

**NORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE ORIENTEERING CLUB  
MINUTES FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held in Room TC218A, Oxstalls Campus, University of Gloucester on 18th October 2017

The meeting was formally opened at 8:30pm, following a buffet and a period of informal discussion about which extra courses (if any) to add to our League events. It was widely agreed that we should add an extra course between Orange and Short Green. After a long period of discussion, it was narrowly decided also to change the League courses names from Yellow, Orange, Green, Blue to Yellow, Orange, Short Green, Short Blue, Short Brown, keeping to our current standards for the existing courses, and ensuring that the new course length conforms to BOF guidelines for Light Green/Short Green courses (which are the same). The reason for this is that, according to the BOF rules, which are based on winning times for a hypothetical Black course, our current Blue and Green courses may approximate more closely to Short Blue and Short Brown than to Green and Blue courses.

- 1. PRESENT:** Gary Wakerley (Chairman), Pat MacLeod (Equipment/Development officer), Greg Best (Permissions and Event Official Recruitment), Judith Austerberry (Legend Editor), Caroline Craig (Secretary), Carol Stewart (Treasurer), Simon Denman (Membership Secretary and Acting Volunteer Coordinator), Paul Taunton (Mapping Officer), Ashleigh Denman (Welfare Officer), Richard Cronin (Club Captain), Richard Purkis (committee), Roger Coe, Andrew Hartley, Dave Hartley, Hilary Nicholls, Richard Higgs, Steve Williams, Sheila Miklausic, John Miklausic, Tom Birthwright, Tom Cochrane, Alan McCall, Paul Horsfall, Ros Taunton, Tom Mills, Bob Teed.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** John Fallows (committee), Stephen Robinson (Fixtures Secretary), Gill James (Assistant Welfare Officer), Chris James, Neil and Pat Cameron, Matthew and Vanessa Lawson, Steve Lee, Andy Monro, Pete Ward, Alan Richards, Peter Maloney, Gill Stott, Alan and Ann Brown, Ginny Hudson.

- 2. MINUTES FROM 2016 AGM:** These were accepted as a true record.
- 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance and Gary had nothing to add.
- 4. SECRETARY'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance and Caroline asked for anyone with ideas for a new committee meeting location to let her know.
- 5. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Along with the accounts, this had been circulated in advance. Carol had not yet been able to get hold of the examiner, so the accounts were approved subject to examination. If we hadn't got the money from Croeso, we'd have made a loss this year, but we spent money because we had lots in the bank. Carol noted that once we have a new Chairman we will get a new bank mandate. It was agreed that cheques should be signed by any two of (named) chairman, treasurer and secretary. Transfers between accounts may be made on the treasurer's signature alone. It was agreed to accept the provisions in the remainder of Section 5 of the mandate.
- 6. MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance and Simon noted that nobody had yet volunteered to take on the role of Volunteer Coordinator.
- 7. PERMISSIONS AND EVENT OFFICIAL RECRUITMENT REPORT (in place of FIXTURES SECRETARY'S REPORT):** This had been circulated in advance and Greg commented that we had averaged one event per fortnight in 2017. He thanked people for volunteering for official roles for 2018 events, noting that there were only a few gaps left (including the New Years Day Event).

Richard Cronin added that not only has 2017 featured 36 different officials (as in Greg's report), but also our members have controlled at other clubs' events. It was also commented that the average League attendance so far this season must be higher than last season, thanks to the last two events (although there were a couple of around 100 earlier in the season).

- 8. MAPPING OFFICER'S REPORT:** A brief report had been circulated in advance. Paul commented that he should be called Printing Officer not Mapping Officer, but thankfully others had been updating and/or creating maps. He had printed and brought along blank maps for the CompassSport Cup Final, as well as some legends.
- 9. EQUIPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance. Pat warned planners to let him know their control numbers in advance, since it's a challenge keeping up to date with battery changes. All other equipment is fine, though we will buy some new start and finish banners.
- 10. CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance. Richard reported that he was doing things on Facebook for a bit of publicity. He encouraged everyone to help where they could, suggesting: signing up to (or saying they're interested in) events on Facebook so that friends see it; joining the club Facebook group and posting in it; running in club tops at running races. Richard noted that he's trying to get us to act like a club and is open to other people's ideas about how else to achieve that. It had previously been suggested that we have club training runs and this was agreed by the committee, but needs a coordinator (for which volunteers are very welcome).
- 11. LEGEND EDITOR'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance. Judith questioned whether the club really wants 40 hours of volunteer time per 2 months spent on the Legend. People were very complimentary of the Legend and keen to keep it going, noting especially that it is good for long articles, which is something only Legend contains. Judith agreed to continue as Legend editor, after several time-saving measures were agreed – reducing it to quarterly and cutting out some sections covered by emails (e.g. results). People are encouraged to send in articles and especially photos.  
Several people commented that they would pay for a hard copy. Judith commented that the hard copies left in the tent at events can be taken away by members who would like one. Carol noted that the membership fee was originally brought in to cover printing Legend, so we won't ask people to pay and they should feel free to take a copy.
- 12. WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance and there was nothing to add.
- 13. DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:** This had been circulated in advance Pat added that he had met Phil Conway, the new British Orienteering Southern Development Manager, in the start lane recently. Phil had said he will be in touch. Richard Cronin noted that Phil has an orienteering background so will be helpful in that sense – e.g. getting access to funds for specific projects. Pat will be looking for help this winter for setting up the Christchurch POC. He also highlighted that we need to restart our Training events next year, but this will be easier with Gill Stott being a Level 2 Coach by then. We have realised we shouldn't try to cover TD1 to TD5 at every event. We also plan to build on R2T2 next year.

#### **14. AWARD OF TROPHIES AND PRIZES:**

Terry Bradstock Trophy (not presented on the night as Pete was not present):

1<sup>st</sup>: Pete Ward

2<sup>nd</sup>: Rebecca Ward

3<sup>rd</sup>: Paul Taunton

Prizes for the league are now awarded at the New Year's Day event. The same applies for the Club Championship prizes.

#### **15. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Gary Wakerley proposed Tom Mills as Chairman and this was seconded by Simon Denman. Gary thanked everyone and said he'd had a really good time. Simon thanked Gary for his work as Chairman, especially for doing an extra year, and everyone agreed. All other committee members were happy to continue in their current roles.

#### **16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Coaching Day:** Neil Cameron had advised that the Orienteering Foundation are putting on a coaching day in the Lake District in February. All are welcome (although no coaching for Under 18s is available). Clubs can put on their own coaching using the controls, provided they use a suitably qualified coach.

**Formalising the Advisor role:** Pete Ward had suggested that formalising this to Controller would give more reassurance to new planners, as the advisor role was not always well understood. Pat reported that he intends to put on courses for advisors (and planners) next year, but this issue will also be discussed at the next committee meeting. It was noted that it would require more controllers in the club, for which we would put on a course if there were enough candidates.

**Changing Yellow:** As well as congratulating all who contributed to the very well attended last two events, Matthew Lawson had suggested it might be worth looking at the customers for Yellow each year and if they're mostly younger, changing it to a White that year.

**NGOC Attendance at British Championships:** Andy Monro had expressed concern at how few NGOC members had attended recent British Championships events. In particular, the Sprint and Middle this September were only 90 minutes away, but still featured very few from NGOC. Caroline was also surprised and asked why people had chosen not to go. Most responses were that it was too expensive, at nearly £50 for the weekend. Several people did not think it worth travelling for a Sprint in a park, but those who went to the Middle had enjoyed it. Others had little interest in comparing themselves at a national level. At least one person didn't feel good enough to go to the national championship, so Caroline highlighted that orienteering is one of few sports where the national championship is for everyone. Richard Cronin said that he's trying to encourage people to compete more at other clubs' events closer to home, because that seemed more achievable at the moment. He also hoped lots of people would go to the JK next year as it's fairly local at Cannock Chase (although it was pointed out that this is no closer than the British Middle was this year). The British Sprint and Middle are being held near Bristol in 2018 so we hope to encourage more people to go.

**17. CLOSE:** The meeting closed at 9:10pm