

Event Scheduling Group Meeting Minutes

Saturday 23 March 2013



At Tally Ho, Birmingham

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

David Pal was welcomed to his first meeting as the representative from WOA.

2. Record of persons present.

Mike Cope – Chairman of the Event Scheduling Group (ESG) and YHOA

Paul Caban – SOA

Dick Towler – NWOA

Duncan Archer – NEOA

David Pal - WOA

Allan Williams – WMOA

Anthony Biggs – EAOA

Richard Sansbury – SWOA

Richard Sharp – SCOA

Philip Gristwood – SEOA

Chris Philips – Events and Competitions Committee Representative

Dave Peel – Event Manager

3. Apologies.

Ian Whitehead – EMOA

Joe McClure – NIOA

4. Declaration of any other business. Declaration of interest forms.

MC is chair and YHOA representative in the group.

Group members were reminded to complete and send in their declaration of interest forms.

5. Meeting expenses, overall budget and possibilities for the October meeting.

A quick check of everyone's expenses and the cost of the room and refreshments meant that the group would be spending about £650 when there was only a £500 budget. This was not unexpected.

Possibilities for the future with a meeting were mentioned – funds from other groups who would not be using all their budgets, unlikely possibility of reducing expenses for a meeting with representatives from each association, and equitable funding from each association. There was a general feeling that funding should be provided centrally because so much of the business of the meeting was considered national rather than for associations – possibly only item 15 was association work and that item no longer takes up much meeting time because of advance preparation. Some associations would be more willing to pay than others - one already does pay, others have little funding of their own. Association funding could be explored but only after a decision of no BO funding. Because of the amount of work done at the meeting, it was considered to be worth the money spent.

Possibilities of other than meetings were discussed – google hangout, lots of phone calls and emails. It was agreed that these would not be as good. A google hangout might be used for discussion of a particular topic but would not be particularly good for scheduling matters and much of the meeting business.

MC will investigate further as the year progresses and make a decision about October.

6. Minutes of Fixtures Group meeting held on 6 October 2012.

- a. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.
- b. Actions from meeting.

- 7 UKOL concerns about junior and 21 elites to be raised with EP&PG and/or E&CC by CP/MC. Someone else took the matter to the Board and ideas were progressing. However, they seem to have stalled.
 - 8 Remaining requirements for UKOL 2014/2015 to be identified and advertised – DP/MC. Done. Responses were limited but a few late ones meant that progress was possible.
 - 9 Missing CSC detail to be chased up – MC. Done
 - 10 Missing 2013 YBT detail and a club to host the 2014 final to be chased up – MC. Done
 - 11 Scheduling problems and possible changes in Oct/Nov 2014 – MC to lead. Done as best it can be.
 - 11 The future of the Area Championships to be raised with EP&PG & E&CC by CP/MC. See item 7.
 - 11 The future of Home Internationals to be raised with EP&PG and/or E&CC by CP/MC. As above.
 - 13 Database problems over dates and downgrading to be dealt with by TB. Still to be done.
 - 13 Any other issues concerning the database to be collated by TB. Being done.
 - 14 Newsletter for CFS to be produced after Oct 16 & when UKOL requirements are clearer - MC. Done
 - 15 ESG suggested terms of reference to be passed on to EP&PG and/or E&CC and developed CP/MC. CP has discussed this with CJ and suggestions in last minutes will be discussed at E&CC.
 - 15 Appointment of another official and meeting secretary services for the group to be considered – to EP&PG/E&CC by CP/MC. Meeting agreed that they would be happy for Paul and Tony to have ESG chair access to the database and authority to make decisions if MC unavailable. MC to progress.
 - 17 Future meeting dates and venues to be sorted out – MC. Done
7. Update on anything from other groups - E&CC and EP&PG.

Area Champs have been discussed and the current suggestion is that they should stay as As but some of the requirements should be relaxed – reduced embargo, no commentary, digital maps. Getting an A controller was also sometimes a problem. A/B flexibility might be simpler as for Scottish and Welsh. Another possibility is to have bids rather than a set rota though it must be recognised that associations tend to get something sorted out when they know it is their turn. Northern has an unbalanced rota to cater for the difference in association resources. Area Champs should normally be in UKOL.

BOC/BRC dates have been discussed after it was raised by the Elite Performance Group and the suggestion is that the May bank holiday weekend should be avoided but the date must be at least 2 weeks after Easter.

A Focus Group has been proposed to discuss the strategic direction for competitions and scheduling. It was pointed out that the Competitions Review did this. Following up on some of the suggestions and clarifications could give the correct pointers.

8. Updated timetable for scheduling events.

This came from EP&PG work by DP and MC on a bidding system for events. The old NFG timetable was revised to fit in with this and UKOL. There are no radical changes to timings from the original. The group accepted the timetable as a plan to aim for. Bidding process ideas exist but will need to go to EP&PG and maybe be revised in the light of DP's resignation. Basically they tied up all bidding into one document by the time we had finished but not for ESG until EP&PG has dealt with it.

For EP&PG MC also looked at all the competitions that ESG schedules and their timings. Out of it came an outline plan for 2016 which was favourably received and used later in the meeting.

9. Possible BOC/BRC moves for 2014 and 2015 and the consequences.

NEOA had requested a move for BOC/BRC in 2014 to 31May/1 June. This was agreed. The BOC/BRC move would leave a big gap in the UKOL programme and it was agreed that MC would approach EBOR who seem to have the most suitable events to fill the gap either on 16 or 23 March. Depending on the date used HOC, KFO, DEE, SMOC might wish to reconsider their March date (EBOR likely to move so maybe no problem).

BOK have agreed to move BOC/BRC in 2015 to 18/19 April to avoid the Tio Mila clash. ESG suggested a similar date for 2016 which WMOA hope to be able to use. The 2015 move does leave a Bank Holiday weekend with opportunities for some other big event.

10. JK and British Long/Middle/Sprint/Night Champs 2015 onwards. Confirmations of dates for 2015 and 2016 and hosts further ahead.

16/17 April for BOC/BRC and 3/4 Sept for the British Sprint/Middle were agreed. It is hoped that WMOA and SCOA can work with these dates and the BOC/BRC one should avoid the Tio Mila. SCOA is having problems with original areas wanted but SEOA may be able to help out.

JK and BNC 2016 dates confirmed. Though very early, responsibilities for JK and British Champs further ahead are provisionally accepted.

11. UK orienteering League.

- a. 2014 plans. Almost sorted out and clubs involved have agreed. MC to ask EBOR about gap in March. Caddihoe Chase not needed for 2014 but offer appreciated. MC to provisionally indicate on database and finalise with DP and then HE.
- b. 2015 plans and offers. Offers have come in to complement what was already there from JK and Brit Champs – specifically Twin Peak in early June, NATO urban + 1 in July, urban/sprint from DEE in Oct, urban + 1 from LOG in Oct, final + 1 from LOC in Nov. Not all these can be used and MC will work with HE to sort out the best balanced plan.
- c. 2016. The outline planner was used to see what was needed complement the JK and Brit Champs. Suggestions were made for including the Area Champs. Some 2015 offers could be used to fill in the gaps. MC and HE to sort out best balanced plan and identify further needs.

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

Agreed to move 2015 and 2016 heat dates to middle of March in response to requests to move them away from half term, slightly nearer the final, and reduce risk of weather cancellation. After much deliberation over the last few months, SN had chosen Saturday 8 Nov for the 2014 final as the best date of those possible. A host club is needed for the 2016 final.

MC mentioned the distribution of heats in 2013 but 2014 does look better. Nothing to be done.

13. Home Internationals – rotation changes and dates. JIRCs – rotation changes.

Responsibilities for the 2014 events had been changed round. It was agreed that suggestions for 2015 balanced things out again. PG will ask appropriate people to look at rotations beyond 2016 which is as far as the planner goes. To avoid the problem of fitting these in after many other events, dates up to 2016 have been suggested.

Changes to JIRCs for 2014 to 2016 were agreed, but still a host is needed for 2014. EM has been asked and SC and NW are also considering. Once 2014 has been settled, MC will suggest a rotation further ahead.

14. Other ESG scheduled events on the main planner for A and listed B events 2014 – 2016. If time, rotation plans further ahead.

Much of this was filled in and is on the updated planner. We may have to give up with the 2013 Harvester and the 2014 Midlands Champs. Appropriate AFS should try to sort out detail for 2015 gaps.

15. Other level B events requested by clubs/associations. All B events up to Dec 2014 should be finalised. Any later requests can be made known and added to the database but not confirmed.

Much had been done in advance to sort out difficulties so this task was fairly easily done for 2014. It was agreed that as requests did often come in soon after the meeting deadline, they could be added if coming in the next few weeks and agreed by all.

A number of 2015 requests were already in the database. It was possible to make some adjustments to iron out difficulties. However, club Bs beyond 2014 will not be confirmed until later meetings.

16. Fixtures information for participants.

The paper from CJ had been circulated earlier to ESG members. A few comments were noted by CP for taking back to CJ. General acceptance that we should be encouraging this information to be given out to potential competitors in good time. Not easy to persuade busy organisers of the need but we should

try. Facilities exist on the BO website for much of this information but it is not well enough used. MC will include something in newsletter.

17. Any BO fixtures database issues.

Nothing new to be added to TB's lists. Date change access is important to get sorted out as soon as possible.

18. Newsletter for Club Fixtures Secretaries.

MC to do this including key points from meeting, updated planning sheets, explanation of changes to events, UKOL situation, other events to bid for, and summary of information to participants.

19. Any other business.

No other business

20. Dates of next meetings.

Provisional date of 19 October agreed but this could not be confirmed as a face-to-face meeting yet. 22 March is about right but 15 March might be better if fixtures change around that time. MC will check with others and decide later.

ACTIONS

Actions noted on the overall planner are not usually mentioned here as well. Numbers refer to the minutes above.

4. All AFS who have not completed Declaration of interest forms to do them.
5. Decision about October meeting after more is known about finances – MC
6. 15. ESG terms of reference to E&CC – CP
6. 15. Full database access for 2 others – MC to follow up
11. UKOL – MC to work with HE
- 13 Home Internationals Rota – PG will chase up
- 13 JIRCs rota – MC to suggest when 2014 sorted out
- 17 Database issues – TB to continue with this work
- 18 Newsletter – MC
- 20 Dates and meeting booking - MC