

NGOC Committee Meeting

Monday 04 December 2023 – 7pm over Zoom

Present: Ian Jones (Chair), Alan Pucill, Ginny Hudson, Greg Best, Ian Phillips, Ian Prowse, John Fallows, Pat Macleod, Paul Taunton, Rhiannon Fadeyibi, Tom Cochrane, Vanessa Lawson (to 8pm)

1. Apologies: Alan Brown, Judith Taylor. The meeting was quorate and new committee members welcomed.
2. Minutes of previous meeting (21 August 2023) were accepted.
3. Matters arising: -
 - a. Junior Representative position on the committee. It was felt that the conversation to understand the details of the member's proposal would be best held in person. Unfortunately, it has proved difficult to arrange an in-person meeting. **ACTION CONTINUES.**
 - b. SWOA action for report on how clubs approach recruitment: Report sent to SWOA. **ACTION CLOSED**
 - c. SWOA action for the club to include a section on *Beginners* page of NGOC website on volunteering **ACTION OUTSTANDING**
 - d. Auditor for end-of-year club accounts needed: Auditor found. **ACTION CLOSED.**
 - e. Chair to notify BOF of the club's view of the anticipated impact of the BOF levy increases for non-members: Chair emailed BOF on 7 September 2023. **ACTION CLOSED**
 - f. **For record only:**
 - i. **Appendix B, Course Planning, Paragraph 11.2 The Map, 11.2.1 - BOF considering making the scale 1:4,000 NOT 1:5,000 before Rules are published for use after 1 January 2024.**
 - ii. **Following inconsistencies between published results for 2023 UKOL and the Rules, BOF have confirmed that a minimum of 33% vice 50% of total UKOL events will count.**
4. Reports
 - a. Chair
 - i. **To record that a proposal simplifying the running of a String Course at events is being trialled at the Bixslade event on 16 December.**
 - b. Captain
 - i. The NGOC CompassSport Cup heat will be at Cannock Chase on 18 February 2024.
 - ii. Backup venue is Bere Wood on the same date.
 - c. Treasurer
 - i. Awaiting feedback on the end-of-year accounts.

ACTION: Treasurer to follow up to ensure accounts are accurate.

- d. Fixtures/Permissions
 - i. **NGOC prepared in principle to host the Harvester Relays in 2025 or later**, contingent on sufficient demand, possibly co-hosting with BOK. Suggestion to run a survey in the next CompassSport newsletter to gauge interest.

ACTION: Chair to contact CompassSport editor about running a survey in the next newsletter.

- ii. The committee discussed holding **an indoor orienteering event next year possibly as the Chair's Challenge**. Gloucester prison was suggested as a venue. Airsoft combat games are already held there so they are used to many people running around the building.

ACTION: Chair to recce Gloucester Prison as a potential Chair's Challenge venue. Decision pending.

- e. Equipment Officer
 - i. Gary Wakerley, NGOC organiser for Croeso Day 1 (21 July 2024), is attending WOA planning meetings.
 - ii. Update from coaching/development sub-group: -
 1. Trialling new string course process at Bixslade on 16 December

2. Coach for the Welsh Junior Squad (WJS) is developing a programme for juniors, running courses at Technical Difficulty (TD) 3 & 4 on the back of NGOC events.
3. Connecting NGOC improving youngsters with development groups
4. Lacking opportunities to improve the performance of the wider membership but need to understand the appetite for training exercises. It was decided to run a Google poll.

ACTION: Tom and Pat to devise questions for and run a Google poll about training

- f. Mapping
 - i. Current printer obsolete meaning there will be no spare parts if it breaks down. Working well now but for how long? Decided to purchase replacement printer. Need to see sample prints before purchasing. **Use test prints from BOF website to assess quality of new printer and seek mapping committee approval for its use with higher level events.** This would be a saving for the club if approval granted. Obsolete printer will be kept as back-up for as long as it lasts.
- g. Membership
 - i. Membership up 10 from this time last year.
 - ii. Welcome to the Bovill (Heather, David, Daniel, and Ben) and Hardiman (Roger, Lisa, and Hannah) families.
 - iii. **Membership Secretary to investigate NGOC doing something like the Seren Awards that WOA/SBOC run.** This is a personal performance award scheme which develops orienteering skills in a structured and progressive format.
- h. Newsletter – no points arising.
- i. Welfare Officer – no points arising.
- j. Volunteer co-ordinator – no points arising.
- k. Comms officer – no points arising.
5. Terry Bradstock Trophy (TBT) qualifying events during 2024
 - a. Discussion about which events will count for the 2024 Terry Bradstock Trophy (TBT).

ACTION: John Fallows to circulate the resulting list to the committee for final approval.

6. Crickley Hill Permanent Orienteering Course (POC)
 - a. Committee agreed to fund the replacement of the course signs identified as in a poor condition. Awaiting decision on whether the signs need to be UV-resistant.

ACTION: Pat to determine whether replacement signs need to be UV-resistant and to advise the POC point of contact on decision.

7. Purchase of defibrillator
 - a. It was felt that it would be helpful to have data on the effectiveness of defibrillators in the context of orienteering events. It appears from past incident reports that defibrillators would not have made a difference. Is this still the case?

ACTION: Paul to research and report back to the committee

8. AOB
 - a. The committee thanks Ellen Starling for her work in comprehensively overhauling and refreshing the club's existing first aid equipment.
9. Date and format of next meeting: **Monday 5 February 2024 at 7pm via Zoom.**