

TrailO Steering Group

SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2015 AT 16.00



Held at The Old Friar Inn, Twywell, NN14 3AH

Attendees: Richard Keighley (RK), Chair & SWOA; Anne Braggins (AB), EAOA; Anne Hickling (AH) SOA; John Kewley (JK), NWOA; Christine Roberts (CR), YHOA; Ian Ditchfield (ID), SEOA; Alan Gartside (AG) NIOA

Apologies: David Maliphant (Board), Clive Allen (CA) SCOA

1. Chairman's introduction and opening remarks

RK welcomed all the attendees to the meeting, which was held after BTOC2014 at Twywell Hills & Dales, in order to reduce costs to the TrailO budget.

2. Attendance and apologies

Apologies had been received from DM, who was at the E&CC meeting in Birmingham, and CA, who was returning home to Denmark after BTOC 2014.

3. Conflicts of interest declaration

Conflicts of Interest declarations had been circulated with the meeting papers. RK reminded members that they should be returned to British Orienteering by 31st March 2015

Action: all

4. Minutes of previous meeting

Approved

5. Matters arising (not on agenda)

Some competitors were still uncertain as to whether the JK 2014 Day 3 event should remain as a ranking event in view of the unfairness caused by the undulating mist obscuring control clusters. After much discussion it was decided that the event should stand. With more Ranking events due in the next two months, it would in any case, fall off the list fairly soon.

The items that involved an input from AG were taken at this stage, to enable him to make a start for home, but have been recorded in the appropriate section.

6. IOF news & developments

JK, who has been confirmed as assistant advisor at ETOC 2016 in the Czech Republic, was congratulated.

Punch marks - if less than perfect, what can be accepted? There was some inconsistency in applying the rules at WTOC 2014.

The format of the WTOC Relay has been adapted to increase its appeal.

At this point in the meeting, the electrical supply to most of the Old Friar Inn failed. The rest of the meeting took place in twilight/candle light. Thanks are due to the minute taker (CR) for managing to cope with this problem!

7. Ranking events 2014-15

BTOC 2014 – an excellent event on a very suitable area.

The letters on the cover sheets indicating the relative positions of the flags for both tempo and TC was popular.

JK2015 – concrete bases for tempo kites positioned on tarmac have been obtained. There will be 6 flags for each tempo station and for Timed Controls.

BTOC 2015 – on schedule. The forest road on which the course is to be held is a local 'greenway' and the organisers have been reminded by the FC to leave enough room between parked cars, tents etc. to allow the safe passage of a horse and carriage.

ITOC 2015 – the original 9 hole golf course has been extended to 18 hole. The mature trees lining the original fairways will be mapped as white with green circles for trunk positions.

Plans for JK2016 in YHOA are in hand. The co-ordinator and team are supportive. There will probably be one TempO competition and two (shorter) PreO competitions, each with perhaps 10-12 controls, over the weekend.

Other ranking events

The 2015 Nordic meeting in Sweden in May 2015 and the ECTO event in Croatia shortly before WTOC 2015 will count as Ranking events as sufficient GBR competitors will be present. (See item 8)

There will also be events at Scottish 6 Day and White Rose but not to ranking standard.

8. Ranking list

It was acknowledged that the thick mist at JK2014 PreO had hindered some competitors but as the Ranking protocol has already been published its inclusion would stand.

It was agreed that ranking points will eventually be published alongside event results.

It was suggested that there should be a separate tempo ranking list. JK agreed to consider possible formats.

Nominated foreign events will be included in the ranking with proviso. Domestic events must make up the bulk of the ranking list. Each day of a quality domestic 2-day event counts for ranking points but for a foreign multi-day event points will be based on the combined result.

Selected foreign events will be publicised in advance and there must be sufficient British competitors. The number of foreign ranking events will be reassessed annually. The nominated event will only qualify as a ranking event if seven or more BOF members compete.

Action: The paper circulated before the meeting on the working of the ranking list will be placed on the TrailO website. The Ranking list will also be published on the website after BTOC 2015 (JK,RK,CA)

JK to investigate the compilation of a TempO ranking list

9. Rules & Guidelines

AG is willing to continue the creation of BOF TrailO rules/guidelines, in the format of the recently revised current FootO rules.

Action AG

10. Board

David Maliphant has replaced Scott Collier as the director with an interest in the TrailO group.

11 Website/Publicity/Focus

An interesting TrailO section on the BOF website has been set up. Clive Allen was thanked for his efforts in establishing and maintaining this.

Any TrailO news, event reports, photographs etc should be forwarded to RK for inclusion in Focus and CA for the website.

John Crosby's name and WTOC 2014 Bronze medal was not included on the Roll of Honour in the 2015 AGM report of British Orienteering. This has now been rectified.

12 Zero Tolerance

Although Zero Tolerance is not yet an official IOF policy, the Steering Group was in favour of suggestions from the TrailO Athletes' Commission. There was general agreement with the TrailO athletes commission proposal for zero tolerance at events. It was suggested that for a point feature the tolerance ought to be described in terms of quadrants rather than degrees.

For other features the stated distance would be consistent for a specific event and would not necessarily be the same for other events e.g. 2m for BTOC 2014 & 2015, but 3m for JK 2015. It was recommended that any future UK TrailO events should have a statement about the zero tolerance for that event, along the lines of the BTOC 2014 statement. Similar statements were being applied at JK 2105 and BTOC 2015

13 Any other business

The formation of a TrailO club, suggested as a possible way of avoiding the initial problems experienced in registering BTOC 2014, did not gain favour.

The most difficult problems with staging an event are an adequate work force and funding of officials expenses.

It was felt that events linked with an event weekend are most likely to draw in newcomers to TrailO.

14. Dates and venues of future meetings

The next meeting would probably be in Birmingham in early Autumn.

Action List

1	Conflicts of Interest declarations should be returned to British Orienteering by 31 st March 2015	All
2	The paper circulated before the meeting on the working of the ranking list will be placed on the TrailO website.	RK, CA
3	The TrailO Ranking list to be published on the website after BTOC 2015	JK,RK , CA
4	Investigate the compilation of a TempO ranking list	JK
5	TrailO Rules & guidelines for British Orienteering to be produced	AG