

Minutes of the 36th Annual General

Meeting

Friday 14th April 2017 17:00-17:45

Details: Lecture Room 061, Brunel University London, Uxbridge, London

Attendees:

Craig Anthony (SELOC, British Orienteering Head of Development), Nick Barrable (SYO), Sarah-Jane Barrable (SLOW), Rory Burford (DRONGO), Scott Collier (KERNO), Mike Cope (CLARO), Sandy Cowan (KERNO), Trudy Crosby (LOG), Dominic Dakin (SYO), Jacky Dakin (SYO), Mark Dakin (SYO), Pippa Dakin (SYO), Tom Dobra (BOK), Bob Dredge (WCH, British Orienteering Treasurer), Carol Dredge (WCH), Sarah Dredge (WCH), Peter Entwistle (BKO), Mike Forrest (BOK), Sarah Gales (TVOC), Simon Greenwood (SAX), Philip Gristwood (MV), Mike Hamilton (LEI, British Orienteering Chief Executive), Judith Holt (DVO, British Orienteering Chair) Chris James (NGOC), Gillian James (NGOC), Chris Johnson (BOK), Beatrice Law (BOK), Paul L'Estrange (BAOC), Robert Lines (SO), David Maliphant (LOC), Lindsay Malone (CUOC), Kevin McNee (DVO), Tim O'Donoghue (SOLWAY), David Peel (SYO), Jenny Peel (SYO), Nathan Peel (SYO), Oscar Peel (SYO), Matthew Pickering (UBOC), Amanda Roberts (LOG), David Rosen (SROC), Miriam Rosen (SROC) Stephen Round (SELOC), Ben Stevens (AIRE), Ian Turner (SOLWAY), Arthur Vince (KERNO), Christine Vince (KERNO), Julie Webster (NOC), Mark Webster (NOC), Alan Yeadon (SARUM), Liz Yeadon (SARUM)
(50 members)

Minute Taker: Scott Parker

Apologies:

Arthur Boyt (KERNO), Sue Boyt (KERNO), Pat Cameron (NGOC), Neil Cameron (NGOC), Anne Braggins (WAOC), Martin Ward (SYO) Lesley Ward (SYO), Ernie Williams (LEI), Phillip Baxter (LVO), Helen Baxter (LVO), Olivia Baxter (LVO).

1. Welcome & Thanks

The Chair, Judith Holt, thanked the organisers of the JK and British Orienteering staff for the JK and AGM. Before the main business of the AGM The Chair reminded the room that British Orienteering are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the formation of British Orienteering and pointed out the display boards in the room which highlighted some of the history over that time.

The Chair continued by explaining that a lot had happened in the development of the Federation and orienteering over the 50 years and to mark the development, a short film is being made along with a special feature in the next edition of Focus which will outline the History. The Chair mentioned that the highlights will include hosting four World Championships, (3 Foot Orienteering and 1 TrailO) and providing two IOF Presidents (Sue Harvey and Brian Porteus) and our World Orienteering Championship Individual medal winners, Yvette Baker, Jamie Stevenson, Scott Fraser and Heather Munro and our Relay winners, Graham Gristwood, John Duncan and Jamie Stevenson.

The Chair stated that the 50th Anniversary is an appropriate time to look back and thank the thousands of orienteers from across all four of the UK home nations who have contributed countless hours as volunteers; organising, planning and controlling events, running our clubs and associations and contributing to the many facets of running British Orienteering, the National Governing Body for orienteering. The Chair also mentioned that it is a time to look forward and consider how the sport will continue to develop over the next 50 years and stated that technology will be a strong feature and that we must consider how to manage and organise events in the context of the development of, and competition from many more adventurous outdoor sports and events.

The Chair highlighted that one of the orienteers that has drawn her attention to the need to consider new ways of doing things is Chris James in his role as Events and Competitions Committee Chair. Chris has held many roles in British Orienteering over the years and was in attendance at the inaugural meeting of British Orienteering held on the 17th June 1967. The Chair stated that it was only fitting to ask Chris to open the celebrations in the time honoured manner of cutting a celebration cake. The Chair also mentioned that a celebratory cake was cut at the 40th anniversary by John Disley, The Chair then invited Chris to the front to make the first cut.

Chris James pointed out that when John Disley cut the cake at the 40th anniversary he thanked the then Chairman for having the forethought to celebrate the 40th anniversary because, he said, who knows whether I will be here at the 50th. Chris cut the cake and The Chair moved onto the formal business of the meeting.

2. Request for AOB Items

The Chair asked the floor if there were any items of any other business.

Tim O'Donoghue (SOLWAY) requested if the General Direction of learning within the organisation could be added.

Scott Collier (KERNO) requested that the consultation on preserving the free use of public parks could be added.

The chair thanked both for their suggestions and explained that discussions will be held at the end of the meeting.

3. Minutes of the 35th AGM held on Friday 25th March 2016

There being no matter or queries raised the minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

Proposer: Scott Collier (KERNO) Seconder: Chris James (NGOC)

4. Chair's Report

No questions raised.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Bob Dredge pointed out that the expenditure table on page 19 of the annual report does not add up correctly and that under major events, the total should be 223.4 not 227.0. Bob continued by explaining that British Orienteering had made an unexpected surplus in 2016 all be it a small surplus. Bob also touched on the work of Mike Hamilton and the Board of Directors in deciding what direction to take to enable British Orienteering to become self-funding. A decision had been taken to split the excess reserves into three with one third being held back, the second third to be used for any issues that may arise over the next year and the final third on a staff member, introducing an Orienteering Services Officer. Bob finished by explaining that the auditors had gone over the accounts and are happy that they are accurate.

Christine Vince responded by saying that she is pleased to hear that there is more support in the office, Christine continued to express that as she is regularly in contact with the national office she is aware that the staff are under pressure.

6. CEO Report

No questions raised.

8. Proposal 1: Accounts

No questions were raised; the accounts were adopted by a show of hands.

9. Proposal 2: Adoption of Auditors

No questions were raised; the re-appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors was adopted by a show of hands.

10. Elections

Re-election of Sir Chris Bonington as President of British Orienteering had been proposed by the board.

The re-election of the President was unanimous, supported by a show of hands.

Elected Directors

The Chair stated that the board has six elected directors and three appointed independent directors. Martin Ward, an elected director, will be standing down after completing his third year of his third term. Judith Holt, is standing for re-election. John Flook, Senior Independent Director has resigned due to personal circumstances. The Chair acknowledged Martin's commitment to the Board over the past nine years including his time as chair. The Chair also acknowledged John's help and support during his time with the board and mentioned that a gift will be handed to both to show our appreciation.

The Chair identified that she had reached the end of her second term of office on the board and had put herself forward for re-election. There being no other nominations for directors the she was re-elected as an elected director of British Orienteering for her third and final term.

The Chair reminded everyone that there is now a vacancy on the Board for an elected director and that the Board has the power to co-opt someone if they wish. The Chair stated that when the Board has taken a decision about this, members will be informed.

11. Any Other Business

Tim O'Donoghue (SOLWAY) started by asking about the general direction of learning by the organisation. Tim explained that whilst running an Event Safety Workshop they discussed the risks and safety at events. Tim pointed out that the focus is mainly on trips and falls but the biggest risk is traffic accidents in the car park at the end of events. Tim explained that one of the attendees at the workshop witnessed a child get run over which made Tim think that he hadn't heard about this previously. Tim asked if there is a way that communication of these incidents can be shared amongst organisers, as the knowledge of organisers is built through experience. Tim asked how we share learning between officials? Tim went on to give another example of a club clearing dibbers before runners had finished and expressed his opinion that we need a mechanism for sharing knowledge and experiences.

The chair responded by explaining that more targeted communication is identified in the strategic plan and over the next year more electronic newsletters will be sent out to everyone 'on the ground'. The Chair pointed out that this isn't a total answer but we are thinking on the same lines of more frequent, more targeted communication.

Miriam Rosen (SROC) added that there is already a lot of guidance out there including SI so we do not need to re-invent the wheel but build upon what is already available.

Trudy Crosby (LOG) explained that she works for the NHS and incident reports, at every level, are listed on the website.

The Chair moved onto Scott Collier's question regarding the governments consultation on preserving the free use of public parks. The government is consulting on proposals to legislate to put it beyond doubt that local authorities, including parish councils, cannot charge parkrun or junior parkrun for the use of public parks. Scott expressed that this would be a good opportunity for orienteering to become involved.

Mike Hamilton explained that British Orienteering works closely with the Sport and Recreation Alliance who will be aware of the situation and will involve orienteering.

It was agreed that members be kept up to date regarding the consultation.

Sarah-Jane Barrable added that our events are led by volunteers which should highlight the fact that we are like parkrun, not making a profit and being organised by volunteers.

The Chair thanked everyone for their input and moved onto the Volunteer and Mapping Awards

12. British Orienteering Awards Ceremony

The Chair announced the awards and the nominees and handed the trophies and certificates to the winners;

Volunteer Awards

Young Volunteer of the Year: awarded to **Dom Dakin**, South Yorkshire Orienteers.

University Club of the Year: awarded to **Cambridge University Orienteering Club**.

Club of the Year: awarded to **Solway Orienteers**.

Silva Award Services to Orienteering: awarded to **Anthony McGonigle**, North West Orienteering Club

Peter Palmer Coach of the Year Award: was awarded to **Liz Yeadon**, Sarum Orienteers

Mapping Awards

The Chichester Trophy, presented for the best map by an amateur mapper;
Awarded to **Ben Mitchell**, Swansea Bay Orienteering Club, for **Sugar Loaf**.

The Silva Trophy, presented for best map produced by professional mappers;
Awarded to **Dave Peel**, Peel Land Surveys, for **Penicuik Ladywood**.

The Walsh Trophy, sponsored by Walsh Shoes, for the best urban or sprint map to ISSOM standards.
Awarded to **Dave Peel**, Peel Land Surveys, for **Penicuik Ladywood**.

The Bonington Trophy, awarded annually for the best contribution to mapping.
Awarded to **Chris Johnson**, Bristol Orienteering Club.

The Chair wished everyone a safe journey home and thanked the attendees for their input into the conversations.

The Chair then closed the AGM at 17:45.