

APPENDICES A - J TO THE MINUTES OF E&CC MEETING HELD AT CARRS LANE CHURCH CENTRE,  
BIRMINGHAM, ON SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2016

E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX A:  
ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 02-07-2016

- **Rules:** It was noted that the Competition Rules for the British Sprint Championships had not been updated on the website to take account of possible changes for 2016. **Action: BE/HE**  
*Competition Rules have been updated on the website*
  - The Board has decreed no Rule changes before 2017, other than corrections. CP will re-check David May's report to ascertain which operational changes can be made to the British Sprint Championships. **Action: CP**  
*Actioned and changes made*
  - **Day 2 of JK** as a Middle Distance to have broader consultation for future years. Already agreed for 2017. MC to take this to ESchG meeting in 3 weeks for further discussion with Associations, reporting back to July 3 meeting of E&CC. **Action: MC/ESchG**  
*Actioned; 2017 and 2018 will be staging a middle on Day 2.*
  - **WRE:** Protocol Document re applications to hold WRE in UK agreed. CP to circulate Regional Fixture Secretaries and email requests. WRE can include Level B events. Document about WRE to be included in British Orienteering library for events **Action: CP**  
*Actioned*
  - **Rankings:** MH/TS awaiting meeting with the developer **Action: MH/TS**  
*MH has spoken with the developers and will produce a response to the ranking recommendations*
  - **Sprint Relays:** Logistics of Sprint and Middle distance BOC on same weekend. ESchG to decide whether flexibility is possible. MC to come back to E&CC **Action: MC/ESchG**  
*Actioned*
  - **Membership:** Where Open Club has members in different Associations, the Club must make it clear to which Association the club belongs for purpose of certain competitions. To be clear in competition Rules. TS to see what changes are necessary **Action: TS**  
*This is more complex than appears at first glance and members appreciated that it is within the authority of associations to resolve this problem – at the very least competitions rules can be used to define the clubs and their members able to take part in an association's competition.*
  - **Event Safety Workshop:** This is mandatory for all Event Officials by 1st January. 2017 **Action: MH**  
*Confirmed and action is being taken in many parts of the country. MH to remind Clubs of this in next edition of his E-news (Actioned)*
  - **Training for Different Levels of Officials:** Training for Organisers to be discussed at next meeting. Simplification is needed overall. **Action: Agenda item for next meeting**  
*An agenda item for 12-11-2016*
  - **Yvette Baker Trophy:** Coordinator role has now been taken on by Sarah Mansel. **Action: SM**
  - **Major Events Conference:** *Chris Philips is leading on the organisation of the Major Events Conference.* **Action: CP**  
*MH has removed the clauses from Appendix C as requested.*
  - **Contact & contactless cards:** **Action: MH**  
*Advice regarding these two types of card not being used in the same competitive class has been published on the website.*
  - **Elite:** **Action: CJ**  
*Changing course criteria for JK is an agenda item for 12-11-2016*
  - **Strategic Plan:** **Action: CJ**  
*An agenda item for 12-11-2016*
  - **Rules:** **Action: CJ**  
*An agenda item for 12-11-2016*
  - **Something Old and Something New:** **Action: CJ**  
*An agenda item for 12-11-2016*
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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX B:  
REPORT TO EVENTS & COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE OCTOBER 2016**

**(a) The following operational matters have been dealt with since the last meeting in July of E&CC:**

1. Request from George Esson for changes to Appendix B 5.1.3 after a Jury decision at an event. The matter was given consideration by EW, BE and CP and the request was rejected.
2. Request from the Organiser of the Southern Championships/November Classic for a dispensation to use digital printing for the map. Input from BE, MC, EW. Request agreed.
3. Request from the Organiser of the BMSC 2017 to for a dispensation to use digital printing for the map. Request supported by the Event Mapping Adviser. Agreed by Mapping Group.
4. WRE's. Applications for WRE's on Days 1, 2 & 3 at the JK 2017 and on Day 3 of the Scottish 6 Days 2017 have been submitted to IOF. The JK days have received approval. At the time of writing we have not heard about the Scottish 6 Days.
5. The Major Events Conference was organised on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Charnwood College, Loughborough. There were 35 attendees. A number issues raised at the conference require the attention of E &CC. They appear in the next section.
6. E &CC advice on not mixing contact and contact less e cards. Given that a number of events have used a mix of both contact and contact less e cards, it is clear that the advice is not being followed.

**(b) Matters outstanding from previous meetings:**

1. JK Day 2. Permission has been given for JK 2017 and 2018 to be Middle distance days for all courses. The longer term issue of whether this is to be a permanent feature has yet to be resolved.
2. British Sprint Mixed Relays. Graham Gristwoods report on the trial event in Sheffield and his revision of the proposed competition rule has been circulated to members for discussion at the meeting.
3. Guideline changes to British Relays. Still outstanding from November 2015 meeting.

**(c) New Items for Discussion.**

1. Event Safety Training. Appendix C omits this for planners. Possible re write required for the Appendix.
2. UKOL. Currently ESG look after the scheduling of the events that comprise the league. However there is no designated person who has ownership of the League. Should we seek a volunteer to coordinate the league in a similar way to Sarah Mansel's appointment as YBT coordinator?
3. Items from MEC for discussion:
  - (i) "Foul weather kit" - is the present rule requirement of a "hooded waterproof jacket" sufficient or should we look at introducing something similar to that required by the Fell Running Association.
  - (ii) If "foul weather kit" is required should there checks at the finish as well as the start?
  - (iii) The current competition rules for Level A events require separate M/W10B Championship courses and white non Championship courses. Given that the numbers for both courses are often low and in some areas given the nature of the terrain it may be very difficult to plan aTD1 course, should we provide an option in the competition rules for these two courses to be combined?
  - (iv) Should E&CC make a recommendation or make it a requirement that for Major Events there should be a known deputy for all major officials and perhaps team leaders?
  - (v) Should we revert to the requirement that complaints are made in writing and accompanied by a fee?

(vi) A view was expressed at the Major Events Conference in September that the eligibility rules for the various elements of the British Championships are too onerous and impractical to apply.

(vii) A view was expressed that greater publicity should be given to the existence and application of the British Orienteering Disciplinary Procedure, as it affects competitors.

(viii) Forthcoming rule changes should be made known to Major Events Organisers in good time so that they can be implemented.

Chris Phillips.  
26.10.16

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## **E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX C: FROM MIKE COPE AS CHAIR OF ESCHG FOR E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016**

### **Tasks concluded since July 2016**

1. ESG meeting held on 15 October. Good progress made. Minutes done - should soon be on BO website.
2. Lists and planners updated. BO planner attached.
3. Some key dates sorted out and rotas revised.

### **Tasks progressing update**

Still searching for hosts for some junior events.

Possibilities found for British Mixed Sprint Relays for 2017 and beyond – to be finalised if approval given for event to happen.

Organising British Middles 2017 at Wendover.

UKOL 2017 is almost finalised. Not yet asked for details. ESG is responsible for scheduling but does anyone have overall responsibility for planning, checking and monitoring? Feel that E&CC should discuss.

The fixtures list is still too crowded. ESG succeeds in scheduling but not easy. Area Champs causing some concern. Can we have the same flexibility as for Scottish and Welsh Champs i.e. A or B level? This was rejected before but it could make things easier as Area Champs could be added to existing B events which would not consider going to level A.

### **Tasks planned but not yet started**

- ext EShG meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

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## **E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX D: BMSROC- Report on Trial Event from Graham Gristwood**

### **Summary and Proposal**

- Trial was a success, but there was debate about the format.
- Introduce official British Mixed Sprint Relay Championships from 2017.
- Combine with British Sprint Championships to make a 'sprint weekend' as soon as possible.
- Alter format to the following:

- Elite class WMMW (as international standard), runners may only run once. Only competitive teams allowed. Will be low numbers but high prestige and good international preparation.
- Open class with 3 legs. At least one man and one woman per team (free order). Not Championship status. Mixed teams / non – competitive teams allowed.
- Veteran/Junior, Super veteran and Young Junior classes with 3 legs. At least one man and one woman per team (free order). Only competitive teams allowed. Veteran/Junior class and Open class can be combined.

## Reports from Relevant Parties Regarding 2016 Trial

### Instigator – Graham Gristwood

*I took part in the event and really enjoyed it. SYO hosted a good event on a good map at a good venue. The courses were interesting and challenging. The gaffling was over-simple, with essentially only 4 different courses – this meant it was easy to work out who was running the same gaffling combination – and as it happened the top 2 teams on the Open class had the same all the way as no seeding was applied. Much of the debate was over the format rather than the principle – everybody in attendance was positive of the initiative, and many had views about how it should be taken forward! It was noticeable that there were many more women running twice than men, and some teams (non-comp) failed to even find one woman to run! I will write more in my summary/conclusions regarding my thoughts.*

### Controller – Ranald MacDonald

*When I was asked to be Controller I said that I'd neither planned nor controlled sprints or relays before but had planned and controlled urbans, including Nottingham and Lincoln. I found your documentation useful but very much looked to others for advice on gaffles, etc.*

*I had problems communicating with Michael because he was out of the country for a significant time just before the event. However, I did get to meet Martin on site. My initial observations were largely about control sites, particularly the lack of gripple points. I made the observation that there did seem to be very few alternative legs/gaffles.*

*Martin did a significant amount of work to add controls and courses to meet the requirements of the trial.*

***My main observation on the day was that, where a member or members of a team ran more than once they had a significant advantage as they had done many of the legs before - something you also noted. This means that teams either have to have 3/4 or there needs to be a significant difference between the courses/legs. The area seemed ideal for the format.***

***Most people I spoke enjoyed the format as, unlike the British Relay Championships, there was more likely to be head to head racing.*** However, the challenge is to get people to pay a significant amount of money for a short race. perhaps the only way to do this - as suggested on the day and on Nopesport - is to link it with the British Sprint Championships, giving competitors three runs over the weekend and bundle it up as a Sprint weekend with a single fee.

**Comments (GG)** – *I would agree with the comment that there was a significant advantage in this relay in having run before. I would discount the final sentence – there are plenty of people who are willing to run the JK Sprint for example, so I don't think cost is an issue at all*

### Planner – Michael (and Charlie) Adams

*However, we agree that it is impossible to produce a satisfactory relay if athletes are allowed to run more than once competitively. In order to provide two completely different legs for the men (and the same for women) without gaffling the men's course against the women's you end up with 4 distinct courses. The first legs will soon work out who is doing their course and therefore be able to follow the whole way. Leg 3's would also then know who is doing which course.*

*Solution: either don't allow multiple runs or have a separate classification for teams with less than the required number of runners.*

*Would it not also help to make the Open relay 3 legs: MWM as that roughly reflects the numbers within British Orienteering? This should help more clubs get out competitive teams.*

**Comments (GG)** – *A more complex forking system would solve most of this issue. MWM would leave a problem as to whether to have an unforked women's leg, or to gaffle it against the men – neither of which would be ideal.*

## **Co-ordinator – Peter Gorvett**

### **Generally good format**

*I think it generally worked well and will be a good event; I'd support it becoming a British Championships. Despite the low numbers it was exciting.*

### **Risks in allowing repeat teams to compete for same trophies**

*My post on Nopesport was:*

*"I think the draft rules which allow two or three people to be competitive on the 2-man/2-woman open make it very difficult to plan. How can you create gaffles which provide much new terrain for the second run without losing the head-to-head element of a high-speed relay?*

*"I recognise the desire to make it more inclusive by allowing clubs that don't have two elite-standard men and two elite-standard women to compete, but am not convinced that such a team should become British Champions. Maybe there should be a "smaller clubs" British Champion trophy for those teams that have repeat runs? (Not sure how to define a small club though, ShUOC and EUOC would probably qualify using the CSC rules)."*

*Nothing in the discussion changed my view. I feel that if you wish to keep repeat runs competitive you need to drop "men must not be gaffled against women" rule. Even so to make it fair you will need half the field doing first part of the course in a different area than the other half of the field, coming together for a common control and then setting off to two different areas again. In many venues, trying to make repeat teams complete fairly against non-repeat teams will dominate the planning and risk degrading the event for everyone. Will less head-to-head racing also spoil the hoped-for TV coverage?*

### **Spread of start times over 2.5 hours**

*Our event only had mass-start time for open different with other classes starting together, but guidelines suggest gaps between mass-starts of 45 minutes for 3-man classes, 60 minutes for open, targeting to finish each course before starting the next. I'm not sure about this, as it extends the whole event over three and a half hours. Although many people will be happy to spectate, there will also be many who won't be keen to wait for a couple of hours or more for other members of their party or the prizegiving, especially in bad weather. Courses may need to stay open for four hours to handle all the stragglers, which is as long as at BRC. I'd suggest more overlapping, with a mass start a few minutes before the leaders of the previous course or even just keeping the open separate with much more overlapping of the other courses. [Also eliminates risk with your proposal that slightly long race times mean finish on one course is actually just after or during the mass start for the next].*

**Comments (GG)** – *Same discussion about gaffling etc – see my conclusions. Start times is a tricky one – a lot depends on the numbers and the venue/terrain/planning etc – don't want kids getting mown over by first leg packs etc, and it would be nice to have some spectator value.*

## **Organiser – Martin Ward**

*I think the arrangement for start times and spectating of other races very much depends on the size of the event. For the relatively small event, I thought two different start times was sufficient. In retrospect, we could probably have got away with one start time (or perhaps two, with only a very small overlap).*

*I think the desire for the event to not last too long is greater than the desire to watch other races, which suggests there is no need for each race to be run separately.*

*Several others have commented already on the gaffling issues. We did have 8 different gaffles for the Open class, but I reduced this to 4 when it came to map printing, as we didn't have enough entries to justify 8. It was unfortunate (random) that the leading two teams ended up on the same gaffle. Had seeding been applied, this would have been avoided.*

*I think I'd prefer not to have the option of runners running twice. I can see that this might be attractive if the event was held on its own, but if coupled with another sprint race over a weekend, I think there is no need. Perhaps go for MWM rather than two women. I don't think it would matter for a British Champs if the format*

*didn't match the WMMW format of WOC, and it would better match the profile of athletes participating in the UK (i.e. about one third are women).*

*I thought the classes worked fine, and I made a reasonable combination of classes onto courses. The only issue we had was that the M16- should have been running further, but couldn't because of road traffic, and hence they had to stay within the University campus. Their course was slightly too short as a consequence.*

*I like the idea of a sprint and sprint relay weekend, with the British middle champs detached from the sprint and therefore potentially held at a different time of year, perhaps coupled with the British nights.*

*Sprint is not to everyone's liking, and nor is relay, which means that I expect we'll never get as many people taking part in Sprint relays as forest relays. None the less, it would be a good event to get established for those that do want to run it.*

**Comments (GG)** – *It was very unfortunate that seeding was not applied – very little effort for an important outcome. Martin and I have similar views in general.*

### **Conclusions and suggestions for going forward**

My feeling is that the trial was a resounding success, and despite the 'last minute' organisational approach, there were enough teams to make it worthwhile, and the feedback was almost unanimously positive. With a longer outlook, I foresee a much more popular event.

Therefore I propose that Mixed Sprint Relay be added to the list of British Championships events from 2017, and combined with the Sprint Championships in some way as soon as possible.

### **Discussion**

There needs to be a discussion regarding (a) the format and (b) where the race fits in the calendar.

(a) In general participants liked the format, but is clear that allowing runners to run twice is not optimal. There were no complaints about the format for classes other than the Open class. This leaves several possible options for the Open class-

1- Keep the format as it is (MWMW – runners can run twice), but make sure the courses are suitably different for the first and second run – i.e. legs 1 and 2 are forked together, and legs 3 and 4 are forked together, but on an entirely different course, potentially even on a different part of the map. The downside of this is that men and women are forked together which will never be 100% fair. Probably also needs more work from the organisers to have a larger area / more courses / more controls.

2 – Change the format to WMMW (as it is internationally), don't allow runners to run twice, and accept that there will be a lower number of entries. This could be called the 'Elite' class, and there could be a separate 'Open' class of 3 legs MWM to be run in conjunction with the other classes (but without British Championship status).

3 – Change the format to MWM (or similar), don't allow runners to run twice, and accept that either the women's leg is ungaffled or that men and gaffled against the men. Fits the British Orienteering demographic better, but has some major downsides as mentioned.

My preference is option 2, and change the 'ad hoc' class to an 'open' class which can be combined with the Veteran/Junior class – this reduces the number of courses from 5 to 4 (although numbers might dictate that 5 are needed). This option highlights the status of the elite class as the premier class, even if it will be quite a small number of teams. Other courses/classes kept the same.

I propose that the event organisers can decide a timetable for the starts – perhaps after one or two years a fixed schedule can be implemented once we have more experience/knowledge.

(b) Options -

1 – Combined weekend with the British Sprint Championships to make a weekend (British Middle Championships moved to a more appropriate time with regards to vegetation in the spring/autumn)

2 – Combined weekend with the British Sprint Championships and the British Middle Championships – i.e. instead of qualification and final for the Sprint Championships, there is a straight final in the morning, and a Mixed Sprint Relay Championships in the afternoon, with the Middle Championships held on the other day.

3 – Attached to some other event (e.g. Compass Sport Cup?) or free-standing

**My preference would be for option 1, as this maintains the optimal format for the Sprint Championships, whilst providing the opportunity for a 'Sprint Championships' weekend which is not restricted by having to be paired with a forest race, and can be scheduled late in the spring or summer when vegetation would be restrictive for forest races. Option 2 could also be acceptable as qualification for the Sprint Championships is not universally popular, it would mean approximately the same work load as now, rather than adding 'another' race to the calendar. Downside is still the restrictions imposed by combining with the Middle Distance Champs. Option 3 should be avoided if possible, as if this is a Championships event, it should be treated as such and not as an add on to another event.**

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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX E:  
British Mixed Sprint Relay Orienteering Championships  
Draft Guidelines September 2016**

## **Background**

Mixed Sprint Relay is now part of WOC each year (since 2014), there is an annual World Cup (officially since 2015) and it is part of the World Games every 4 years. Most developed orienteering countries now have a national championships.

A trial event was held by South Yorkshire Orienteers in 2016 which has informed this amended document.

**Amendments to previous version in red.**

## **IOF Guidelines**

### **The profile**

*The Sprint Relay profile is mixed-gender high-speed head-to-head competition. It takes place in an urban and park environment. The format is a combination of the Sprint and Relay concepts. There are four legs and the first and last legs must be run by women.*

### **Course planning considerations**

*A relatively small area is required for a competition (especially with the use of an arena passage). The event shall be easy to understand for the spectators. It should be possible to cover at least 70-80 % of the course with TV cameras. The competition should be based on a 75 minute live broadcasting and arena production concept; 15 minutes should be allocated for broadcasting introductions, interviews and prize-giving ceremonies. An arena passage should be used, if possible without compromising course quality too much. When there is a comprehensive TV coverage on the course, the arena passage may not always be required. This also gives more flexibility for course planning and may enable better and more challenging courses. Two loops per leg should be used if there is an arena passage with one loop printed on each side of the map. Courses shall be forked. GPS tracking is required and "touch-free" punching should be considered.*

### **The map**

*The ISSOM specification shall be followed. The map scale is 1:4000 or 1:5000. It is crucial that the map is correct and possible to interpret at high speed, and that the mapping of features that affect route choice and speed are accurate. In non-urban areas, the correct mapping of conditions reducing running speed, both to degree and extent, is important. In urban areas, barriers hindering the passage must be correctly represented and drawn to size.*

### **Winning time, start interval and timing**

*The winning time (the total time for the winning team) shall be 55-60 minutes. The time for each leg shall be 12-15 minutes so the first and last legs (which are run by women) should be a little shorter than the second and third legs. In WOC timing shall preferably be made by electronic means, but manual systems may be used. At the finish line there shall be photo-finish equipment to assist in judging the placings.*

## **Suggested British Orienteering Guidelines**

These Rules are to be used in conjunction with the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering. Where these Rules vary or supplement British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering, then this Competition Rule will take precedence.

## **General information**

### **Purpose**

- To find the British Mixed Sprint Relay Champions in each relevant age class.  
**To provide a high standard of domestic relay competition for all members of British Orienteering through a high quality event.**
- For the **Elite** class, the event is intended to provide an equivalent type of competition to that held at the World Orienteering Championships.
- **Format**
- Single day, relay race for teams of three (or four in the **elite** class), run in age classes.
- **Administration**
- The British Mixed Sprint Relay Orienteering Championships are organised by constituent Associations or by clubs (known as The Organising Body) on behalf of British Orienteering.

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**he British Mixed Sprint Relay Orienteering Championships must be registered as a Level A event.**

- Applications to request variation to the Competition Rules must be made to Events and Competitions Committee.
- Full details of all the requirements of a level A event are contained in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and supplemented by these rules.
- The Mixed Sprint Relay Championships could be held **in conjunction with** the British Sprint Distance Orienteering Championships.
- The exact details of responsibility are set out in the Partnership Agreement.
- The Co-ordinator/Organiser may be required to make regular reports on the progress of the event to their Association and to Events and Competitions Committee.

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- **Competition and Eligibility**

- **Eligibility**

- The Championships are open to members of the British Orienteering Federation and to members of overseas IOF affiliated Federations.
- To be eligible to be British Mixed Sprint Relay Champions (all classes except for **open**), all members of a team must meet the club representation eligibility requirements in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and the individual eligibility requirements.
- To be eligible to be a British Champion, an individual competitor must on the day immediately preceding the day of competition in question be a member of British Orienteering and either be a British citizen or have been a member of British Orienteering in each of the three membership years preceding the year of the competition.
- For Juniors who are not British citizens, the membership criteria is as in British Sprint Championships rules.
- To be eligible for British Mixed Sprint Relay Championship trophies and medals, all the members of a relay team must be eligible under the criteria specified above and the team must be representing a club which, on the day immediately before the day of competition in question, is affiliated to British Orienteering
- In the elite class the UK Relay League Neighbouring Clubs Alliance may apply - Geographically adjacent clubs are permitted to form combined teams ("Alliances"). Two clubs that wish to form such an alliance must satisfy the following criteria: The two combining clubs must be geographically adjacent. Neither club has fielded a team that finished in the top ten of the overall UK Relay league standings in the previous year in either the Men's or Women's competitions (**note - need to see will work in practice – perhaps one gender needs to have been outside top 10 rather than both**). Alliance teams must be treated as competitive, and will be eligible to win trophies. Any clubs who wish to take advantage of this proposal must notify Events and Competitions Committee and be approved before January 31st of the year in which they wish to form the Alliance.
- **Shadowing**
- The shadowing of any competitor on a Championship course is not permitted.
- **Trophies and/or Medals**
- British Championship Trophies will be presented to the winners of each age class relay team. British Championship medals if applicable will be awarded to the first, second and third placed competitors in these classes.
- Competitors are only eligible for British Championship medals and trophies in the age class they have entered and if they satisfy the Eligibility requirements above.
- **Badge Scheme**
- Does not apply.
- **Ranking Scheme**
- Does not apply
- **Embargo**
- For level A championship classes, competitors must declare themselves non-competitive if their acquaintance with the terrain would give them substantial advantage over other competitors. Nothing that occurred more than 24 months before the date of the event will be taken into account.
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- **Safety**
- Event Officials must refer to British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and Appendix E: Event safety for detailed information on the required and recommended safety and risk management procedures
- Safety and fairness must be prime considerations, particularly with regard to road traffic.

**The risk of accidents involving traffic should be reduced either by closing roads to traffic or by selecting enclosed areas such as parks or university campuses where there is no traffic or where occasional low speed traffic can be safely controlled Officials**

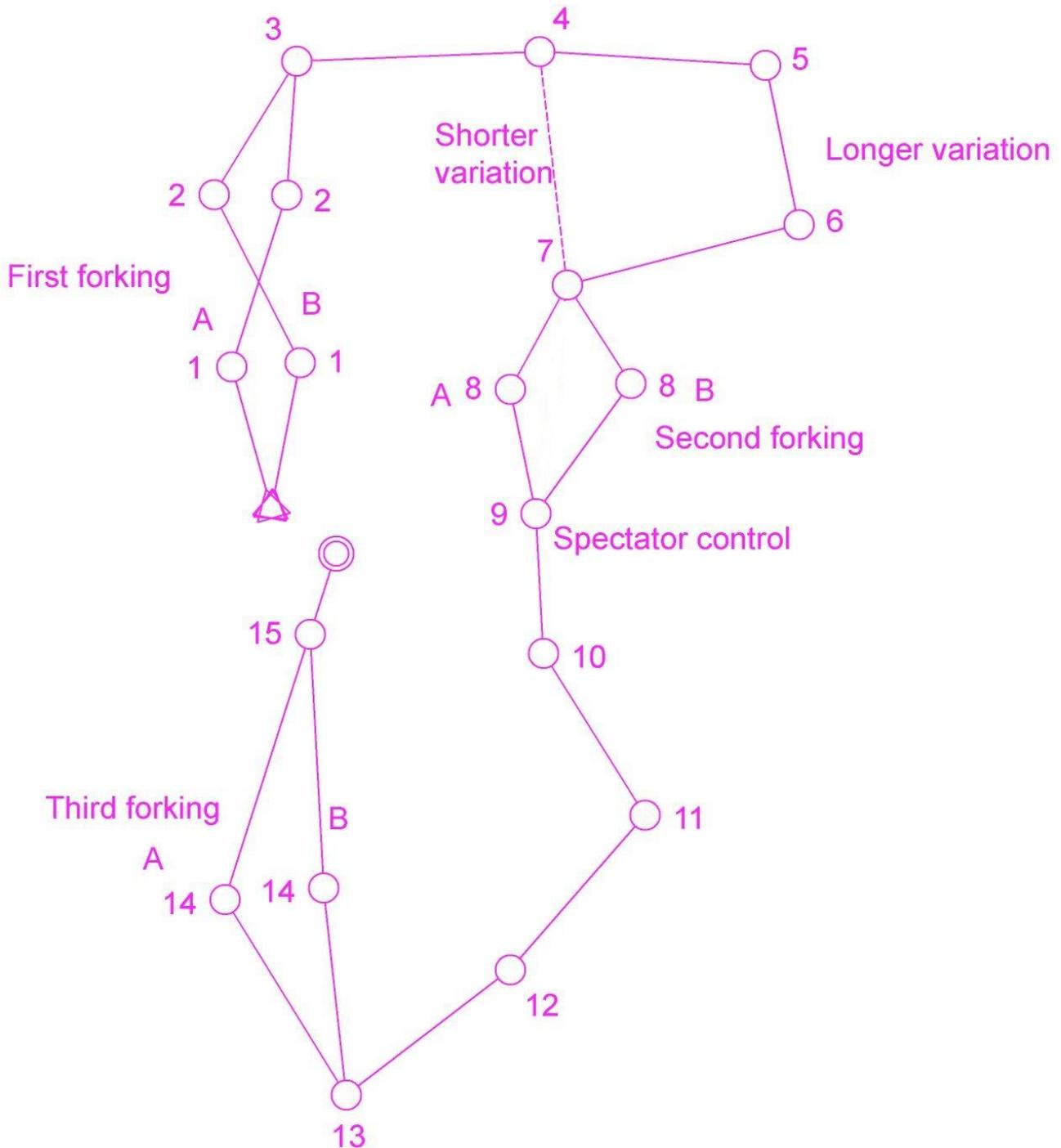
- Co-ordinator: to be appointed by the Organising Body, confirmed by the relevant Association and approved by Events and Competitions Committee.
- Organiser and Planner: to be appointed by the Organising Body, confirmed by the relevant Association and approved by Events and Competitions Committee.
- Controller: Grade A controller to be appointed by Events and Competitions Committee
- See British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and Appendix C: Event officials for full details on the requirements for Event Officials at level A events.
- The Planner and Controller should have experience of sprint orienteering.
- Other Advisers are to be appointed as appropriate. This may include Mapping, Elite, Environment; appointment is to be made by Events and Competitions Committee.
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- **Organisation**
- **General**
- Full details of the requirements for a level A event are covered in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and the Partnership Agreement.
- **Additional requirements**
- Competitors must be reminded in the Event Details that any attempt to 'see' the map before they start renders their team liable to disqualification.
- **Seeding**
- Organisers must attempt to seed teams in order to prevent potential winners having identical gaffles.
- Teams to be seeded include those which finished in the top 10 in the class in question in the previous year. Also, any other teams which are considered to be competitive **should** be included.
- The number of seeds should be a minimum of three. Once a list of seeded teams is identified, they should be ranked 1, 2, 3 etc.
- The actual number of seeds depends on the chosen system of gaffling.
- **Starts**
- All classes running the same course must start at the same time.
- Suggested start times **to be decided by the event organisers in order to maximise the number of spectators for the Elite race, and to take into account entry number and safety considerations.**
- **Mini-mass Starts**
- Arrangements for mini-mass starts must be publicised in the Event Details
- Competitors in mini-mass starts must have their team numbers recorded by an official. The Start official must record the actual time of start manually as well as through their e-card.
- Participation in a mini-mass start does not disqualify a team unless previous notice has been given that this will be the case.
- The planning and organisation should be such as to minimise the numbers of competitors likely to be involved in a mini mass start, however Competitors awaiting previous lap runners who are long overdue should be started in a mini-mass start to avoid the competition going on too long.
- **Finish, timing and results**
- The results of each relay class are decided by the order in which the last lap runner passes the Finishing line. (Subject to any disqualifications & mispunches).
- Time must be allowed and the opportunity for appeals against disqualifications to be considered and resolved well before the prize-giving.
- However at least 'race time' should be displayed along with team positions on the day, with individual times appearing in the printed results.
- As well as team times and positions, the published results should show individual times and details of the course variants.
- **GPS Tracking**
- The use of GPS tracking for the top teams in the **Elite** class should be considered.
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- **Map and Terrain**
- **Quality of terrain**
- The terrain for the British Sprint Orienteering Championships must be predominantly very runnable park or urban, or a combination of these. Some fast runnable forest may be included.

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- **Grade A Controller appointed by Events and Competitions Committee must assess the suitability of the venue before the event is confirmed. The terrain is to be sufficiently complex to allow courses to be set which force competitors to make frequent rapid decisions and to concentrate throughout the race.**
- Areas so complex that it is doubtful whether a competitor can interpret the map at high speed should be avoided.
- The Controller's report should confirm that all of the requirements listed in the Terrain Assessment could be met.
- Each area should allow a Men's **elite** course with a winning time of 12 - 15 minutes without undue repetition.
- The terrain needs to be well featured (and accurately mapped!) as the control density in certain key places is likely to be unusually high.
- The terrain must be a safe environment for both the competitors and other people present (such as spectators and the general public). There are likely to be people racing head-to-head at full speed in an area which may well contain traffic and/or members of the public or other hazards. This will require strong risk management and both suitable terrain and planning.
- **Map**
- The map must comply with all of the relevant requirements in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and Appendix D: Mapping.
- The map must be drawn to the latest IOF specification for sprint maps (ISSOM)
- **Map scales**
- The map scale must be either be 1:5,000 or 1:4,000, and a contour interval of either 2.0m or 2.5m.
- In terrain with exceptionally fine detail, scales of 1:4,000 or 1:3,000 may be used for older classes after consultation with Events and Competitions Committee.
- In these circumstances a direct enlargement should be done of all aspects of the map.
- **Map printing**
- The map must be printed by an accredited printer.
- The British Orienteering map template must be used.
- All maps must be offset litho printed unless agreed otherwise
- 
- **Course planning**
- Courses/Classes for competition must be provided as follows:
- 
- 1) Elite – teams of 4 people (2 women, 2 men) running 4 legs in the order WMMW. TD5.
- 2) Open - 3 legs, free running order, with teams consisting of 3 people, of which at least one must be male, and at least one must be female. TD5. Middle leg shorter. Not a championship class. Combined with Vet/Junior. Non-competitive teams allowed.
- 3) Veteran (40+) /Junior (16-) - 3 legs, free running order, with teams consisting of 3 people, of which at least one must be male, and at least one must be female. TD5. Middle leg shorter. Combined with Open.
- 4) Super Veteran (55+) /Ultra Veteran (65+) - 3 legs, free running order, with teams consisting of 3 people, of which at least one must be male, and at least one must be female. TD5. Middle leg shorter.
- 5) Young Juniors (12-) - 3 legs, free running order, with teams consisting of 3 people, of which at least one must be male, and at least one must be female. TD2.
- 
- Course 1 must be planned to provide winning times of approx 12-13 minutes for a top M/W 21 on relevant legs.
- Approximate ratios (of shortest possible route rather than straight line)
- Course 1 – 1.00 (men)/0.85 (women), Course 2 and 3 – 0.90/0.70 (middle leg), Course 4 – 0.75/0.60 (middle leg), Course 5 – 0.60.
- Course 2 and 3 could be split into 2 separate courses if necessary for safety reasons.
- 
- **Notes**
- The number of variants of a particular course, and how to use gaffling, is a decision to be made by the planner. This should take into account the likely number of teams running.
- It is preferable that all courses, including the Young Junior Relay, are gaffled to some extent to avoid following. However gaffling should be fair, and in particular should not try and 'trick' juniors into mis-punching.

- It should be remembered that whatever method of gaffling is employed, in order for the race to be fair it is essential that by the end of the race each team will have run precisely the same legs. It is not sufficient that they have just visited the same controls.
- **Each set of gaffled should take identical time to run (or as close as possible) to avoid teams getting**
- an advantage by having a 'short' gaffle late on in the course.
- The fair siting of controls is even more important in relays than in individual competitions. Anything which gives an unfair disadvantage to those leading is to be avoided at all cost.
- Although groups of controls are often used it is not good planning to have them too close together, or visible from one another. A competitor who arrives at the wrong control should be penalised for it. Grouped controls should also be on unambiguous features and have very different control codes. The planner should not be trying to trick people - the fewer people disqualified for mispunching the better.
- Because the terrain will often be of an urban nature, great care is needed in planning of courses for the youngest junior competitors. It is envisaged that most areas will have a suitable piece of completely traffic-free terrain where it is possible to plan Young Junior courses..
- If the entry is high, classes could be split onto separate courses, but not at the risk of eliminating the head-to-head racing factor. **Optimal number of teams per class?**
- There should be an emphasis on very high speed running over a relatively short distance. The Sprint format should test the competitor's ability to read and translate the map in complex environments, and to plan and execute route choices whilst running at high speed.
- Courses should be planned so that the element of speed is maintained throughout the race. The courses may require climbing but steepness forcing competitors to walk should be avoided. Finding the controls should not be the challenge; rather the ability to choose and complete the best route to them. For example, the most obvious way out of a control should not necessarily be the most favourable one.
- Courses should be set to require the competitor's full concentration throughout the race. An environment that cannot provide this challenge is not appropriate for the sprint. The nature of the terrain means that the courses should only be of technical difficulty 3, but the high rate of decision making of the event adds extra pressures which compensate for the lack of technical challenge.
- Courses should be planned such that the possibility of competitors being influenced by spectators, dogs, general public, traffic, etc is minimised
- Particular attention needs to be given to courses planned for competitors under 16 years of age. In the eyes of the law, the Organiser is acting in loco parentis for children under the age of 16 and is to be seen to take precautions over and above what a careful parent would take for the safety of their children. In practice this will mean that courses for M/W16 and below will not be able to cross roads with significant traffic. Roads with traffic management that induce low speeds (15mph as on many campuses) are acceptable but busy public roads are not. It should be noted that disclaimers, signed by parents, are ineffective and would not absolve the Organiser of his/her responsibility in law.
- Due to the head-to-head nature of the racing, thought must be given to the **flow** of competitors – both within one course, but also across courses. Dog-legs and cross-overs should be avoided where runners are likely to be running towards each other, especially when they might be in groups. Course planning should try to avoid the possibility of people running in to each other (for example meeting at a building corner having come from opposite directions). Careful consideration needs to be taken when planning the gaffling, and how the different courses interact with each other. Thought also needs to be given to bottle necks early in the course (e.g. bridges, narrow passages, un-gaffled controls with not enough electronic timing units), and where there are likely to be most public.
- All courses should have a spectator control, between 50 and 75% of the way around the course. If this impractical due to the nature of the terrain, the last part of the course should be visible from the changeover.
- On the **elite** class, men's and women's courses may be similar, but men must not be gaffled against women.
- For simplicity, all courses except the **elite** class could have an un-gaffled middle leg.
- The last part of the last legs must not be gaffled (approx last 30%). In the **elite** class this means the last part of leg 1 will not be gaffled either
- There should be more than one electronic timing unit on each control, and early controls may need several.
- It may be worth considering a long leg as the first control, possibly forked, in order to split up and spread out the runners early on to avoid overcrowding at control points.
- **Recommendations**
- Use touch-free electronic timing if possible.

- Use GPS tracking if possible.
- **Make as much of the course visible to spectators as possible.**

- **Example of forking**
- 3 variations on each leg provides 8 combinations for each leg, and 64 unique team combinations; **Shorter and longer variations provide options for longer and shorter legs (e.g. men's/women's legs on Elite class)**



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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX F:**

**Event Systems Group Chairman's Report to E&CC Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Actions arising from Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> July Meeting**

2. **Rankings.** See Tasks list below. In progress.
2. **Membership:** Being worked at Club and Association level. No further action required by E&CC.
2. **Map Scales:** Awaiting feedback from Map Advisory Group on proposed rule change to remove option to print Sprint Maps at 1:5,000 scale.

**3. ESG:**

The **combination of Open Colour Classes with Age Classes** is being trialled by the November Classic / Southern Championship. No "V" or "N" classes are being offered. A final draft of the table will be prepared for approval reflecting any comments that arise from the event.

**Club Affiliation** Covered by 2. Membership above.

3. **EOG: M/W21E classes** are being provided at the Southern Championships. Closed.

**Tasks Concluded since Jul 2016**

4. Approved digital printing for the CompassSport Cup Final at Tankersley 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2016.
5. Approved digital printing for 2017 Scottish Orienteering Championships on Gullane and offered advice on map scales.
6. Chris Phillips approved digital printing for the Southern Championships at Fritham on 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016. (I'm the planner!)
7. Approved A4 Print and Design Ltd for digital printing. Thanks to Paul Taylor for carrying out the assessment.
8. Approved Digital printing for the 2017 British Nights and Northern Championships.
9. Have not approved MDOC printing. Will need additional samples before approving printing for any future Level B+ events.
10. Provided a set of colour swatches for Allen Banister, CLARO.
11. Feedback comments on Control Description revision: Circulated final draft to MAG and (via BOF Office) all Controllers. Fed back amalgamated comments to the IOF contact.
12. BMDC 2018 Stock Hill – Questions raised regarding map scale and what (not) to map. Offered to find a Mapping Advisor for the Controller. Understand the matter has been resolved by appointment of an experienced mapper.

**Tasks Progressing update** (all on-going)

- The Ranking Working Party recommended a change to the ranking algorithm to reduce the effect of "outliers" (exceptional performances that may be due to data errors) and to correct an anomaly identified in the algorithm.
- The Ranking Working Party have drafted a revision to Competition Rule S – Ranking Scheme to reflect these changes. The proposal includes some additional editorial changes and suggests that the file specification for submitting results to the BOF website be deleted from the Rule as a separate document is also available on the website. TCS is drafting a revision to the file specification to remove anomalies and simplify the document.
- ISOM 201x Review is in progress. MAG have provided feedback to Erik Peckett.

**Tasks Planned but not yet started**

Accreditation of officials. On hold.

Definition of Event Levels. On hold.

**Terry Smith – Chair ESG ([terrysmith@compuserve.com](mailto:terrysmith@compuserve.com)) 22<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX G:  
From Chris Heaton (LEI) to Di Smith (SOC Organiser 2016 Southern Championships/November Classic)  
Re: Open Colour Coded Colour Coded Courses experiment**

The Planner's report on the Southern Championships/November Classic invited comments on the experiment of offering open colour coded courses. He gave no contact email address, so please could you forward this on to him? Thanks!

I begin by declaring a prior interest: I am someone who was advocating this innovation. At this event I ran Green myself, because I cannot manage the distance of my age class courses (M35).

My comments are listed below. They refer to some statistics from the entry list which are detailed at the end.

- 1) I believe the colour coded (cc) courses were a success. The number of cc entries was neither too big nor too small.
- 2) The number of cc entries was not too big: there was no exodus of people abandoning the age class courses. It did not undermine the main competition.
- 3) The number of cc entries was not too small: the cc entries assisted participation by allowing some 50-60 people to enter a course of their choosing. Perhaps these people would not have entered otherwise? Maximising participation (and income) is a key metric.
- 4) Perhaps these people would have entered anyway? In that case 60 cc entries means 60 people who didn't need to email the organiser individually saying "I want to run course X but the online entry system won't let me, please can you enter me manually". This is a saving of admin/volunteer time.
- 5) The cc entries outnumbered the people who "ran up" on an age class course by more than 2:1. These entry numbers demonstrate that, at a Level A event, there is a larger (by 2:1) demand of less-fit runners who wish to "run down" than the demand of very fit runners who wish to "run up". We already cater for the latter, so we should cater for the former – the demand is twice as big.
- 6) Having cc entries makes the entry structure fairer. Allowing the fittest runners to "run up" is an established convention in our sport. I think it is only fair to allow the runners who are at the lower end of the fitness spectrum to have options to "run down" (non competitively of course). Giving course choices to both ends of the spectrum is a simple matter of fairness.
- 7) The demand for the cc entries was significantly greater than the historic demand for the M21V/W21V age classes which, in this experiment, they replaced.

**Statistics:**

These are based on a quick spreadsheet analysis I performed of the fabian4 entry list:-

- a) 899 entries in total
- b) 835 entries in an age class
- c) 64 entries in colour coded (cc) class
- d) 51 people minimum entered a cc class with the deliberate intent of avoiding their age class course. This is because 13 cc entries were for a colour which was the same course as one of their age class courses (e.g. Green and W50S were both course 10). It is possible that some or all of these 13 accidentally entered on cc when they intended to enter their age class.
- e) 25 people "ran up" i.e. entered an age class which is longer/more difficult than their own age class
- f) 1 person "ran down" i.e. entered an age class which is shorter/less difficult than their own age class

**Chris Heaton (LEI)**

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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX H:  
EOG Report to E&CC - 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Grade A Controller Survey distributed mid-August 2016:**  
Number on database - 64

Number of responses: 39 were positive and informative, some very much so, and 1 request was received for removal from Grade A database due to advancing age and physical demands of terrain but the individual has volunteered, if required, to undertake TSAR and mentoring. All those who have responded to date have been sent an individual response by email from myself on behalf of E&CC and British Orienteering. Comment: A further approach needs to be made to those 24 who have not yet responded to date. Question – What action to be undertaken in the event of no response being received following a further request?

#### **Controllers for fourteen Level A Events per year:**

2017 – All appointments made;

2018 – All appointments made except for BNC 2018 at Pembrey hosted by SBOC and awaiting a response from third Grade A Controller approached to take on the role – contact on-going between Officer of SBOC and Fixtures Secretary of WOA;

2019 – Appointments made for JK 2019 – Day 1 – Controller still to be appointed; Day 2 Controller appointed; Day 3 – awaiting confirmation from possible Controller; Day 4 – Controller appointed; for all other Level A Events (10) in 2019 Controller appointments still to be made.

#### **IOF World Ranking Events within UK and Event Advisers:**

Current number of EAs listed by IOF: 13

2017 – JK Days 1, 2, and 3 - EAs appointed

2018 – JK Days 1, 2, and 3 - EAs appointed

Requests received for re-accreditation: Completed application forms received from Philip Gristwood and Robert Hickling (attached) – I am recommending that E&CC approve the re-accreditation of both Philip Gristwood and Robert Hickling, forward the applications to the CEO and Board of British Orienteering for formal approval and support, and for the approved re-accreditations to be sent to IOF.

#### **British Orienteering Rules:**

Following 'email discussion' with Mike Hamilton and Terry Smith, I wish to formally propose that the latest version '**Rules of Orienteering - Version 3.5 - Updated 16/10/2016 – Effective from 01/01/2017**' (attached document cover states 'Rules of Orienteering – Version 2.3 – Effective from 1 Jan 2016 – and an earlier available version states 'Updated 01/05/2016) be approved and submitted to the Board for ratification and publication, that all other versions dated 2015 and 2016 be removed from the British Orienteering web site, and a 'News' notice be placed on the National web site to alert all members of the availability of the latest version of the Rules before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

#### **Event Officials Training Materials:**

With the current emphasis on Event Safety & Welfare Workshops, only a small number of requests have been made since the last E&CC Meeting and these have been met by distribution of the 'Event Officials Training Materials' CD. A small number of email comments have been received regarding the need for updating and availability of British Orienteering Course/Workshop materials for Organisers and Planners at Levels C and B, and Controllers Grade C and B. Comment has also been received on the value of the one day Major Events Conference and the hope that this will be repeated in 2017 and beyond, together with opportunities at both Regional and National level for upgrading and appointing Grade A Controllers.

Ernie Williams  
09/11/2016

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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX I:  
E&CC Meeting 12th November 2016 – Barry Elkington**

**Tasks Concluded since July 2016:**

1) Bentley Woods: decision made that if less than 10 competitors in M/W 21 Elite Classes then the Club has to option of stating they will run 21L.

>>> Information passed to event officials.

2) JK: Simon and Helen Errington (SE and HE) have been tasked with looking producing a new table of courses and classes for the Middle and Long distance races at JK 2017. Rules will need to be updated for this competition. Who should review the proposed changes? Rules discussed later in meeting.

>>> The new event course tables have been produced.

**Tasks Progressing update:** (all on-going)

1) Rules: Simplification of Competition Rules which are for competitors and Rules for Organisers, Planners and Controllers. Simplification of the essential Rules for those new to Orienteering as a competitive sport. CJ has set up working group with Chris Johnson (BOK) (CJo) and MH. However have seen little evidence of progress with this.

**Tasks that require changes to the Competition Rules documents:**

1) We have a request from the selectors to split off the M/W18 and M/W20 classes from the M/W21 course at the British Middle Championships in order to have a winning time similar to that for JWOC.

2) Related to the above, it was clear from this year's Middle Distance Championships that with the increase in numbers the course table is no longer viable, resulting this year in a mistake where the wrong course numbers were printed on the race bibs. Can we update the table for 2017, incorporating the selectors request regarding the M/W18 and M/W20 classes?

3) Can we introduce a limited number of "competitive" Colour Coded classes at major events as demonstrated at the November Classic? Offer these at the same price as entering the L or S classes. These would be eligible for ranking points as they would be using the same courses as championship classes. This does not change how the event is run, but the Competition Rule document should be updated if this proposal is agreed to.

**Tasks Planned but not yet started:**

**None.**

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**E&CC MEETING 12-11-2016 APPENDIX J:**

**Board Report for E&CC Meeting 12th November 2016 - David Maliphant**

**Tasks Concluded since July 2016:**

Club and association conference

EGM – British Orienteering more financially secure than it was, still very tight and not yet self-sustaining.

Need to continue to examine best funding structure going forward, in light of comments received on consultation.

Strategic Plan – worked over and improved by Deloitte. Nearly finished, and has been used to inform SportEngland funding submission.

**Tasks Progressing update:**

SportEngland funding for 2017 onwards – have applied for funding for some proposed programmes that are closely aligned to the Strategic Plan. Amounts awarded will be much smaller than previous years, and much more closely targeted – there will be no back office contribution. Initiatives are intended to be much more closely aligned to members needs and priorities (remembering that it is impossible to please everyone especially orienteers!).

**Further work is required on the restructuring of the staffing model once strategic plan finished.**

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