

Minutes of Events and Competitions Committee

Hangout Meeting



22nd April 2013

Present : Chris James (CJ), Chairman, David May (DM), Katy Stubs (KS), Graham Gristwood (GG), Barry Elkington (BE), Helen Errington (HE), Chris Phillips (CP), Scott Collier (SC) and Martin Ward (MW) Chairman of British Orienteering (BOF)

1. Apologies were received from Keith Downing (KD).
2. Chairman's Input:
 - * MW happy with communication arrangements.
 - * Minutes will be sent to Laura Martin who will ensure publication once ratified by E&CC and Board
 - * CJ met with Chairs of sub-committees and agreed that E&CC should delegate as much decision making as possible on day to day tasks, clearing major decisions with E&CC.
 - * **Proposed Focus Group** - E&CC having to deal with too much detail and need to concentrate more on strategy. CJ has invited, based on their expertise and vision, Clive Allen (Denmark) who has IOF and Scandinavian knowledge, Mark Saunders, Bristol and Tony Thornley, Airenteers. CJ contacted Roger Scrutton, President of Scottish Orienteering Association (SOA). Graeme Ackland, who works with Paul Caban on SOA Event Strategy made contact. The Focus Group could meet by email or Hangout and report back to E&CC. SC felt that it is not a representative group across the whole sport. HE not sure what Terms of Reference (ToR) are for Focus Group. CJ said that the Group would establish ToR and be covering a strategic overview rather than detail, e.g. asking how many level A & B events a club or Region can sustain given the availability of volunteers and suitable terrain. CP said his committee is struggling with this and Mike Cope has too many A & B level events for slots available making it very difficult to get everything into the calendar: there are 2 issues– how many events are clubs and regions able put on and how many weekends should we take up with Major Events. CP said clubs not getting requested dates and if circumstances mean moving a date it then causes problems elsewhere. There are too many events to fit in. MW said it not good to go back to beginning. GG asked for a copy as he had not received them. HE asked that the Competition Review be reviewed rather than set aside so that we can see what has been done. CJ said not the intention to undo anything already done but to build on and take wider overview of events and competitions covering all levels. CJ proposed we go ahead with Focus Group and establish what is possible (See Item 10 of 26th November meeting), acting under the remit for the Chair to establish any such Group as required. *Post meeting HE circulated CJ memo sent to Board dated 17th March 2013 to all members of E&CC.*

Action CJ
 - * The Event Manager (EM) Position has now been advertised and the interviews are due in May with successful candidate likely to be in post in July. Following a settling in period it is likely that any changes to HE's position will not be until September. MW said there is a good level of interest.
 - * Major Sponsorship was discussed and sponsors will be sought for BOC and JK and the World Championships. Caroline Povey will run a session once a study has been completed with an external company, Four Comms. MW recommended waiting until Caroline has a chance to evaluate her study on the best way to find and manage sponsors. The Compass Sport Cup is not a BO competition so is not included.
3. Overall Operating Plan – covered under item 3 above.

4. Budget control was discussed with CJ reiterating that each subcommittee had £500 and the main committee £1,000 is the current allocation logical if other groups do not meet as often, or have the large number of regional reps attending? Are other groups planning to meet? From discussion, HE suggested getting all main and sub-committee members, along with Chairs of advisory groups, together at one meeting so they know remit then hold individual meetings afterwards. CJ to do a 'doodle' to set a date for end June/July on a Saturday.

Action CJ

5. Actions from previous meetings:

2	Seeding Review – DM sent out update earlier in day. Send feedback to him on email dated 22 nd April entitled “Draft BOC Courses Table”. <i>PMN: See Appendix A attached which is DM’s Draft re-jigged courses table for BOC</i>	ALL
4	M/W70 class for BRC –also for JK – agreed. The addition of the Ultra Veteran class (as defined in KS’s “Trial of an ultra veteran class” paper) to the JK Relay programme was agreed. The proposal to add an M/W70 (at least one woman) class to BRC was agreed subject to there being sufficient teams in practice. BE agreed to canvas clubs about this. <i>PMN: DM’s analysis could be taken as justification – see Appendix B attached</i>	BE
10	Sub Group to develop concept of Focus Groups and Forums.	Ongoing CJ
15	Major Event Strategy, delivery and monitoring as part of E&CC work list. GG sent email re monitoring of ME strategy for feedback from competitors, organisers and volunteers. North West Orienteering Association (NWOA) has process set up. SC asked who had responsibility for event monitoring asking if it is part of HE’s remit. How and what monitoring should be done and it should be responsibility of Event Managers. GG has this as part of his job description in Sweden. CJ asked who would work with him. HE volunteered. BO has responsibility for BOC and JK Monitoring should include what competitor wants and if we can improve things. Also what went well and what did not. DM has done surveys at JK which were passed on to Major Event Group, now disbanded. Influenced rules but not as much as hoped. GG hopes to be more effective. GG to talk with HE and DM. MW said worth learning from NWOA which set out a good scheme.	GG HE DM
18	Role of Event Managers (EMs). Awaiting appointment of candidate	Ongoing
19	Appeals panels. HE will look in more detail as to who invites the independent people. Are they controllers or event advisors?	HE
24	Develop a bidding and approval strategy & process for all major events	Ongoing
27	Trail O responsibility at Major Events	Ongoing
31	Terms of Reference for E & CC on website	Completed
32	Finalising Terms of Reference for Groups. Event Scheduling Group is not following the ToR which need to be looked at. CP will go back and circulate to E&CC dealing with level Bs. Not specific enough for Regions, had discussion with Mike Cope – ToR in April 2012 too narrow.	CP/MC
33	Date of British Championships – CP had discussion with HE. Not possible to sustain fixed date. Recently BOC occurs 2-3 weeks after JK. No reason why it was fixed on Bank Holiday, perhaps to encourage families to travel. Dates set as 31 May 2014 & 1 June 2014, 18/19 April 2015 and 30 th April & 1 st May 2016	CP/HE
34	Review of O League for 2013 – Dave Peel was in charge but with his departure it will not be possible to review until the end of the year, but dates for league are agreed for 2014 and now looking at 2015. We need to get feedback at events about structure and what people want even if it takes 3 years.	EM
35	Junior Cup Proposal. Nothing received by organisers in Lake District so competition did not happen. BE will ensure there events used to have a junior cup as youngsters need a focus and to know what the pathway is to being able to compete in JWOC and UYOC. MW said talk to Talent and Performance Steering Group which GG volunteered to do.	BE/GG
Individual Input of tasks needing attention		
(a)	Information for Beginners. HE working on it	HE
(b)	Issues from Sub-Committees. MAG – nothing particularly urgent. Leave until next meeting EOG – Has Ernie Williams (EW) got enough support? KD is struggling to keep up. KS willing	

to help out and will contact EW. Randal Macdonald did a job description for Controllers so we need to set out what we need from them.	KS
EP&P – problems with members with only Mike Cope, Nev Myers and Graeme Ackland active. Still struggling with regional Championships guidelines. No Midland for 2014 as Anglia unable to stage, now asking West or East Midlands if they can. BE offered Bentley Wood. HE suggested they could use level B to be able to stage event. Never intention that it should be upgraded. Rules organising us, rather than us organising rules. CP suggested writing a simple guideline for English Championships. Current ones use 2 year embargo. Scottish and Welsh allow dispensation. Leave as A and let clubs get as close as they can. <i>Post Meeting HE felt we should not create any extra guidance.</i>	CP
(c) Ranking System – now being dealt with in best way possible	Completed
(d) UK O League – HE in charge now. Rules and results system do not match as system only recognises single club and age class. MW more work needed on points system. Unlikely to be done this year. Needs to be competition database rather than membership. If money sensible and well spent it will be found. HE to progress.	HE
(e) M/W90 addition to rankings and trophies. Agreed for 2014. Discussion on whether an extra course would be needed. Only if there are competitors. HE will get in touch to offer level A courses and ask competitors to respond if they wish to compete. No trophies for 80 or 90. Area Championships required to put on course for 85 and 90. Should be offered at BOC and JK on all disciplines including night.	HE

6. Individual input of Tasks Needing Attention

(i) GG- nothing to add	
(ii) TAG – Terry Smith asked if we need it. CJ asked what issues can go to the group. HE lots to do e.g. start systems etc. Wide discussion and suggested we set aside 30 minutes at next meeting. In meantime MW and SC to talk to Terry with a view to encouraging him to look at systems to improve the sport and possible TV and for World Championships. A lot of work is going on with IOF IT Commission so should work jointly.	All MW/SC
(iii) CP struggling with English Area Championships. Needs to have another meeting. DM will contact Roger Hargreaves re Southern Championships. Planners should look at guidelines using common sense and not close courses. If they go away and apply common sense then problems usually go away. It is responsibility of Controller to ensure quality, but Controllers no longer receive a regular newsletter. EW should ensure that competition reaches required standards and Controllers do need to work with E&CC and EMs to ensure high quality events. KS and HE to take back to EW	CP/DM KS/HE
(iv) IOF Accreditation Procedure – this was responsibility of Major Events Group and now should be with Event Officials Group and needs to be someone with IOF experience.	KS/EW
(v) WRE – Came to EP&P. It was confirmed that EP&P should “make recommendations on which events should be nominated for World Ranking Event status” as per their ToR and that these recommendations should then be presented to E&CC for approval or otherwise. E&CC should now be responsible for developing a strategy governing criteria for WRE selection Graeme Ackland is possible nomination which is welcomed by Group. Strategy and policy then needs to be handed down to sub groups. Want to get athletes into international competition so we need to optimise and use those with experience. Not work on wing and prayer as need arises is not good, we should sit down as a group and offer guidance. At which level are we trying to operate? Board does not want to be involved in detail. We need to think strategically.	CP
(vi) Elite Course Winning times – agreed at 90 – 100 for men and 70 – 80 for women for level A Long Distance races, i.e. BOC, JK Day 3 and Area Champs.	Agreed
(vii) BNC rankings – will run alongside the main rankings in order not to cause anomalies and will be monitored for the period 1 st October to 31 st March and take decision on whether to include in full rankings. <i>PMN: The BOF system cannot easily be modified to do this, so results of past BNCs should be analysed and manually converted to rankings points instead.</i>	DM DM

APPENDIX A – Seeding Review

David May’s draft re-jigged courses table for BOC is given below (Agenda item 6/2):

	CLR	map													Total
1	1.00	15	M21E												87
2	0.81	15	M21L												27
3	0.68	15	M18E	M20E	M35L										129
4	0.65	15	M40L	W21E											99
5	0.51	15	M18L	M20L	M21S	W21L									78
6	0.45	15	W18E	W20E	W35L	W40L									111
7	0.35	15	M18S	M20S	M21V	W18L	W20L	W21S							37
8	0.59	10	M45L												143
9	0.56	10	M50L												167
10	0.53	10	M55L												210
11	0.48	10	M60L												157
12	0.43	10	M35S	M40S	W45L										128
13	0.44	10	M16A												99
14	0.40	10	M65L												157
15	0.40	10	M45S	M50S	W50L										166
16	0.37	10	M70L	M55S	W55L										188
17	0.34	10	M60S	W16A	W60L										169
18	0.31	10	M75L	W35S	W40S	W65L									163
19	0.27	10	M65S	W70L	W45S	W50S									162
20	0.23	10	M80	M70S	M75S	W18S	W20S	W21V	W55S	W60S	W65S	W75			114
21	0.18	10	M85	M90	W70S	W80									24
22	0.12	10	W85	W90											2
23	0.34	10	M14A	M16B											85
24	0.24	10	W14A	W16B											68
25	n/a	10	M12A	M14B	W12A	W14B									112
26	n/a	10	M10A	M12B	W10A	W12B									84
27	n/a	10	M10B	W10B											34
															3000

Assumptions and notes:

1. That there are 3000 competitors and that there is a 240 minute start window. The totals in the RH column show estimated numbers on each course and are based on the entry for BOC 013 at close of play, scaled to a total of 3000.
2. Winning times for M21E and W21E are as per WOC, i.e. 90-100 minutes and 70-80 minutes respectively, and increase of 5 minutes on current values
3. An analysis of all JK Individual, BOC and 6 Day results since 2009 was done in order to check any changes in relative running speeds of each age class which resulted in a few small modifications of course length ratios
4. Apart from 3) above, all CLR's have been modified to match the new M21E winning time
5. Two new classes, M90 and W90 have been added
6. The new classes resulted in one extra course being needed. However, tighter class combinations elsewhere mean that the total number of courses has been reduced by one from 28.
7. W21E no longer has a unique course and has been combined with M40L. If necessary, the W21E runners (projected to be 31) could be set off in a separate time block from the M40L runners
8. Some S classes, e.g. M35S and M40S, which strictly speaking need a 1:10000 map, have been combined with older classes and thus require a 1:15000 map. Note that this already occurs for W18S and W20S which are currently on course 22 with a 1:10000 map
9. My analysis showed that there was little correlation between the winning speeds of M/W10A and M/W12A and speeds of the M21E winners so there is no point in quoting a CLR for them

10. Current combinations are very unfair on the oldest competitors as M75, M80 and M85 share the same course; ditto for the women. Yet there is approximately a factor of 2 between the running speeds of the 75 winners and the 85 winners and it is thus impossible to achieve the same winning time of 55-65 minutes using the same course. I have separated out these classes. This has meant yet another course to be planned – hence the need to do more class combining elsewhere.
11. Course 22 may not always need to be put on.

APPENDIX B M/W70 Class for BRC (Agenda Item 6/4 above)

Canvassing clubs can provide this information, but may be a long-winded and time-consuming process. An alternative approach is to determine from this year's BOC entries what the maximum number of M/W70 relay teams could be. This doesn't take long and it gives the following results:-

Club	Men 70+	Women 70+	teams?
BADO	1	0	0
BAOC	1	0	0
BKO	3	2	1
BL	2	2	1
BOK	3	3	2
CHIG	2	1	1
CLOK	0	1	0
DEVON	1	1	0
DFOK	1	0	0
DVO	2	0	0
EBOR	1	0	0
EPOC	3	2	1
GO	1	0	0
HOC	2	3	1
KERNO	2	0	0
LEI	3	0	0
LOC	2	0	0
LOK	2	0	0
MDOC	3	3	2
MV	5	0	0
NATO	1	0	0
NGOC	2	0	0
NOC	2	0	0
OD	3	2	1
PFO	1	0	0
POTOC	0	1	0
QO	2	0	0
SARUM	2	1	1
SAX	3	0	0
SBOC	1	0	0
SN	2	0	0
SO	3	4	2
SOC	1	1	0
SOS	2	0	0
SWOC	2	1	1
SYO	1	0	0

TVOC	5	2	2
WAO	2	1	1
WCH	2	0	0
WIM	3	1	1
WRE	4	3	2
WSX	2	1	1

So, an absolute maximum of 21 teams could be selected from all those on L or S courses who are over 70 on the 2013 BOC Individual Start lists. Given that typically some 1/3 of Individual competitors do not compete in the Relays, the number of potential teams will be reduced (probably disproportionately), and could be of the order of 10. Given that we deemed 9 ultra vet teams at the JK to be viable, then it looks as if an M/W70 class at BRC is also viable.