

Trail O Committee Minutes 11th February 2012



Meeting held at the Carr Lane Church Centre, Birmingham on Saturday 11 February 2012 at 10:55

Present

Dick Keighley, Chairman (DK)	WIM, SWOA
Anne Braggins (AB)	WAOC, EAOA
Neil Cameron (NC)	NGOC, Board TrailO liaison Director
Ian Ditchfield (ID)	MV, SEOA
John Kewley (JKew)	MDOC, NWOA
Christine Roberts (CR)	EBOR, YHOA

Apologies

Alan Gartside	LVO, NIOA
Christine Vince	
Clive Allen	

T10/01 Chairman's introduction and opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending, especially welcoming Ian Ditchfield.

T10/02 Attendance and apologies

There were apologies from Alan Gartside, Clive Allen and Christine Vince. DK said the Committee published membership needed to be brought up-to-date and he would notify BOF office of the changes.

T10/03 Conflicts of interest declaration

Everyone present had sent in their 2012 declarations. Anne Braggins and Neil Cameron reminded the meeting that they were Selectors, and all others present were currently team members or potential team members for GBR.

T10/04 Minutes of previous meeting 16th July 2011

These were approved. The action list was reviewed and all actions were complete or on the meeting agenda.

T10/05 Matters arising and actions (not on agenda)

DK advised that he had contacted Caroline Povey about team uniforms but she said that this was now dealt with by Sarah Hague. Kit had been ordered for two years however, so it was unlikely that there would be much available except on loan as had been done for other groups. DK agreed (in lack of a 2012 Team Manager) to ask Sarah on this.

T12/6 Selection procedures and ranking list

The 2012 TrailO selection procedure had been finalised in dialogue with the committee and then published. The procedure was formally adopted. NC advised that he had taken a long time (for which he apologised) to produce the latest ranking list using the ITOC 2011 results, but it was now available.

NC asked that future ranking TrailO event organisers supply the results quickly after their event, as Excel files (not PDF format), with the event name and year included in

the file name, with BOF numbers (or indication of lack of) included for all competitors, and details of who were organiser, planner and controller. He agreed to supply the Chairman with a list of these requirements for dissemination to future organisers.

After discussion, and in light of decisions at the last meeting, it was agreed to refer to the ranking as the "TrailO selection ranking list" in future.

The Chairman suggested that if JKew wished the ranking list to be based on different inclusion criteria to those agreed, he could produce an alternate ranking for a year or so and the two outputs compared.

JKew suggested there should be a minimum number of eligible competitors with results for a ranking event to be counted as such, with the option of including some further non-UK events. It was agreed to study these issues in due course.

It was agreed that the events to be used for the selection ranking should be publicised as far in advance as possible.

T12/7 UK events 2012

BTOC 2012 17/18 March 2012. JKew reported that the Planner is JKew, Controller is Wilbert Hollinger (LVO), and Organising club is ERYRI with joint Organisers Bill Teahan and Sue Norris. This was formally approved. On Day 1 there will be a short course pre-lunch with all only "A or Z" type controls and taking 30-40 minutes, but unusually, there will be no decision points. The afternoon event will have 1 timed control with 14-16 controls in a 1.5 Kms course. Day 2 will be about 1.8 Kms with about 22 controls with this one day alone being BTOC.

Entry anticipated was about 15, plus possible 10-15 others from Scandinavia. There were toilets including for disabled at the main entrance which was accessible by returning down the forest road (by car if necessary). Financial break-even was likely, with planner's travel the main expense.

JK 2012 7/8 April 2012. DK reported that that there would be TrailO at the JK, making clear it was not suitable for WTOC training due to major terrain difference. Two separate days in the afternoons including some difficult controls, but the main aim was to promote TrailO in Scotland. AB suggested that the competition would very likely be won on the timed controls.

The 1st day was at Faskally on the way back from JK FootO at Dunalastair, the 2nd day at Dunkeld a walk along the Tay from the FootO. Both days were on good paths with disabled toilets available.

After discussion, it was confirmed that this would count as two "selection ranking" events, with JK 2010 results dropping out.

Other dates 2012. The ITOC 2012 date was not yet confirmed. CR reported on the possibility being considered of having a TrailO introduction course at the White Rose, available all weekend for people to try. DK said he would check possibilities of having TrailO at Caddihoe 2012.

T12/8 UK events 2013

ID reported that he had started liaison with the Organising team to try and have a TrailO event in conjunction with SEOA-hosted BTOC for FootO on 4/5 May 2013 (Bank holiday on 6 May). The relay day (Sun 5 May) was suggested as preferable.

JK 2013 in SCOA. DK agreed to contact SCOA re the TrailO possibilities.

Because of the geographic locations, AB suggested she would try to hold her envisaged EAOA event in 2014.

T12/9 IOF Rules

IOF had been asked to review the 2011 revision of the Paralympic eligibility rules and procedures for practicability and fairness. Their reply said they sympathised but asked if we had any suggested improvements.

Our reply had proposed that the criterion should be inability to complete a 3 Kms course on the TrailO route without mobility aids. The suggestion was discussed at the IOF TrailO Committee meeting in January, but DK had been told informally that IOF had decided they wished to allow a year or two to elapse before changing their new criteria.

DK agreed to circulate the formal reply that he had now received, and would reply to IOF thanking them and suggesting wider publication of the reply.

T12/10 Coaching & training resources

DK agreed to progress use of the "Year in a Box" Community-O resource for TrailO purposes.

The LVO preO approach to promoting TrailO was discussed and examples from Alan Gartside were examined and discussed over lunch.

T12/11 WTOC 2012

AB reported on the web site improvements. Entries were less than expected but approaching 100 including officials. Teams seemed smaller than usual and few had separate Team Managers. Accommodation was giving concern since many were booking the "small double" option. Reminders on the room's limitations were being sent out.

West Park has been booked by most. Helpers: minimum numbers are close to being achieved. Still need minibus driver (to have a licence to drive a 16 seater minibus and preferably with MIDAS certificate), and also start/finish teams.

Overall, income was down but expenditure although down cannot reflect that to the same extent: the budget was now very tight and volunteers would be unlikely to be assisted financially. Rob Hickling is heading results team using Martin Fredholm's software. It would be trialled at BTOC and JK 2012. AB was ensuring there would be enough volunteer resources for results.

Public races: hoping for good entries encouraged by the low entry fees. Tempo trophy entries were limited to 3 per team. A reception at the opening ceremony was provisionally being offered by the City of Dundee.

AB would be submitting a report on WTOC to BOF Board for 21 Feb. NC asked that the report concentrate on financial matters and current risks.

T12/12 Funding review

DK reported that the budget for 2012 would now be £3.5K instead of £4K. Most of this would however be needed to meet entry fees.

AB queried why TrailO was not included in the BOF partnership agreement, as this was making all TrailO at major events much more an afterthought and therefore

problematic. DK agreed to write to BOF about this, especially as the JK was an orienteering festival, unlike BOC/BTOC where BTOC might not be able to be offered nearby. Members agreed to input ideas for the letter to DK.

T12/13 Publicity/Focus

Because of lack of recent TrailO activity, the deadline for Focus passed without any significant input. DK would produce TrailO material for the next Focus covering BTOC and JK. It was anticipated that the next CompassSport would have TrailO promotional content.

T12/14 TrailO Rules and guidelines

The latest version of AG's 2012 BOF Rules & Guidelines was circulated. It was in a word-processing format with TrailO versions shown underneath each FootO provision and enabled any changes necessary for TrailO to be identified and highlighted.

Discussion suggested removing reference to A, B and C level events. Members agreed to feedback comments to AG. AG was thanked for this work.

T12/15 Any other business

JKew commented on a useful Facebook group on TrailO called "Bearing towards the C-Flag".

JKew raised the issue of using FootO event levels for TrailO. NC agreed to discuss this with Mike Hamilton, as well as levy implications for TrailO of any changed levy system.

JKew mentioned that in Norway, after every TrailO event, there was a review which included discussion of comments and complaints from competitors, rather than these being taken to the Organiser.

Peter Roberts' paper following his experiences at ITOC 2011 in a wheelchair was discussed. The Chairman asked CR to convey the Committee's thanks to Peter for taking the time to prepare the paper which the Committee found to be a valuable reminder of a range of relevant matters for all TrailO officials.

T12/16 Dates and venues of future meetings

The Chairman said that he planned that the next meeting would be held on Saturday 14 July 2012 in Birmingham, and would include a review of WTOC 2012. Final confirmation would be by end March 2012 at the latest.

T12/17 Close of meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.55 pm, thanking everyone for their attendance and contributions.