



## **Mike's eNews – 4 April 2014**

Hi, after sending out the 'Traders & Caterers' email to a mixed set of club chairs and secretaries I received several comments about the benefits of such communications. Consequently I've set myself the task of trying to pull together a brief email containing matters of current significance which you may need to be aware of. It will be informal so please be aware there will be some 'poor' wording!

This first one is fairly crude, apologies for that, and I'll try to get around to tidying up and having a slightly nicer presentation in the future. I'm going to try to send eNews out on the first and third Fridays of each month and hopefully by making it reasonably frequent it can be kept short and more readable.

Your comments and feedback on the principle will as always be greatly appreciated.

### **Annual General Meeting**

Whilst AGMs are never the most exciting part of our calendar they are important to British Orienteering and we would love to see you and your members at this year's AGM. The AGM will be held on Friday 18th April 2014 at Swansea University, Fulton House, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP starting at 5.00pm. You can find the papers and further information [here](#).

There is a proposal put forward by some members about map scales and we would love to hear your opinions about this matter. Members' views seem to be fairly mixed so if this is a matter you feel strongly about please read about it in the AGM Booklet and come and listen to the discussion.

### **JK 2014**

I can't really mention the AGM without highlighting the JK which has a fantastic entry. It promises to be a great event and I'm sure you've made sure all your members know about it. Let's hope for good weather! I know that we will be seeking participants' opinions about how the JK has gone, map scales, etc both during and after the JK. It will be our Major Events Manager's (Sally Pygott) first JK so please make her welcome and say hello if you see her around. Sally has tried to create an environment where she has left volunteers to do the 'in forest' aspects of the event that they enjoy whilst she has tried to pick up much of the 'out of forest' work that volunteers often don't like doing. Hopefully this year's JK will go well and we'll learn a lot about how Sally can help make our major events less of a burden on our volunteers.

### **New Head of Development**

Welcome to Craig Anthony, who is joining British Orienteering as the Head of Development commencing on Monday 14 April. A news item has recently been published with a little of Craig's background but in brief he comes from GreaterSport in Manchester where he was the lead contact for national governing bodies work. Craig has worked closely with British Orienteering to develop and roll out a programme around the Community O initiative across Greater Manchester.



You will be glad to hear that part of Craig's role will be to try to increase our communications with clubs regarding development matters.

Nat Shaw and Dan Riley have both done an excellent job of keeping the 'increasing participation' programme, funded by Sport England on track since Ed Nicholas left but it will be great for me to relinquish the overseeing of some aspects of the programme to Craig once he arrives. Perhaps I'll have a little time to catch up on some of the matters that have been put to one side.

### **Welfare and DBS checks**

We've had quite a few enquires about the DBS check process in England & Wales recently. Usually it is about 'do I need a DBS check' or 'how do I get a DBS check'. We've published [new guidance](#) but in brief the responses are:

- a) Do I need a check? Yes if you are working with children on a frequent basis (weekly or regularly more than 4 times a month; Yes if you are working unsupervised; Yes if you are overnighing with children. There is a flow diagram in the new document that will give clear guidance. You do not need a DBS check in other situations.
- b) How to get a DBS check?
  - Call the Disclosure and Barring Service on 0870 90 90 811
  - Quote the registered body "**British Orienteering Federation**" and our number **2029 2900 008**
  - Request a criminal record disclosure check at **enhanced level**
  - The DBS will ask for your name and address to post the form to you for completion

Less volunteers need a check under this new regime so it is worth looking at the guidance from a club perspective and please point your coaches etc at the guidance so that they can make the right decision.

### **Talent & Performance**

There's been a lot of activity recently and even more over the next few weeks including:

- Announcement that we have just selected 12 athletes (6 men and 6 women) to compete in the World Orienteering Championships in Italy (5/12 July). A News Release was posted on the British Orienteering website on Wednesday 2 April where further information can be found on who has been selected for the Sprint, Middle, Long, Mixed Sprint Relay and Traditional Relay. This early selection means that the athletes now have 3 months to prepare to perform at their best.
- Three athletes (Hector Haines, Tessa Hill and Catherine Taylor) are competing in the 2014 World Cup Round 2, Stage 1 (Competitions 2 and 3) this weekend in Spain. This stage consists of a Long Distance race on Saturday 5 April and a Middle

Distance race on Sunday 6 April. Further information about the races can be found [here](#).

- The Performance Squad and Elite Development Squad athletes leave for Portugal next week to compete in the 2014 European Championships which are being held in Portugal with the individual qualification races starting from Thursday 10 April. The Championships conclude with the Relays on Wednesday 16 April. Brief race reports from the Championships will appear as News Releases on the British Orienteering website.
- Last weekend (28/30 March 2014), British Orienteering held their Test Races for the 2014 World Orienteering Championships, and the 2014 World University Orienteering Championships. These test races would not have been possible without the support of the planners and controllers and the local orienteering clubs. Many thanks to South Ribble Orienteering Club for allowing us to use the maps of two of their areas, for supporting the Talent and Performance programme in getting access and of course in allowing us to use their website for event information. Thanks also to West Cumbria Orienteering Club for their support with organising the test race in Keswick and allowing us to use the map of their area.
- Four athletes have been added to the team that is being sent to compete in Round 3 of the 2014 World Series which is taking place in June 2014. The 2014 World Cup Round 3 round consists of 3 races, a Middle Distance (Competition 7) and a Long Distance (Competition 8) which are being held in Kongsberg, Norway on the 7/8 June 2014 respectively and a Sprint Distance Qualification and Final (Competition 9) which are being held on the 11 June 2014 in Imatra, Finland. A News Release announcing the athletes who had been successful with their selection was posted on the British Orienteering website on Thursday 13 March.

## Board & Steering Groups

The [minutes](#) to the March Board meeting have recently been published. As always there was a lot of business to cover but we did manage to get through the agenda and make a number of decisions.

The Talent & Performance Steering Group met recently and the [minutes](#) are now published.

### Web site

For those of you that are interested you will see that we have started a major overhaul of the content on the web site and the 'Governance' section is the first section to be finished (almost!). We will be doing away with the 'Documents' section of the web site over the next couple of months to try to make the site a little easier to navigate. This will be followed by a 'refresh' of the entire site that should make it look a little more modern and use a more modern navigation approach. We hope that it will become easier to find what you are looking for as we progress with this.

### Wind up

I'll try and deal with insurance in the next eNews as there have been a number of pertinent enquires that will be of interest to many clubs but I need to conclude a series of discussions with our insurers before I can make things clearer. Just one immediate point; mappers are covered for public liability when they commence their survey and before the event is registered.

Lastly I'm minded of a **George Bernard Shaw** quote which I will leave with you:



***“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place...”***