Grade B Training materials are both requiring further work and are therefore 'ongoing'. EW to liaise with Peter Brooke (British Orienteering England Development Officer) re 'Planning Course materials'. **ACTION: EW**

Also, with attendance at an Annual Major Events Conference no longer required for those seeking upgrading from Controller Grade B to Controller Grade A, a decision is required re the compilation of suitable materials for attendance at a Regional or National British Orienteering Controller Grade A Course as per Appendix C: section 2.1. **ACTION: CP and EW**

(g) Report from Controller of JK 2018 Day 1 Sprint Event:

A detailed four page Report with several recommendations had been received from Mark Dyer of BOK following JK 2018 as follows:

Arena: *Any guidance to teams engaged in putting on a WRE should stress the need to address the spectating, commentating, and other requirements of the Leibnitz Convention before any firm commitments to course plans and arena layout are made.*

Course length ratios: *That winning times at both the young and very senior ends of the competitor range be monitored at a number of high quality sprint events to review the guidance on length ratios for these competitors.*

Start: *That explicit guidance be provided in Competition Rule F as to whether competitors on TD1 and TD2 courses should be allowed to see their maps before entering the start lanes.*

Start: *That consideration be given to starting very junior courses in a location sufficiently removed from the general silent start, where they can be given help if necessary.*

Late Starts: *That E&CC consider whether to amend Competition Rule F to take into consideration the specific circumstances of travel to the JK Festival on Good Friday.*

Photographers on course: *Future Event Organisers should consider how to manage photographers who are allowed into the competition area, perhaps by constraining them within designated zones.*

Both the Report and the Recommendations from the Event Controller could be a very worthwhile part of the 2018 Major Events Conference prior to the JK 2019, JK 2020, and JK 2021 and British Sprint Championships, and it is hoped that the JK 2018 Sprint Event Controller will be invited to make a presentation as part of the day. **ACTION: CP**

(h) Volunteer Needs and Development:

Following comments that have been received EW has responded with reminders re the Volunteer Needs Work Group Report and Action Plan (2012-2013) and the Deloitte Action Plan for British Orienteering Safety & Welfare Workshop availability and attendance (2016-2017) as discussed at meetings in 2017.

(iii) Event Scheduling Group Report (MC):

(a) Tasks concluded since November 2017:

- (i) The most recent meeting of ESchG took place on 10th March 2018 and the Minutes are available on the British Orienteering website.
- (ii) Updating of events registered and Event Planners and Year Outline Plans took place before and since the most recent meeting date.
- (iii) There is now a list available of ESchG Scheduled Events which contains target dates.
- (iv) A worthwhile and encouraging discussion took place at the 10th March meeting re the rota for future JKs.

(v) There has been some progress in finding hosts for events where this task has been proving difficult, in particular the Harvester and the Junior events.

(b) Tasks progressing update:

- (i) Preparation ongoing for the next ESchG meeting in October 2018.
- (ii) Updating continuing of Event Planners to meet requests and resolve problems.
- (iii) Further work is to be undertaken on the allocation of Major Events to Regions in the future. There will be more discussion on this important topic at the next ESchG meeting.
- (iv) Attempting to find hosts for events where, more often than not, it has proved difficult to do so, particularly Junior events.

(c) Tasks planned but not yet started:

- (i) It is believed that Event Levels need to be reviewed, particularly as what is now designated as a 'National Level Event' have, at times, not met the required criteria for Level B, and definitions may need updating. This is also related to the monitoring of the quality of events which needs to be reviewed.
- (ii) Succession planning re the position of Chair of ESchG has begun with the compilation of a list of all the tasks undertaken by the Chair.

ACTION: MC

MC was thanked for his continuing work as Chair of ESchG and for his overview and production of the very helpful and useful 'Planner for Major and National Events', '2019 Outline Plan' and 'A and B Events Schedule' documentation.

(iv) Rules and Appendices Update (BE):

(a) Planning for Sprint Events:

Problems had arisen at recent Sprint Events caused by the interpretation of existing rules where the text is not explicit enough on what should be done i.e.

In Appendix B: Course Planning:

10.3.2: Finding the controls should not be the challenge; rather the ability to choose and complete the best route to them.

10.8.1: The challenge of Sprint orienteering is to navigate (and chose routes) between controls rather than decipher complicated control descriptions.

Therefore the following amendments are proposed:

(i) Change to 10.3.4:

10.3.4 The higher density of controls sites needed for a Sprint race sometimes means that controls are closer together than they are in Middle/Long races. The minimum separation of controls is correspondingly less than for Middle/Long races and is 15m (or 30m if the control sites are on similar features). These separations are measured around impassable objects rather than being straight line distances.

to read:

10.3.4 The higher density of controls sites needed for a Sprint race sometimes means that controls are closer together than they are in Middle/Long races. The minimum separation of controls is correspondingly less than for Middle/Long races and is 15m (or 30m if the control sites are on similar features). If two controls are clearly separated on the map and ground by an impassable feature such that there is no ambiguity as to the control locations then the separation may be reduced provided that the distance measured around the impassable feature still exceeds the 15m/30m limit.

(ii) Change the title of 10.8 to Control circles and Control descriptions and then the whole section:

10.8.1 Control descriptions are often more important than at forest-based events. Many control sites have a number of possible descriptions. The Planner should try to use the most obvious description; the challenge of Sprint orienteering is to navigate (and chose routes) between controls rather than decipher complicated control descriptions.

10.8.2 Loose control description sheets should be available to competitors.

to read:

10.8.1 The challenge of Sprint orienteering is to choose routes and navigate between controls rather than decipher complicated control descriptions.

10.8.2 Where a control site has a number of possible descriptions the Planner should try to use the most obvious description.

10.8.3 It should be possible to navigate to the majority of control sites just from the map (the exception being when a control could be on either of two levels), Hence when a control is sited on one side of an impassable linear feature (e.g. a wall) the control circle should be offset so that it is clear from the map which side of the

feature the control is located.

10.8.4 Loose control description sheets should be available to competitors.

The proposed wording of 10.3.4 and 10.8.1 – 10.8.4 was approved by E&CC, subject to being formally submitted on Rule Change Forms.

ACTION: BE

(v) Event Systems Group + Map Advisory Group (TS):

(a) Tasks concluded since the last meeting of E&CC:

(i) March 2019 Report - Software utility re Results for Yvette Baker Trophy:

Further research has revealed that SI's AutoDownload software, Mike Napier's software and Emit software utilities are capable of producing results for the YBT competition. Any "BOF" utility would need to be capable of interfacing with these and potentially other event software systems. It is not clear how effectively a "BOF" utility could be produced, maintained and whether it would be adopted by event organisers. It is recommended that the Officials of future competitions that have specific results requirements should ensure that they use tried and tested software that is suitable for producing the required results. E&CC agreed that this advice should be followed for future YBT Events.

(ii) March 2019 Report: Map Adviser for 2019 British Middle Distance Championships:

This matter re appointment of a Map Adviser for Stockhill has been resolved.

(iii) Lakes 5-Days: Relaxation of rules request received to use 1:7,500 scale maps for all classes on Day 5 of the Lakes 5-Days based on logistical constraints approved.

(iv) Map Advisory Group: MAG have considered a request from the Organiser of BOC/BRC 2019 to print maps digitally. MAG took no exception to the printing of 1:10,000 maps digitally by an approved printer but recommended the Organiser critically review digital proofs of 1:15,000 maps to ensure they would be fit-for-purpose. If that is not the case, the Organiser should consider printing those maps by offset-litho.

(v) IOF Map Commission: Comments have been submitted to the IOF Map Commission in response to their invitation to comment on a draft revision to ISSOM. All comments received have been shared with the Controllers and Mappers who contributed to the review.

(vi) IOF Request re maps scale: Input has been provided following a request from IOF for comment on allowing 1:10,000 scale maps for elite long distance competition.

(v) IOF Control Descriptions: David Rosen has highlighted that a link on the Rules pointed to the old version of the IOF Control Descriptions. The website link now points to the current version of the Control Descriptions document.

(b) Ongoing Tasks Update:

(i) Lakes 5-Days – Relaxation of rules:

The Chairman of NWOA has asked MAG to approve the following request for the Lakes 5-Day Event:

1. The use of 7.5 mm circles on 1:7500 scale maps for Day 5
2. The use of 1:5000 for M/W 70+ courses 8, 11 & 12 and course 17 for Day 5
3. The possible use of 1:7,500 for M/W70+ courses 8, 11 & 12 for days 1 – 4.

Requests 1 and 3 were supported. Request 2 was not supported as it was felt that the terrain did not justify 1:5,000 scale maps when the map had already been enlarged to 1:7,500.

(ii) Printer Approval:

Paul Taunton (NGOC) has asked for colour swatches with the aim of submitting maps for approval as a BOF accredited printer. TS has discussed this request with BML re availability of IOF swatches.

(iii) Mapping:

David Olivant has reviewed the Rules relating to mapping issues, including Appendix D, and has produced a provisional draft that will be both an updated and slimmed down version. This is currently on hold pending an agreed process for managing Rule Changes.

(iv) JK 2019 and IOF World Ranking Event status applications:

Following earlier discussion (Item 5. (l) (b)), TS was actioned to go back to the JK 2019 Team and to ascertain which of the IOF WRE requirements could be fulfilled at JK Days 1 to 3 in order that consideration could then be given to make applications with identified exceptions to the IOF requirements prior to the IOF deadline of 30th October 2018 for WRE status.

ACTION: TS

6. Proposed Procedure for Rule Changes using requisite Form (TS):

(a) The layout of the initial Rule Change Form that has been brought into use is as follows:

TS explained that the intention of the Rule Changes Form was to provide an easily understandable method and document that would enable those making a submission to think through their proposal, to focus on the 'Why?', to give a clear explanation, and be easy to use and administer by both proposer and recipient, the latter currently TS on behalf of E&CC. The 'Rule Change Form' consists of the following parts: Title, Existing Rule with Rule Number, Name and Club of Proposer, Date submitted, Purpose of Change; Justification for Proposed Rule Change, Any explanatory Notes if required, List of other Rules affected, Revision Note (i.e. Summary of Change History Page), and text of current Rule with proposed new/replacement text.

All British Orienteering members will now be expected to complete the 'Rule Change Form' before sending it to the Chair of E&CC.

(b) A summary of 'Rule Change Forms' received to date is as follows:

(i) British Orienteering Rule Changes – Complaints & Protests:

A revision has been proposed to the text re Rule 16.2 and 16.4 to retain the existing time-limit as a default in case the Organiser does not specify a limit, i.e.

"The organiser may set a time limit for complaints. Complaints received after this time limit will only be considered if there are valid exceptional circumstances which must be explained in the complaint. Should the Organiser not specify a time limit, complaints must be made on the day that the alleged contravention occurred."

E&CC approved this proposal.

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules.

ACTION: TS

(ii) British Orienteering Rule Change – Course length measurement for Sprint/Urban Races:

Revision proposed the deletion of current Rules 21.12 and 21.13 and the insertion of new 21.12 as follows:

"For all types of format, including Sprint and Urban, the course length must be given as that of the straight line route from the start via the controls to the finish deviating for, and only for, physically impassable obstructions (high fences, lakes, impassable cliffs etc.), 'out of bounds' areas and marked routes. This is the shortest route which a competitor could reasonably possibly take, irrespective of whether or not the competitor would be sensible to do so."

E&CC approved this proposal.

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules.

ACTION: TS

(iii) British Orienteering Rule Change – Modification of Map scale at British Sprint Championships: Proposed that in current Competition Rule C 6.3.1 be deleted and replaced with:

"6.3.1 The map scale must either be 1:4,000 or 1:3,000, and a contour interval of either 2.0m or 2.5m."

E&CC approved this proposal subject to provision of the proposed text for all other affected rules (JK Sprint Competition Rule F (6.3.1), British Orienteering Rules (10.2.1) and the tables (1 – 4) in Appendix D (Mapping)).

ACTION: TS

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules.

ACTION: TS

(iv) British Orienteering Rule Change – Amendment of Late Starts Rule:

This proposed revision of current Rules 27.6 and 27.7 is based on IOF Rules 22.9 and 22.10 thereby effectively adopting the wording of IOF Rules. An alternative approach would be to adopt the practice used in some other sports, for example Cycling Time-Trials, where anyone reporting late for their start for whatever reason is started on the next available start slot.

"Cycle Time-Trials rule: (iv) Competitors must not start earlier than their allotted time. If a competitor fails to start at his allotted time and subsequently reports to the starting timekeeper as being ready, his lateness in reporting shall constitute his penalty. He may then be started at the timekeeper's discretion but in no case less than one minute before or one minute after another competitor."

Their measured time is increased by the difference between the time they reported to the start and their pre-allocated start time.

"New 27.6:

Competitors who are late for their start time shall be permitted to start. Their new start time must be recorded.

- *In a mass or chasing start, the competitor shall be started as soon as possible.*
- *In an interval start, if the competitor is at the start line less than half the start interval after their start time, they shall start immediately.*
- *In an interval start, if the competitor is at the start line more than half the start interval after their start time, they shall start at the next available half start interval.*

New 27.7:

Competitors who are late for their start time through their own fault shall be timed as if they had started at their original start time. Competitors who are late for their start time through the fault of the organiser shall be timed from their new start time."

E&CC approved the revisions to Rule 27.6 and 27.7 with the addition of extra wording in the first bullet point after "...as soon as possible" i.e. "as deemed by a Start Official and as delegated by the Day Organiser"

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules. ACTION: TS

(v) British Orienteering Rule Change – Removal of 'Secret Heats' possibility from British Sprints:

In Competition Rule C 7.2.4 d) it was proposed that the second sentence be removed leaving text as:

"d) To increase spectator interest the organiser may wish to have competitors starting in the reverse order of their ranking positions so that the best ranked in each heat starts last."

E&CC approved this proposal.

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules. ACTION: TS

(vi) British Orienteering Rule Change – Competition Rule S – The Ranking Scheme:

The revised text as proposed in the Rule Change Form and accompanying documents reflects the changes to Competition Rule S following the recent review of the Rankings Working Party, with particular reference to the current implementation of the ranking system and to match the change in the points calculation algorithm. It removes the results file format used to submit results, which is available elsewhere on the BOF website, thereby simplifying the rule and avoids having two separate file format documents.

E&CC approved this proposal.

The Rule Change form should be progressed for incorporation into the Rules. ACTION: TS

7. Statement from E&CC to the Board re the responsibilities for managing proposed changes to the Rules of Orienteering, including the Appendices and Competition Rules, in the UK.

At the conclusion of a lengthy discussion it was agreed that CP, on behalf of the members of E&CC, would submit the following recommendation to the Board re the processes required for managing the Rules of Orienteering within the UK:

"E&CC recommends to the Board that the present system of all 'Rule Changes' being submitted to the Board for approval be changed.

Our main recommendation is that 'Rule Changes' of a technical nature e.g. changes to the size of control circles, are approved by E&CC and not submitted to the Board and that only 'Rule Changes' of a strategic nature or those that would make a fundamental change to the nature of the sport of orienteering are submitted to the Board for approval.

The decision whether a Rule is technical or strategic is to be monitored by the Board's Representative to E&CC."

ACTION: CP

In the discussion on this agenda item, a number of other points were made and agreed to by those present:

- That the Board sets out the objectives of the Rules;

- That the Rules per se primarily includes those that E&CC are prepared to enforce i.e. Rules that make sense to the membership;
- That the Rules should be slimmed down and that 'best-practice guidance' be extracted and placed into a separate document;
- That all Rules, Appendices, and Competition Rules A to I are the responsibility of E&CC, whilst specific Competition Rules J to S such as, for example, Yvette Baker Trophy and Shield, British Schools Orienteering Championships, JIRCS, SHI, VHI etc. each has an identified 'owner' (a point of contact) for receiving proposed rule changes and requests to clarify or interpret the Rules;
- That consideration be given to a group of suitably experienced members tasked with evaluating change requests and providing clear guidance to the decision makers i.e. the Board and E&CC;
- That the CEO be involved in ensuring the work process for maintaining the Rules document(s) is easy to administer;
- That the intention of the Rules and the basis for any changes is documented;
- That consideration be given to forming a 'Task and Go' group to produce recommendations to be put to the Board.

ACTION: CP

Also, as part of this discussion, CA agreed to provide a 'Guide to new Orienteers' to capture the basics of orienteering for newcomers by building on existing documentation.

ACTION: CA

8. Event Quality Control:

As part of current EOG Report EW had made the following recommendations to E&CC:

- (i) That there is a need for Organising Bodies to be fully aware of Section 17 of 2018 Rules re Event Structure and Level Requirements (pages 19 to 24) and to check and confirm that the requirements are to be met as early as is possible in the pre-Event organising and planning stages, especially for Level A Major Events.
- (ii) That completion of current enhanced Terrain Suitability Assessment Report (TSAR) is to be undertaken by all appointed Grade A Controllers for all Major Events as early as is practicable and by one year prior to the date of the Event at the latest. This to include contact details of the Event Coordinator and/or Organiser, and an Ordnance Survey Grid Reference and Postcode of access/parking for vehicles and Arena site.
- (iii) That the Organising Body submits full details of the 'O' experience of prospective Organiser(s) and Planner(s) and other nominated Events Officials if required e.g. Safety Officer, Finance Officer, as requested by E&CC and at least one year before the date of the Event.
- (iv) That consideration be given to obtaining views of competitors attending Major Events e.g. a satisfaction survey.
- (v) That there will be an expectation that all Grade A Controllers for Major Events will make a report to E&CC within 30 days of the date of the Event.
- (vi) That All Grade A Major Events Officials (Coordinator/Organiser(s)/Planner(s) and other relevant key Officials (i.e. Safety Officer) complete a Post-Event Self-Assessment.
- (vii) That serious consideration be given by E&CC to moving the Area Championships from the Rules 17.11 Level A Major Events list and to reword 17.8 to include Level B 'Southern, Northern and Midland Area Championships (and may also include the Welsh, Scottish, and NI Championships)'.

Discussion included questions such as "What is to be achieved by this?", "What specific 'standards' are to be measured?", "Who is accountable for ensuring and enforcing Event Requirements for Level A competitions?" and "Are there 'Job Descriptions' for each of the named Event Officials at all Levels of competition?". It was agreed that initially the priority of E&CC is to ensure that 'Job Descriptions' are made available for Organisers, Planners, and Controllers. CP and NM agreed to initially undertake a review of the availability of generic 'Job Descriptions' on Club and Region websites rather than 'reinventing the wheel'.

ACTION: CP and NM

Another aspect of 'Event Quality' that is regularly mentioned is the need to show the specific differences between the criteria and requirements of Level B National and Level C Regional Events and whether or not this can be easily measurable and evaluated?

9. Any Other Business:

(i) Paper from EMOA re the hosting of future Major Events:

The following was received pre-meeting from the EMOA Regional Fixtures Secretary:

"On April 9th 2018 at the EMOA meeting, I reported, as Regional Fixtures Secretary, on the March 2018 meeting of ESchG. The meeting discussed the national fixture list in relation to the Major fixtures that EMOA had been tasked to do."

Much concern was expressed at the meeting regarding the expectation being placed on the region in relation to the British Long Championships in 2021 and the JK in 2024. It was agreed that the club delegates would ask their clubs to discuss if they believed it was:

(A) Feasible for the region to put on either of these two events.

(B) If (A) was possible could the region cope in the suggested timescale?

The club delegates reported back at a meeting on 11th June.

I have been asked, by the EMOA Committee, to write to you as Chair of Events and Competitions Committee to explain the problems that EMOA has in relation to hosting the British Long Championships and the JK. Firstly, we have very few areas that are suitable for large Level A events, probably only three or four in the region. None of these are available (we cannot get access) in the mid-March to end of May time slot that would be required for the British Long Championships or JK.

Secondly, given that we have been asked to host two very large events in a fairly short timescale we are of the view that we do not have sufficient experienced members to provide the two sets of officials that would be required.

Thirdly, in terms of membership numbers, we are a very small region. We believe that we would struggle to find enough volunteers to run the events.

Our conclusion therefore, is that we do not have sufficient resources as a region to host either the British Long Championships or the JK.

We are happy to continue to host the other Level A events as these place less demands on our limited resources.”

Discussion points raised included:

- The paper from EMOA being symptomatic of the problems and difficulties in putting on larger Events within the sport as a whole;
- The availability of suitable areas at particular times of the year;
- The opportunity for Clubs to host Events such as the British Night Championship, British Sprint Championship, British Middle Distance Championships, CompassSport Cup Final etc. rather than one or more of the four Days of JK;
- Resolving the management and allocation of Events within the ESchG year-on-year rota;
- Should the JK be the subject of ‘bids’ from Regions rather than part of the rota that is inclusive of regions who ‘volunteer’ to host all of JK?
- Seeking agreement with the Elite Squad and the Manager and Coaches to shorten the M21E course within an appropriate winning time for example and then to use this to recalibrate all other course lengths;
- The importance of keeping the flexibility for ESchG within the Event Calendar/Diary and the rota amongst all of the Regions.

It was agreed to ask MC to put this item on the Agenda of the next ESchG meeting.

ACTION: MC

10. The date and venue of the next meeting of E&CC:

Saturday 17th November 2018 at The Priory Rooms Meeting and Conference Centre, 40 Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF, from 11:00 to 16:15, with pre-meeting refreshments available from 10:30 to 11:00. **ACTION: CP**
There being no further business the Chair thanked all present for their attendance and contributions to the meeting, wished all a safe journey home, and closed the meeting at 17:00.