

Event Scheduling Group Meeting Minutes
12:30 pm Saturday 18 October 2014
Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham



1. Chairman's opening comments, welcome and introductions.

3 newcomers standing in for those unable to be present were welcomed.

Paul Caban has officially retired from being AFS for Scotland and so from ESG. Thanks are passed on to Paul who has been a member of the group for more years than anyone could remember. Terry O'Brien (SOA Operations Director) has temporarily taken on the SOA role and MC has supplied some information to help Terry find a permanent replacement.

2. Record of persons present, and apologies.

Mike Cope – Chairman of the Event Scheduling Group (ESG) and YHOA
David Pal - WOA
Paul Beresford – EMOA
Anthony Biggs – EAOA
Richard Sansbury – SWOA
Richard Sharp – SCOA
Jean Payne – NWOA for Dick
Hedley Calderbank – SEOA for Philip
Bob Brandon – WMOA for Allan
Chris Philips – Events and Competitions Committee Representative

Apologies

Dick Towler – NWOA
Duncan Archer – NEOA
Philip Gristwood – SEOA
Allan Williams – WMOA
Terry O'Brien - SOA
Joe McClure – NIOA
Sally Pygott – Major Events Manager

3. Declaration of interests and any other business.

MSC YHOA representative and ESG chair

4. Minutes of Fixtures Group meeting held on 15 March 2014.

- a. Accuracy. Minutes were agreed
- b. Actions from meeting.

5. New BNC arrangements to be passed on to all AFS. MC. Done
6. All audit responses to MC by end of March approx. All AFS who have not completed task already. Done. Information is useful but still often easier for MC to ask directly when help is needed.
6. Audit responses and an agreed summary to go to E&CC. MC Done. Would still like to follow results up with E&CC when possible.
- 7&8. Liaise with Ernie Williams about a better way to get the information to him. MC - Ongoing and progressing
10. Search for CSCF 2016 host. RS/PB/AW/MC. Very limited success
12. Further UKOL needs to be advertised to clubs. MC Done but limited success.
13. Comments about CSC to be passed onto PG/steering group. MC Done but not much change likely.
13. 2016 Heat distribution to be considered further. MC Item 10 on agenda.
14. Some flexible rota suggestions for junior events. MC Tried to do this.
16. Tio Mila dates to try and confirm. PG Done via Graham Gristwood.
17. Continue with database developments. TB Ongoing.
18. Newsletter to produce. MC Done.
19. UK Relay League queries. PC happening but very quiet.
19. Insurance queries to pursue. TB Done.
20. Future meetings to arrange. MC Done.

5. Anything from other groups/meetings etc. - E&CC, EP&PG, EOG, MEOC, International Fixtures, Newsletter.

E&CC – next meeting on 15 Nov. Lots of work to do, but overall roles and operational procedures for groups are becoming clearer. Groups left to get on with their own tasks e.g. ourselves and Event Officials Group.

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EP&PG – next meeting on 22 Oct (now postponed until 4 Nov). Major items – JK strategy, new marketing manager. CP mentioned a number of items.

- From EOG, a message that training materials for event officials are being updated. There is much to be done, but they may be available online next year. This led to some discussion about qualifications on the BO website which are getting out of date. CP/MC to look into this further finding out what updating process is in place, E&CC's response, possibly getting volunteers to do some maintenance, and possibly allowing AFS to update association organisers, planners, controllers up to level B.
- Associations should note that they should approve level A organisers and planners before information goes to EW/EOG.
- BO can apply for 6 World Ranking Events per year. Would expect these to come from A events but they do not have to. CP/EP&PG will sort out applications for 2016 early in 2015. Suggestions can be put forward.
- Associations should note the updated Safe O documentation on the BO website.
- There is still a vacancy for the chair of Map Group if anyone has any ideas. It does not necessarily have to be an expert mapper.

EOG – now working with Ernie Williams who appoints A controllers. He is catching up with the timescale that E&CC wants but some way to go and short of A controllers in some places.

MEOC was a success. Good balance over the 2 days of presentations and opportunities to talk to participants. Recommended that AFS encourage attendance by officials of future major events.

International Fixtures. Arrangements for getting this information available to ESG are now much better. About 6 weeks before Mar/Oct meetings, MC checks as much as possible, and produces a list from the fixtures database, then Graham Gristwood checks. GG has advised about what should go in. There is a problem with WMOC 2017 choosing a date ESG had chosen for BOC/BRC. Those concerned with BOC/BRC and other fixtures that might be affected have been asked for opinions. It has been decided that the clash should be left particularly as BOC/BRC has been chosen as a Bank Holiday weekend giving the opportunity of an extra event which will suit the vast majority who will attend.

Newsletter responses are disappointing but ESG decided that it ought to continue. It was started for ESG to communicate better after some criticism, but it is certainly not 2 way communication.

6. Events Delivery Plan. Can the plan be sustained? Timescale for Major Events. Information required. Terrain Assessment forms.

The event list and its priorities are now clear to us and we are doing as best we can what the EDP requires. However, Chris J does have some questions about the sustainability of Major Events – too many, too much work, some lack of enthusiasm for putting them on, certainly a lack of suitably qualified officials particularly controllers in some parts of the country.

Sally is in the process of producing an updated timescale for sorting out Major Events. It will not have too much effect on what ESG tries to do in terms of scheduling because e.g. we are already working 3 + years ahead in allocating major events to clubs/associations and getting dates. Details of areas, a contact, and officials which we try to get in early is where things slip, but what Sally with E&CC approval is asking is that these details are sorted out earlier. Later there is detail about when mapping, planning, controlling should be done by but that is not directly ESG's concern.

Terrain Assessment Forms for A events are now in use. It is working, but EW/EOG is struggling to catch up with only a limited number of A controllers.

7. Overview of all rotations.

AFS were asked to look at the whole picture for their association but the detail is in later agenda items.

8. JK, British Long/Middle/Sprint/Night Champs, Area Champs. Finalising areas and officials for 2016 and as much as possible for 2017. Confirmations of hosts beyond 2017.

- Quite a lot of progress was made getting officials and areas in for 2016/2017 events. This will go to EW/EOG and EW can assume that proposed officials are approved by associations.

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- SEOA is OK for JK 2017 providing that the Saturday event is a middle distance. CP/MC to move this on at EP&PG.
- It is urgent that a Terrain Assessment is done for the proposed area for the Brit Middles in 2017. If approval is not given, there is no other EAOA area and rescheduling is going to be very difficult. MC to contact EW again.
- WMOA can do the JK in 2018 if they can use WOA areas. DP thought this would be OK. DP/AW/BB to follow this up.
- Need to check SOA OK for BOC/BRC in 2018. Dates needed for BOC/BRC and Brit Spr/Mid 2018.
- Rotation plans OK for 2019 and 2020. 2021/2022 need to be looked at further.
- BNC – for 2018, DP to ask WOA again if they want to combine it with Welsh Champs. If not, perhaps YH or SE could combine it with Northern or Southern Champs. Maybe similar could be done for 2019. SC will combine with Southern Champs in 2020.
- North and South Area Champs rotations are fine and are extended. Still the question of EAOA being in the Midlands rotation. TB to ask EAOA again, MC/CP to ask E&CC again for B dispensation, otherwise rotation between WM and EM will be extended.

9. UK orienteering League and Year Outline Plans.

- a. 2015 - plans will be in next Focus.
- b. 2016 - plans are OK – just some detail to be filled in such as exact format of MDOC event but that is being dealt with.
- c. 2017 – disappointing response from newsletter requests but UKOL plans are now in place after adding YHOA Fat Rascal events, both days of the Caddihoe Chase, the possibility of the Welsh Champs if it moves to Oct, and Springtime in Shropshire if they agree and Scottish Champs do not object. MC/DP/RS/AW/BB all to chase up.
- d. 2018 dates. Major event dates needed before any further progress with this.

10. Compass Sport Cup and Trophy – distribution of heats for 2015 and 2016, dates and hosts for final up to 2017.

Disappointed with hardly any offers for CSCF 2016 onwards. Only SWOA and they really want a later year. Still trying to find a host. Even EAOA suggested and TB to ask. If we could get a 2016 offer, SWOA would be OK for 2017.

2015 heats Scotland, Hamsterley, Keswick, Ledbury, Ollerton, Salisbury and Midhurst. There will be no SCOA heat. 2 events in the north of the north are not ideal but too late to do anything.

2016 heats SOA, NWOA(DEE Tarporley), YHOA(SYO?), WMOA, EAOA, SWOA, SCOA, SEOA. This is already not good in the north – DEE and SYO are at the south end of the north. DT and DA agree but consider it to be just acceptable. Other AFS to let me know what is likely in Midlands and South just to see if anything can be done. It could be said that ESG is not doing a good job with this if we cannot get a better nationwide distribution.

11. Junior competitions timetable and rotations for the next few years. 2015 YBT Heats.

YBT 2015 heats in YH, NE, NW, SE are now showing in the database. SC will not be holding a heat as there is no interest in the YBT in that association. Others AFS to check for heat as soon as possible.

Junior competitions for 2016 and 2017 are OK now except for PPJTR. PB will ask EMOA for 2016 and RS will ask BAOA for 2017. Beyond 2017 there is a rota to spread the events round the country. Appropriate AFS are to try and see where their association can help.

12. Other ESG scheduled events on the main planner for A and listed B events 2015 – 2017.

Dates as suggested for 2017 HIs need to be confirmed. WOA OK for JHI. Earlier dates confirmed. No particular problems with rota responsibilities further ahead.

No Harvester hosts is the only other problem.

13. Other level B events requested by clubs/associations. All B events up to July 2016 should be finalised. Any later requests can be made known and added to the database but not confirmed.

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Only remaining problem here is with events on 31 Jan 2016 – BKO and GO Bs cannot go together. RS and HC/PG to find a solution. Apart from this, all Bs should be finalised up to the end of July 2016.

14. B event clashes and adding C and D events.

ESG is able to stop any unwanted B clashes. However, there is a concern that not all clubs and associations are looking at what is going on around before making their plans. ESG cannot control these but a little checking could improve the overall programme of events. MC to put something in the newsletter.

15. Any BO fixtures database issues.

Nothing urgent now.

16. Newsletter for Club Fixtures Secretaries.

MC to check with BO office about distribution list. Is it generated from those with CFS database access?

17. Any other business.

There is some concern that the Red Bull sponsored event has been put into the calendar without any reference to what else was happening. It is not so much that people object to it, but that it is being held in the wrong place at the wrong time – clashing with a UKOL event and tempting people away from competing for their club in the CSC. With valuable prizes on offer, it will tempt ordinary orienteers even if it is not aimed specifically at them. The extent of SYO/NOC backing is not known. Will this be a series of events? Will it increase club fees paid to landowners as presumably they are getting a high fee for this one.

TB produced some statistics for registered events. They appear to show a decline in the number of events. From 2013, it seems that Bs are down, Cs are up, Ds are down. Are any Ds being registered as activities?

18. Dates of next meetings agreed as 14 March 2015 and 17 October 2015.

ACTIONS.

4. MC to ask E&CC for any audit comments.

5. MC/CP to make enquiries about qualifications updating.

8. MC/CP to check on what needs to be done to make JK Saturday a middle in 2017.

8. MC to check that SOA are OK for BOC/BRC in 2018 and ask for dates

8. RS to get dates for SWOA Brit Spr/Mid 2018

8. MC to chase up terrain assessment for Brit Middle 2017

8. DP to ask WOA again if they want to combine BNC with Welsh Champs in 2018, or MC to ask YHOA about combining with Northern Champs, or PG/HC about combining with Southern Champs.

8. TB to ask EAOA again about Mid Champs 2019, MC/CP to ask E&CC again for B dispensation

9. MC/DP/RS/AW/BB to check on last UKOLs for 2017.

10. All to ask again about CSCF 2016.

10. Most AFS to identify CSC heat area for 2016 asap.

11. AW/BB/PB/TB/DP/RS/PG/HC - YBT 2015 heats need to be identified.

11. PB to ask EMOA for 2016, RS to ask SCOA for 2017.

11. All AFS asked to look at the junior rota beyond 2017.

12. MC to check with NIOA and SOA about 2017 HI dates.

13. RS and HC/PG to sort out Jan 31 2016 clash.

16. MC to check with BO office about where CFS distribution list comes from.

17. CP to take Red Bull problem to E&CC.