

Development Committee Minutes

Saturday 1st October 2011



The Board is asked to note:

Item 6: Development Fund grants have been awarded to the following clubs:

- Octavian Droobers – Deferred for more information
- Deeside is awarded £2,000
- Mar OC is awarded £1,200
- Map Group is awarded £1,800
- Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers – Deferred for more information
- Cleveland – Deferred for more information

Attendance:

Ian Webb, Chair

Sean Cronin, SEOA

Steve Buckley, NWOA

Roger Scrutton, SOA

Scott Collier, SWOA and British Orienteering
Director

Liz Yeadon SCOA

Derek Gale, EMOA

Colin Best, YHOA

Henry Morgan, WMOA

Edward Nicholas, Development Manager

Mike Hamilton, Chief Executive

Apologies were received from the representatives of the following associations: BSOA, NEOA, NIOA, EAOA, WOA and from Steve Vernon, Richard Barrett, Natalie Shaw, Caroline Gay, Helen Errington and Caroline Povey

1 Opening remarks

IW welcomed everyone to the Development Committee. IW noted that it had been a busy period of time for himself and the Development Team. IW also asked if everyone had their papers.

2 Declaration of Interest

Any outstanding forms should be completed and sent to the office.

Henry Morgan – OD Development Fund Application; Roger Scrutton – MAROC Development Fund Application; Steve Buckley – DEE Development Fund Application

3 Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting have not been completed

Action EN to complete June Development Committee Minutes

EN

3.2 The Action List was not reviewed

EN

3.3 Matters arising:

a. Membership and levy consultation

b. Development of the Home Nations

c. Organisation of the Development Fund – Dealt with in Agenda point 5.

4 Regional Reports

South East SLOW/DFOK are the two clubs that are increasing membership in the South East. DFOK has grown by 10 however these small gains have been seen as a positive within the club. DFOK has worked hard with a proactive approach in bringing new people into the club. The clubs has organised mass start races with prizegivings to allow them to persuade people to take advantage of their free membership.

North West The North West has supported a number of publicity and marketing sessions. Clubs had a day with a journalist and the clubs also have an upcoming session with Svend who will be offering tips on wider publicity and marketing opportunities. This was supported from last year's Lakes 5 Days money. The Development Committee were interested in the outcomes of these meetings.

Yorkshire and Humberside Community Orienteering continues to be successful in the region. Only one club now does not have a Community Orienteering project.

South West – KERNO and DEVO have been driving forward regular low key local events in addition to their regular event programme. KERNO have been successful in delivering an informal street style series. The WSX/WIM Community Orienteering project is delivering 30 people a week.

South Central – BKO are now up and running in delivering their Community Orienteering project. BAOCC recently ran a UKCC L2 coaching course with three of the attendees based in the South Central area. TVOC are looking to start a Community Orienteering project but are currently uncertain about how the coaching provision will be organised. SARUM have installed a Permanent Orienteering Course and have linked into the local National Health providers. SOC are looking to develop Community Orienteering in a new area. The association is now building up towards JK 2013.

West Midlands – The area is running two UKCC Level 1 course this autumn. WRE have organised a successful summer series of weekly urban races. POTOCC have also been delivering a park race series. OD continues with their successful junior programme. HOC have recently had an advert for the club in the National Trust magazine.

Scotland – Maintaining 2% increase on memberships. Major events for promotion of the sport JK, WTOCC, Moray 2013, WOC 2015. Orienteering featured as a demo sport at a high level demo to First Minister and Scottish Cabinet. Orienteering delivered at Sportscotland Club Development workshop. Large network of deliverers of Teaching Orienteering. SOA has agreed a Coaching Plan for the next 4 years in which the emphasis of coach education shifts from training new coaches to a mix of new coach training plus coach CPD through a Coaching Conference every two years, Coach Update Days alternate every two years and Coach Activity Days every year."

East Midlands – The East Midlands continues to support the high number of Community Orienteering projects. The Derby project is the least effective and there are efforts to kick-start this. A recently started project in Matlock is going well. All four clubs have delivered an intensive weekly programme across during summer. Membership is ticking in at DVO with events and Community Orienteering providing this intake.

5 Development Fund

1. Organisation of the Development Fund

The committee discussed the current arrangements regarding the organisation of the Development Fund.

EN detailed that the intention is to refine the process when applications are received so that all the accompanying documents are included before the applications are passed on to the committee.

The committee asked that a summary sheet be created of the applications to help with an overview of the applications.

The committee also asked for a historical breakdown of the expenditure of the Development Fund and also the current status of the fund before each meeting where decisions were being made. This will include a summary of grant purpose; meeting date; how much; annual report received.

EN will detail the procedures associated with the organisation of the Development Fund for the committee to discuss and agree.

2. Development Fund Applications

a. Octavian Droobers

Octavian Droobers (OD) has applied to the Development Fund for support for their initiative at Kenilworth school. The Development Committee were supportive of the application and were complimentary about their success at the World Schools Championship. The committee also noted the efforts that they were making to ensure that the project was sustainable by organising an event in 2012 with the surplus going to this group. The committee raised a number of points. Firstly in line with its guidance it doesn't support travel to an event. Secondly there was need for clarification about whether this project was for the school or the club and, leading into this, there was a request as to where this project was positioned within the clubs wider development plans. The committee also raised the issue about flow through of participation from this project into the club. In the application the committee also asked for a breakdown of the £720 of coaching that is to be delivered. Finally the application didn't include the club's development plan or a set of club financial accounts.

The decision was deferred and to be agreed by email.

b. Mar Orienteering Club

Mar Orienteering Club (MAROC) have applied to the Development fund for support for their Junior Talent project. MAROC deliver a project that includes 200 hours of coaching to the athletes. It was noted the extensive programme that was being delivered and the committee were supportive of the work happening here. Mar OC were awarded £1200 towards the project. The committee indicated that they wished this project to offer good practice to other projects around the country and requested that the annual report contain athlete feedback as well as a standard report. The committee also asked whether a Focus article could be produced to help disseminate the good practice.

Mar OC have been awarded £1,200

c. Deeside Orienteering Club

Deeside Orienteering Club (DEE) has applied to the Development Fund for funding towards a Sport Ident kit to support their Community Orienteering project. The committee welcomed the application and was supportive of their upcoming project. The committee agreed to fund £2,000 of the total bid of £2,375.

Deeside Orienteering Club have been awarded £2,000

d. Map Group

Map Group has applied to the Development Fund for support to evaluate whether LIDAR and/or other digital elevation can be

used to produce base maps of orienteering terrain, and to disseminate knowledge in this area. The committee discussed whether this sat in the remit of the fund and agreed that it has the authority to determine whether a bid could be supported or not. The committee was supportive of the application, noting the benefits that can be gained by volunteer mappers, as well as the potential improvements in map quality and associated competitor satisfaction. The committee raised the question regarding whether clubs were benefiting and therefore would be expected to contribute. Due to the technical nature of the work the committee requested that the report be published in a way that could be understood by those not involved in mapping. The committee agreed to a funding amount of £1,800, and indicated that the participating clubs should make a contribution to the project as determined by Map Group.

Map Group is awarded £1,800

e. Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers (NATO)

Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers (NATO) have applied to the Development Fund for support to their schools development programme. This programme is a continuation of the voluntary work done by John Crosby as the volunteer Regional Development officer in the area. The application detailed all the work that the project delivered and provided an itemised list of John's requirements going forward. The committee reviewed the application and had the following questions a. The committee wanted to understand what the specific objective of the project was. b. The committee wanted information on whether there was any evidenced follow through, into either regular participation and/or club membership, and whether there were plans to develop this follow through going forward c. whether there were any links into the Community Orienteering projects in the area d. Was this project being run completely by John, or were other volunteers involved - would this project continue without John's involvement?. EN was asked to go back to John with these points.

The decision was deferred and to be agreed by email.

f. Cleveland Orienteering Klubb

Cleveland Orienteering Klubb (CLOK) has applied to the Development for support to their schools competition project. CLOK support a paid coach to deliver the project. The request for funding is for £2,500 per year for three years. The committee had a number of questions about the project. The committee were interested in how the outcomes of the project were being measured. Secondly the committee asked whether there was currently any follow through in terms of regular participation and/or club membership. The committee also asked whether this work was linked into any of the current or future Community Orienteering projects in the area. The committee noted that the project was for three years, and asked whether the project would become sustainable after this time, and if so, what actions are being taken to make it sustainable. The committee asked EN to go back to CLOK with the questions above.

The decision was deferred and to be agreed by email.

3. Development Fund Reports

The committee received a report from Swansea Bay Orienteering Club (SBOC) from their recent funding of £900 to improve publicity. The committee were interested in what methods the club used to get the information about how the publicity worked.

Reports were still outstanding from KFO and COBOC.

**EN to ask SBOC the consultation methods used to determine the effectiveness of their publicity
EN to ask KFO and COBOC for their reports.**

6 Development Programme Update

1. Update

The Regional Development Plans have now been published. A number of clubs and individuals have come forward indicating that they would like to work in the programme in delivering Community Orienteering. The Development Team have met with a number of clubs over the last period and this has resulted in a number of projects being developed.

A small number of clubs did raise some questions about the programme and EN has since met with these clubs and discussed these issues. Overall the feedback has been positive and the Development Team are now working towards delivering the programme.

2. Community Orienteering Update

EN highlighted the report which covers updates from the Participation Managers regarding their regions. This document is in Appendix A. The highlight of the report is that this brings us to a total of seventy six current and provisional Community Orienteering projects and University Projects. The committee discussed the relative successes in each of the regions. Steve Vernon was highlighted for his continued good work in the North. The committee asked how Caroline Gay and Natalie Shaw were settling into their roles after six months and EN described their positive work and detailed the work they had been doing. The south area remains a challenge with the delivery of Community Orienteering.

The group discussed the programme content at length and welcomed the intentions of the work being done. It was noted that Community Orienteering provides a valid stepping stone from school/come and try it orienteering through to events/club orienteering. The committee noted that it would like to see the Community Orienteering projects be encouraged to attend club orienteering events as a group as a next step. The committee also noted the work being done to coach and support newcomers through Community Orienteering. The committee also noted that, due to the regional variations in the prevalence and success of these projects, there should be the opportunity to share ideas from community orienteering across the country at the next meeting.

Action Good practice ideas around Community Orienteering to be brought to the next meeting

3. Schools Orienteering

The schools affiliation process has now been completed and schools and interested individuals now have the opportunity to register for free on the British Orienteering website. Schools/Individuals will receive a document that outlines how to set up an orienteering project in the school environment.

The registration form can be found at http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/school_registration_form

Committee members to highlight the free registration to associations and clubs (and schools), to increase awareness.

4. Higher Education Programme

The HE programme continues to be a challenging area due to the scale of current orienteers attending institutions where orienteering isn't an established club sport. The Development Team are working with a number of institutions currently which are detailed in the report below, which do not currently have an established university orienteering club. The work revolves around supporting students and/or coaches

7 Marketing and Publicity in Orienteering

The committee had a wide ranging discussion regarding marketing and publicity in Orienteering..

The following points were discussed

- **Challenges of promoting orienteering.** The committee discussed the challenges of marketing the sport. Currently we deliver a product that meets the needs of a small, defined group – i.e. existing orienteers - and we market our product primarily to this group. Orienteering is challenged in either evolving the sport to attract new different participants or marketing to the smaller sector of people who may be interested.
- **Defining the market.** Orienteering often promotes itself as “The sport for all.” This is a great facet of the sport, however, it also creates a marketing challenge. To get the greatest impact the marketing has to be focused at a target audience. The end product (event; community orienteering etc.) then has to be tailored to this audience. It was suggested that the same event could promote itself with different marketing for different groups. However, this was recognised as a challenging position. By picking a single target audience, the product and marketing then has to alter to appeal to that audience, and this may be detrimental in its appeal to other groups. The committee noted the success of some clubs in supporting a particular market (e.g. South London Orienteers have a high proportion of M/W21s and are delivering events and activities to meet their needs). The committee noted that the family market is a strong area for orienteering to target. There was recognition that new markets could be evolved, particularly in the 35 plus age group. The committee further discussed the methods of marketing, commenting that certain mediums can be used to target certain groups (for example social media for 16 -35 age group)
- As part of the discussion above, it was noted that the current set of British Orienteering promotional materials has a

focus on children, families and elite action. This makes marketing to older age groups more challenging, yet this group provides the majority of volunteer time within the sport and should not be neglected. It would be prudent to source photographs and create promotional material focussed on the older age groups to complement the existing flyers.

- **Publicity Budgets.** An example was discussed where a club had offered to set aside a part of their budget specifically for publicity. This was regarded as good practice; however, this is not currently common amongst clubs, where publicity is often a low priority, and funded only through event or activity budgets.
- **Sponsorship.** Clubs should look to support any sponsorship offer that is made. Clubs should also consider what they are giving back to the sponsor in terms of coverage.
- **Engagement of Youth Groups.** The committee had experience where direct marketing to youth groups (Scouts; Duke of Edinburgh etc) had been successful. The committee asked if something could be organised at a national level. EN detailed that for real impact the local organisation of these relationships is better than a national campaign.
- **Understanding of current practise.** The committee asked if work can be carried out on what publicity is working and what isn't working for an edition of Focus. The committee also asked to see if an audit could be carried out on current practice.
- **Training of Publicity officers.** The committee expressed a desire for publicity officers to be offered training to help them with their role, in line with that available for mappers and volunteer event officials.
- **Paid Publicity officers.** Due to the high value attached to publicity, and the limited expertise amongst orienteers, the committee suggested that clubs should investigate the opportunities of paying individuals to develop and deliver publicity to groups both within and external to the sport.

Action EN and the committee to find examples of publicity working and not working for an edition of Focus. EN to investigate the options for a wider audit on the current marketing and promotion of orienteering.

Action EN and CP – consider producing promotional materials targeted at older age groups.

Action EN to investigate the development of a support programme and learning packages for club publicity officers.

Action EN to organise further examples of marketing and publicity best practice to go online.

8. Whole Sport Plan 2013 – 2017

MH informed the committee of the latest position in the creation of the 2013 – 2017 British Orienteering Whole Sport Plan, and outlined the timetable for its development. The Board recently held an away day where the WSP was discussed. The upcoming Club and Association Conference also has this as an item for discussion. The committee agreed there should be an agenda item discussing specific aspects of the plan at the January meeting.

9 Service to Orienteering Award

IW explained an article seeking nominations for a new round of Service to Orienteering Awards has been written for Focus, and is to be placed on the website. The deadline for nominations will be the end of October. Panel to review nominations: IW, SC,

EN and CP.

Action The committee is asked to promote the Service to Orienteering Award. IW/EN to ensure website news story posted.

10 Other Business

a. Membership and Levy

The Board have started a consultation on a membership and levy system. Committee members were asked to read up on the paper that can be found on the British Orienteering website and feed their views into their club and/or association.

12 Reporting and Actions:

Report to the Board – see front page of minutes

Actions: see list over

13 Date and Venue of next meetings

The dates for the 2012 meetings were discussed. January 28th Derby; June 9th Birmingham; October 13th Derby.

All to note

14 Chairman’s closing remarks

The Chair closed the meeting at 4pm by thanking everyone for attending and contributing to the discussions in such a positive way.

Action List

Item No.	Action	Person(s) responsible	Status
3.1	Completion of June Development Committee Minute	EN	
5.1	EN will detail the procedures associated with the organisation of the Development Fund for the committee to discuss and agree. History of fund to be compiled.	EN/IW	
5.2	EN to inform applicants to the Development Fund of the outcomes; process payments for those awarded funding and support those with deferred applications.	EN	
5.3	EN to ask SBOC the consultation methods used to determine the effectiveness of their publicity	EN	
5.3	EN to ask KFO and COBOC for their reports.	EN	
6.2	Good practise ideas around Community Orienteering to be brought to the next meeting	ALL	

6.3	Schools registration system to be promoted to associations/clubs/schools	ALL	
7	EN and the committee to find examples of publicity working and not working for an edition of Focus. EN to investigate the options for a wider audit on the current marketing and promotion of orienteering.	ALL/EN	
7	Action EN to investigate the development of a support programme and learning packages for club publicity officers.	EN	
7	Action EN and CP – consider producing promotional materials targeted at older age groups.	EN/CP	
7	Action EN to organise further examples of marketing and publicity best practise to go online.	EN	
9	Website/focus article to be written for Service to Orienteering Awards; all to promote.	ALL	
13	Dates and Venues of 2012 meetings	ALL	

Appendix A – Community Orienteering Update

British Orienteering Community Orienteering Programme

This document is a combined report from the four Participation Managers; one Community Orienteering Development Officer and one Community Orienteering Coach about the projects that are happening in their area. The Community Orienteering programme has been in place since 2008 and after 2 years of learning and developing the programme it has accelerated considerably in the last year.

There are now forty three current Community Orienteering projects taking place across England. This is broken down into three in the South; five in the West; fourteen in the East and twenty one in the North. There are now twenty six provisional Community Orienteering with six in the South; eight in the West; four in the North and eight in the East. We expect these projects to start in the next six months. There are also nine current University projects with two in the North; two in the West and three in the South.

This brings us to a total of seventy eight current and provisional Community Orienteering projects and University Projects.

Update on Community Orienteering and University 'Development' in the North of England

Current (Twenty One)

Barrow and District Orienteers– www.barro.org.uk -Wednesdays (during school term time) from 6:30pm – 8pm at Hawcoat Park Sports and Social Club, Barrow-in-Furness

CLARO Club Night - www.claro-orienteering.org - Wednesday Nights (Term Time) from 6.30pm - 8.00pm. Rossett High School, Harrogate (off Green Lane). Adults: £2.50 Children: £1.50

Cleveland Orienteering Club– www.clok.org.uk - Mondays from 6pm – 7:30pm. Alternating weeks - indoor and outdoor sessions. Indoor - KS2 Hall at Belmont School, Lauderdale Drive, Guisborough. Outdoor - Track sessions at Laurence Jackson School Sports Centre, Church Lane, Guisborough
Wednesday evenings during term time. 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. £1.50 per session. Main Sports Hall of the Eastbourne Sports Complex, Bourne Avenue, Darlington DL1 1LJ

Deeside Orienteering Club – www.deeside-orienteeing-club.org.uk Wednesdays from 6:30pm-8pm. The Catholic High School, Old Wrexham Road, Chester, CH4 7HS. Adults £2.50, Children £1.50, Families £5.

EPOC Club Night - www.eastpennineoc.org.uk - Mondays - 6.30pm - 8.00pm, Greenhead Park (Cafe), Trinity Street, Huddersfield. Adults: £2.00 - Children: £1.00 Families: £3.00

Eborienteers- www.eborienteers.org.uk - Mondays from 6pm – 7.15pm. (School Term Time Only) Acomb Primary School, West Bank, York YO24 4ES.

Humberside and Lincolnshire Orienteering Club - www.halo-orienteeing.org.uk Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 8pm. Oasis Wintringham School, Grimsby. Adults £2, Juniors £1, Families £5. Mondays from 6:30pm – 8pm. Girls Gymnasium in the Longcroft Upper School, Burton Road, Beverley. Adults £2, juniors £1, families £5.

Manchester and District Orienteering Club– www.mdor.org.uk Mondays from 6:30pm – 8pm at Hazel Grove Target Recreation Centre, Stockport. Costs £2.50, Children £1.50 and Families £5.
Tuesdays - 6.30pm to 8.00pm, Parris Wood High School Sports Centre, Didsbury. Adults: £2.50 Children: £1.50 Family Groups: £5.00

Merseyside Orienteering Club– www.merseysideorienteeing.blogspot.com Mondays from 6:30pm – 8pm. Litherland Sports Park, Litherland, Merseyside. Adults £3, Children £2 and Families £4.

Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers - www.newcastleorienteeing.org.uk Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 8:00pm. West Centre at Prudhoe High School, Moor Road, PRUDHOE, Northumberland, NE42 5LJ. Adults £1, Children 50p.

Pendle Forest Orienteers- www.pfo.org.uk Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 8pm. St Nicholas Cof E Primary School, Newchurch, Rawtenstall. BB4 7UA. Adults £2, Children £1 and Families £4, Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

South East Lancashire Orienteering Club- www.seloc.org.uk - Mondays from 6:30pm – 8pm. Eagley Primary School, Eagley, Bolton, BL7 9AT Wednesday nights, 6:30pm – 8pm (starts 17th Aug 2011). Salford Quays Water Sports Centre, 15 The Quays, Salford, M50 3SQ Thursday nights, 6:30pm – 8pm (starts 18th Aug 2011).Burrs Activity Centre, Woodhill Rd, Bury BL8 1DA

South Ribble Orienteering Club– www.sroc.org - Tuesdays from 6:30pm - 8pm at Ripley Saint Thomas School, Lancaster. Adults £2.00, Children 50p.

South Yorkshire Orienteering Club– www.southyorkshireorienteeers.org.uk - Tuesdays (families) from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Nether Green Junior School Fulwood Road, Sheffield, S10 3QA Wednesdays from 6.45pm -7:45pm. The Pearson Building at Sheffield Hallam University, Collegiate Campus, Broomgrove Road.

West Cumberland Orienteering Club– www.wcoc.co.uk Tuesdays from 7pm – 9pm. Stainburn School, Stainburn Road, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 4EB. £2 per person.

Current University Developments (Three)

Leeds University – Lead Coach Ashley Stratton Powell

York University – Lead Officer Adam Bradbury
Teesside University – Lead Officer Jonny Hooton

Provisional (Four)

Lakeland Orienteering Club - Richard Lecky Thompson to lead a Community Orienteering Project from Ulverston. October/November 2011 start date

South Yorkshire Orienteers - Lauren Ferrand to lead a Community Orienteering Project from Forge Valley, Sheffield. Jan/Feb – 2012 start date.

South Ribble Orienteering Club - Patrick Walsh to lead a Community Orienteering Project from University of Central Lancashire, Preston. Spring 2012 start date.

Pendle Forest Orienteering Club - Initial discussions taking place for a Community Orienteering Project at Blessed St Trinity School, Burnley.

Update on Community Orienteering and University 'Development' in the East of England

Current (Fourteen)

Derbyshire

Buxton - Doing well, running itself now, with several coaches. Has produced its own action plan for 2011/2012. Wants to stage a larger Buxton DVO event and increase membership.

Chesterfield - Attendance numbers still on the low side but members do still want it to continue as weekly meeting night, working to create more opportunities to increase publicity.

Matlock - Board member is lead coach, numbers started well but with a lot of existing orienteer's supporting the initiative; numbers have dropped off since the original weeks. However - good relationship with local Sport Development Officer and a steering group been set up.

Derby - Coaches held club night during the summer around series of low key events to see if they could attract more membership. Development meeting arranged to discuss the way forward.

Nottinghamshire

Bassetlaw - Going well, local forests around the area during the summer, and returned to base at Worksop college late September. Lead coach feeding into NOC committee meeting as correspondence rep. They now have their own Facebook site.

West Notts - Still struggling with attendance numbers, number of initiatives over the summer months to try and increase numbers.

Bramcote - Big push in late Spring with publicity have increased attendance with mixture of original NOC members and newcomers. Now moved to Nottingham University campus on a trial basis until Christmas so activities can be continued outside with lights and security.

Leicestershire

Groby - Now have 2 separate strands, beginners and improvers on Mondays and main club night on Thursdays. Thursday club night switched to summer league over the summer but is now back on a regularly basis over the winter at Groby, average 20 on a Thursday so far this September.

Lincolnshire

Lincoln - The regular training activity that the club held has been changed to become their club night. Newcomers are welcome. Dedicated publicity officer appointed. Main route into club is through low key summer/winter league activity which they publicise and have coaching available at which serves as a come and try it.

Essex

Colchester - Handful of regular participants, re launched with publicity through student's fresher's week and a new link made with the students union. Initiatives still needed to grow numbers from the student side.

Halstead - New community orienteering programme launched by SOS September 2011, based at a Primary school - 24 participants on the first night mainly from a cluster of 3 schools. Great work done in these schools with local coaching - interesting to see whether this number is sustained.

Hadleigh - Launching end of September 2011, HAVOC have no local coaches SOS are providing a coach in the short term which is a great help. Discussions about a potential teacher being mentored and becoming a coach is promising and would provide the local schools link which would be worthwhile.

Suffolk

Eye - Regular training activity that happens fortnightly, a small population area means the participants are mainly from a local High School.

Cambridgeshire

Cambridge - Going well, good numbers and great network of coaches that allow for differentiation for newcomers and existing club members. Base at University athletics track means partnership with CUOC works really well.

Current University Developments (One)

Derby University (Buxton Campus) – Lead Coach Dan Riley and Lead Officer Rhys Roberts

Provisional (Eight)

Loughborough - Progress being made for a community orienteering programme and the club are very supportive. Vito on Loughborough University itself so another venue has been found and possible coaches have already been identified, good discussions being held with Sport development unit.

Essex - Explorations are being made in relation to HAVOC and a Brentwood community orienteering programme.

Suffolk - Explorations are being made into the Ipswich area.

Cambridgeshire - Explorations are being made into Peterborough and Bedford, decision of which one to progress will be dependent on identifying a coach. UKCC L1 coaching course in Beds coming up end of Oct.

Hatfield, Hertfordshire Sports Village - Has progressed well due to support from Active Universities programme, due to start November 2011. Work is currently being made on coach development for interested staff at the Uni or HH members, ultimately to identify who wants to lead coach. The programme would be initially for newcomers and the student/young adult age group although following the success of the HH urban summer series it would be good to incorporate a winter urban race programme into this in due course.

Milton Keynes - Great potential for community orienteering due to network of parks and success of SMOC's Keyne-O series. Venue also found so plans to start programme Feb 2012 dependent on coach qualification (SMOC currently no coaches but progress being made with potentially 3 having gone through UKCC L1 by the end of the year).

Update on Community Orienteering and University 'Development' in the West of England

Current (Five)

Walton High School – the tried and tested model of winter cross-training and summer local events is still going strong with Walton Chasers who have celebrated their club night's longevity with a 'Then and Now' Focus article.

Poole – the WSX/WIM joint venture has been running for over six months now and is attracting a varied mix of new and experienced orienteers, young and old to their venue at Parkstone Grammar School. The club is also very active in running coaching in local schools with sessions getting a good attendance though coming up against the usual barriers of encouraging kids to make the leap to the club. Priorities over the coming months are to recruit and train new coaches and to boost marketing for the activities to continue to draw in new people.

Sutton Park – COBOC have an excellent venue at the outdoor centre in Sutton Park and an experienced coach in Dave Ellis. The project started in mid-September with a slow take-up that is now beginning to build. While lots of marketing work has taken place, this has been re-focussed from general notices to schools to more specific information in school newsletters, targeted information to those that have attended events and promotions to existing orienteers to encourage their friends to attend.

Hereford – Kyla da Cunha is leading the 'Wye Valley Explorers' weekly activities in central Hereford targeted at children and their parents. There is some involvement from NGOC and (technically dormant) WYE. The sessions will kick off in early October at the rowing club and marketing efforts are under way.

Devon – the club are fairly advanced in their coaching activities and already run a good range of sessions in schools. They therefore wish to draw this together with weekly activities in East Devon based around The Byes in Sidmouth, catering for families from the high concentration of local schools. Club coach Tess Stone is being supported by Devon members to draw together a detailed plan to start up sessions after the October half term.

Provisional (Eight)

Tidworth – the project based at the leisure centre is in the advanced planning stages but sadly the lead coach has undergone an operation recently which has put him out of action for a short while. The project is on hold until he has made a full recovery.

Tamworth – a potential external coach and venue have been identified but this project has stalled slightly as the lead exponent – and mapper – has been away for some time on business. He has now returned and the project will be re-started.

Quantock – the club are keen to draw on the services of a lead coach to support their existing activities which take place in Taunton, Minehead and Yeovil. Discussions are on-going as to how this project will shape up.

Walsall/Kidderminster – HOC are keen to see activities running in both centres. Potential venues have been identified and coach recruitment is under way.

Gloucester – NGOC are already working with Hartpury College and the University of Gloucester and have given the go-ahead to recruit a coach for Community Orienteering projects after an initially sceptical response.

Chippenham/Swindon – NWO. have run a successful Sport England funded Maze-O project around the two venues. We were hoping that this would lead to more permanent activity but the club were disappointed with the take up in Chippenham and do not feel that it is suitable for regular sessions. They aim to target Swindon during 2012.

Provisional University Development (Two)

Bristol/Bath Universities – a coach has been identified who would be able to lead sessions at either or both universities and work is underway to link her to the student clubs and sports development officers in order to take this forward.

Update on Community Orienteering and University 'Development' in the South of England

Current (Three)

South Downs Coached by Rob Lines and Neil Crickmore

SD's Adventure Running club have continued to be one of the most successful club nights in the South of England. To date they have run over 110 weekly sessions over a period of nearly three years. Despite this success they are currently experiencing a booking issue for their school sports hall venue. This is expected to be resolved shortly although it has resulted in two sessions being cancelled.

Guildford Coached by Linda Cairns (SN) and guest coaches.

The Surrey Adventure running club has been running for just over four months with two separate sessions on a Tuesday evening attracting a dedicated group of families and children for the first session and some loyal adult enthusiasts for the second session. Members of both have progressed onto local SN and GO events including adult trail races and urban events. Outside of term time the lead coach has held sessions in nearby wood and parkland attracting in excess of 40 adults and children from the group of schools associated with George Abbot (the activity night venue). Linda Cairns sessions benefit from the links she has with school sport and local volunteering. The Guildford club night features on the Active Surrey (County Sports Partnership) website; see: <http://www.activesurrey.com/clubs/national-governing-bodies/sports/orienteering>. Similar websites will highlight club orienteering activity across all counties in England.

Berkshire Orienteers Coached by Jason Edwards (BAOC)

BKO have resumed their club nights after a busy summer of local summer evening events. The new venue in Bracknell is a Church Hall which provides more space than their previous venue however, they still have access to the newly extended South Hill Park map. Their new coach Jason Edwards is an experienced orienteer and instructor; he is likely to be sharing some sessions with club and occasional guest coaches. At present the club night is aimed at club members rather than newcomers.

Provisional (Six)

Southampton Coached by Colin Hicks

Although SOC have an active diary of events and socials see: <http://www.southampton-orienteers.org.uk/news> and after a busy summer period of local park events, they are not at present, running a weekly club night for newcomers. Their favoured venue has been a school sports hall and mapped grounds.

Dartford Orienteering Klubb Lead coach identified - DFOK have a lead coach identified and a possible school venue in Bexley for the winter and autumn terms. They are looking at a mix of venues for the spring/summer term and have submitted a plan which is undergoing "due diligence" by members of the DFOK committee. The likely start date is in the new year dependant on first aid training/coaching license. An assistant coach has volunteered to assist the lead coach, both are DFOK members.

Basingstoke and Andover - BADO have expressed an interest in running a weekly club night in the Basingstoke area, however a coach has not yet been identified and resource (time) has not yet allowed the opportunity to be exploited.

Mole Valley - Mole Valley have identified a lead coach who is available to run sessions in the Leatherhead area. Three potential school sites are currently being looked at and an initial club/coach/Participation manager meeting is to be arranged shortly. The project will also attract the support of Active Surrey.

Others -TVOC and CHIG have both shown good club/committee support and hope to support any Community O activity that may start in their areas. TVOC have suggested a share with OUOC however, a lead coordinator is required to oversee the project.

Potential County Sports Partnership work

Proactive North London and Proactive South London have both offered to broker agreements with their local authorities for Youth engagement projects utilising their multisport coaches to deliver orienteering sessions. This opportunity has not yet been followed up due to a lack of resources.

Current University Developments (Three)

Roehampton (South West London) in partnership with SLOW

A new map has been completed of the campus and fresher's week was supported with two activities attracting significant interest. The sports development staff are assisting SLOW and the first club event takes place on Sun 9th October (Trail challenge) with a university sprint challenge.

Imperial College, London

Imperial college will have three established orienteers attending this academic term that will form the basis of a team for the BUCS Championships in March. A new map of the Kensington campus is nearing completion and advertising material will be distributed by members of the cross country team during the fresher's fair (4th Oct). Students will be encouraged to attend the London club events such as the Street O series as well as local weekend events.

University of Surrey (Guildford)

Due to the proximity of the university to many of the military league south (MLS) events it has been proposed that local orienteers (military and civilian) offer lifts to students who express an interest in competing for the university. MLS events offer a long Red course suitable for novice adults. If successful, a similar arrangement may also work for Reading university. Once a team becomes established and recognised by the union the university are more likely to supply transport.