

# Mike's eNews – 4 September 2015

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Please feel free to forward this eNews to your members; it's going to be published on the eNews page at <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/enews> on Monday so if you would rather send them a link please feel free to do so.

## Club & Association Conference

Sorry if some of you have seen this before but I would rather make sure than miss you out.

This year's Association and Club Conference will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at NFU Mutual Head Office, Tiddington Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7BJ.

As last year, as part of the partnership arrangement, the NFU Mutual has offered to provide a venue and refreshments for the conference to British Orienteering free of charge. This is a huge saving on costs for British Orienteering and savings that can be used effectively elsewhere. The venue has good, free parking facilities available and is not far from the M40 for those travelling by road. Train travel presents a few more challenges however is possible and the closest train station is Stratford upon Avon. When registering, please let British Orienteering know how you plan to travel.

All members are invited to attend and we would encourage as many of you as possible to come along and have your say! If you are interested, please fill in the registration forms provided below and return them by email, to [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk) or by post to; British Orienteering, Scholes Mill, Old Coach Road, Tansley, DE4 5FY no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> 2015.

As in previous years, we encourage Clubs and Associations to nominate 2 chosen representatives to make sure clubs and association views are presented. Club and Association chairs or secretaries will need to confirm the names of delegates attending on behalf of their club or association. This will register their attendance and these delegates will be eligible to have a contribution to their expenses paid by British Orienteering (details in 'expenses details' document). Club and association chairs or secretaries should also nominate their delegates by September 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 by emailing [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk).

We would love and encourage other members that are interested in the future of orienteering, participation, competition and talent to attend, however any expenses will need to be covered by the individual, club or association depending on individual arrangements.

***The theme for this year's Association & Club Conference is 'the future of the sport'.***

During the conference we'll look back at the discussions and ideas of last year's Conference and see how we've all done. Nearer to the conference date we will provide a more detailed agenda. Clubs and associations are also asked to raise strategic items or issues that you would like to be considered for addition to the agenda. Any such requests should be sent to [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk) by 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

Whilst it may not be feasible to add all such items to the agenda, those items that are of strategic importance and are common to several requests are likely to be added to the agenda.

More information, including details on contribution towards expenses can be found in 'Expense details' document at:

[Association and Club Conference Registration Form 2015](#)

[Association and Club Conference Expenses Details 2015](#)

I'd love to see you there as many of you are the significant leaders within your own clubs and associations.

## Up & Running

British Orienteering is starting to build a relationship with [Up & Running](#) the high street and internet chain and would like you to let your members know about what they offer.

Whether you are new to running and orienteering or planning your next event, Up & Running can help you to get your kit sorted from your shoes to your head torch and everything in between.

Their experienced staff will carry out digital gait analysis to make sure you are training in the right shoes, to help prevent injury and to ensure your shoes are right for your aims and aspirations.

Being a part of the Up & Running community means that you get: the best customer service - and it's personal to you, advice on how to achieve your goals and invitations to specialist in-store events. They will also give you training programmes if you need them, information on how to stretch and make the most of your training. Up & Running partner with local physios and podiatrists, and can call upon the experts in the field from top running brands to bring their knowledge to their stores and customers for their specialist events.

Up & Running is the Yorkshire-founded specialist running retailer with the ethos that every customer should receive unparalleled personal service in a friendly and knowledgeable environment for runners and fitness enthusiasts alike.

They only sell the best products, tried and tested by their keen team of runners; only employ staff who enjoy fitness and can advise you and they have your best interests at heart.

So for running shoes, technical clothing and accessories, pay a visit an [Up & Running store](#) or visit then on the [internet](#) and enjoy 10% off if you are a member of the British Orienteering.

For clubs Up & Running also offer access to Noname kit that is tailored to club colours etc.

## World Orienteering Championships 2015

The feedback from all over has been really positive and other countries in particular have been referring to the excellent delivery of the Championships and how good the orienteering was.

We certainly could not have hosted the event without the massive number of volunteers that helped, some for 2 or 3 years, others on the day(s). Personally I'd like to thank everyone and in particular Paul McGreal, the Event Director, and his team on the organising committee, what a great job they've done. If there are members in your club that helped please pass on our thanks.

There were a few close calls behind the scenes but from the competitors perspective it seemed to run incredibly smoothly and well. That's not to say we couldn't have done a few things better of course.

## Scottish 6 Days

Congratulations to those involved in staging the S6Ds. Reports coming to the National Office are of an event greatly enjoyed by the many participants.

Organisationally it was always going to be challenging to pair up a major event staged every 2 years with a growing reputation, with a one off, IOF World Championships; they are very different events. The S6Ds with around 6,000 competitors across the week, WOC with around 400 high profile international orienteers. But, thanks to a lot of hard work and some very committed people, it all came together very well.

I'm sure everyone involved will be looking for a rest and some recovery time before the team gets fully engaged in putting together the next Scottish 6 Days event in Royal Deeside from 30th July to the 5th August 2017 – get it in your diary.

## Accommodation

Orienteers use a wide variety of accommodation during their travels and generally are really well received by the owners, managers and staff. This year is the first year since I joined British Orienteering that I've had any negative comments; unfortunately a couple of complaints from owners. I don't want to go into the details and it is only a couple of places but I would like to ask you to encourage your members to be considerate and remember to treat owners, managers, staff and facilities with respect. Without question most of our members are considerate and respectful and we don't want the odd incident to grow into anything that could become an embarrassment for orienteers and orienteering.

## Event Organisers

Our British Orienteering volunteers are a vital part of our sport. Recent research in support of the BBC Big Help Out initiative showed that every volunteer in sport creates capacity for an additional 8.5 participants. Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson noted during the launch that "Volunteers have played a vital role in my career; their motivation, dedication and commitment has helped me progress in sport and they continue to help athletes, at every level, to take part in and enjoy sport."

It has been a long-stated ambition of British Orienteering to create and roll out a standardised, high-quality, training package for our hard-working Volunteer Event Organisers. It has taken us some time

to be able to get the ball rolling but the time has come and the Volunteer Organiser Training (VOT) Project is now getting underway.

The VOT Project has the full support of British Orienteering, including from the Board and the National Office, and the training design and delivery will be coordinated by our contractor, Vayops Ltd. The VOT Project will run throughout the remainder of 2015. Your British Orienteering points of contact for this project are Sally Pygott and Craig Anthony in the National Office and they have already been working extensively with the contractor to make sure that we get the best possible outcomes. The project is also fully supported by a number of willing and experienced orienteering volunteers to ensure the very best possible outcomes to the project benefit all of our Volunteer Organisers; young and old, new and experienced, now and in the future.

In short, we are very pleased to be launching this vitally important initiative and we're looking forward to hearing about all of the successes which come from the VOT Project. Please give this programme your full support and let us know if you have any ideas which may help us to get even better results. We and the project team will keep you informed as the project progresses but feel free to contact the project team or the National Office if you have any specific questions or feedback. The project team are contactable on [VOTProj@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:VOTProj@britishorienteering.org.uk) or through the usual National Office phone numbers.

### Safeguarding

You may have seen that an updated version of O-Safe has been published for comment. Club Welfare Officers and a variety of other potential users of this reference document have been alerted to the discussion draft by direct email.

Thank you to the people who have already provided some very useful feedback. We will be publishing an updated and hopefully final version later this month.

Just to put a few people's minds at rest we will also be publishing a far shorter summary document that will be an easier read and contain the most significant information.

Any further feedback on the discussion draft will be greatly appreciated – I know however that it isn't an easy read. Just so you know the original was 42 pages long and this latest version is a much reduced 30 pages but we have to get it signed off and ratified as one of the contractual obligations for funding purposes. Inevitably there is a challenge to provide what orienteering wants and what funding partners think we need.

### Ordnance Survey

I must admit to becoming a little frustrated and this time not at the OS!

We get copies of some of the more significant orienteering maps in the National Office and my frustration is linked to my inability to communicate to mappers and others involved in map production that we need to reference the OS copyright statement (below) if the map uses or has used OS maps at any point in the production of the map. More than that the OS has copyright of the National Grid therefore if there is any use of the National Grid the OS copyright must be respected.

I'll be honest, personally I think the days when OS is allowed to copyright a map are long gone – the internet is probably and hopefully speeding this process up; BUT legally they do have copyright and to protect ourselves and British Orienteering it is important we respect it – even if we dislike doing so.

Recently a couple of significant maps came into the office which have grid referencing on (therefore are linked to the National Grid) and no copyright or licence statement. Clearly this is putting British Orienteering at risk since our licencing contract with OS requires us to 'police' the situation within orienteering.

Similarly maps are being posted on club / event web sites without a licence; to put your minds at rest we have registered and paid for the WOC 2015 maps to be published on the WOC 2015 web site.

Can I ask you to make sure the following copyright statement is attached to all your printed maps that use OS or the National Grid in any way please? And if you want to publish maps on your club web site(s) you will need to contact the National Office or deal with the OS directly.

OS copyright statement:

*'© Crown Copyright 2015 OS 100015287'*

This contains the year the map is to be printed and our licence number. OS do require this statement to be printed in the correct font (Source Sans Pro) at a minimum of 6pt size.

If the map also involves Lidar data it will need both the Lidar and OS copyright statement, the Lidar text is:

*'© Environment Agency copyright 2015. All rights reserved.'*

## Vision for orienteering

A discussion draft has been published and we are wanting as many of you as possible to provide feedback to us. We want the vision statement to be one that your clubs can buy into and use as the focus for your club development.

The discussion draft of the vision statement can be found [here](#). Please let us have your views by either taking part in [this survey](#) (which includes the draft vision statement or, if you would prefer, sending them to [feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:feedback@britishorienteering.org.uk)).

The consultation will close on Friday 11 September 2015 at midday so there's still a week left.

At the moment the statements are very 'cold', no scene setting, SWOTs etc. Eventually there will be a statement and Strategic Plan that is well presented and more fully explained but at the moment we're just trying to get the vision sorted out. Currently the biggest part of the discussion seems to be about competitive sport vs recreation activity and whether 'walking' should be included in the 'About Orienteering' section.

Let us know what you think!