

Reports February 2024

Name: Ian Jones
Role: Chair
Report: February 2024

Christmas and the holidays feel like a long time ago now; we are already half-way through Q1 2024. *Is it too late to ask ourselves what are the club's New Year Resolutions for 2024?*

The club has put on six events over the first six weeks of the year – an impressive production rate.

The chair's challenge is looking feasible, thanks to Greg's efforts with landowners and the map. Parking is likely to be in an adjacent field. The intended format is an ultra-sprint. This would comprise three courses of just under 1km each. There are no control codes – mis-punches are penalised by 30 seconds added to times. The winner is the shortest cumulative time. Any handicap is TBC. Any other thoughts gratefully received.

Question #2: Do we want to add a social element to the event? If so, then I think we should pay up for some toilet facilities rather than assume club members will be happy to use nearby woodland.

I have not made progress visiting Gloucester prison at the time of writing – apologies.

Club trophies

What do we have apart from the TB Trophy and should we have more? The email discussions seemed to conclude with:

- Chair's challenge trophy - existing – Lin Callard was the last recipient but now seemingly lost
- Most Improved Junior – existing - last won by Max Johansson in 2019 – presumed lost
- One hazy memory of a long service award

Question #3: Should we resurrect these and Is this enough?

Other matters arising are:

- Donations – discussed and agreed
- Printer purchase decisions to be made - Ian has made progress and hopefully this will be discussed at the meeting
- BOF survey on juniors from adjacent clubs joining together in relay teams
- Little League / Big League partnership between The Outdoor Classroom and BOF – *Question #4 – are we participating in this?*

Update from SWOA – January committee meeting:

At the SWOA committee meeting, the following points were raised:

- SWOA champs: potentially use the SARUM Saunter for the Longs and the BOK Bath Sprints for the Sprint event. There was extensive discussion about using the BOK Middle event on the 9th of June but ultimately it was decided that this was not possible since the expected winning times were longer than BOF guidelines so they could not legitimately be advertised as Middle Distance championships. BOK will be asked if they are prepared to shorten courses.
- Discussion about defibrillators – clubs had considered it but none had progressed due to maintenance costs and a view that they were of little clinical importance if they cannot be brought to the patient in about five minutes
- There are new BOF rules Version 3.11, which are now effective, all club officials should be made aware of them.
- John Warren has retired from controlling duties after many years and SWOA wishes to record its thanks for his longstanding service to orienteering.
- Any club planning to put on a training course, or in need of a course, for event officials should contact SWOA. Grants are available for courses open to all SWOA clubs.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to a recent missive from BOF on insurance, which is relevant to us:

Insurance

British Orienteering have increased their Association and Members Combined Liability from £10m to £15m. British Orienteering were made aware of a liability claims settlement in excess of £12,500,000 arising in the world of amateur sport recreation and entertainment. The claimant had suffered a catastrophic spinal injury. Advice from the legal representatives has indicated that this is increasingly typical for this type of head or spinal injury. With current claims inflation, increases in the cost of care these figures are expected to further increase. As a result of the review the Board have agreed to increase the liability cover from £10m to £15m with immediate effect.

Non-Members Activities & competitions

Since the introduction of insurance for non-members in competitions in January 2020 at the request of clubs, we have frequently been requested to clarify the situation for insurance for non-members at activities. Non-members are covered for **Activities** up to 3 sessions with the aim/interest in becoming a member of the club. To be covered they must be a member of British Orienteering from their 4th visit for insurance to continue to apply whilst participating in club activity. Non-members of British Orienteering are covered for all **Competitions** – providing the competition is registered and participants declared to British Orienteering.

Failure to carry out the above may invalid the insurance in the event of a claim.

For further details please see the latest [guidance](#).

Name: Vanessa Lawson
Role: Captain
Report: February 2024

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Recruitment for the CompassSport Cup (CSC) Heat on 18 February, entries submitted although these had to be revised following two changes to course lengths by the organisers following complaints by other clubs. I would say that having the events over February half term has depleted the team enormously with at least 7 or 8 runners being unavailable (almost 20% of the team). I am unsure who set the date as all the heats are on the same day, and I imagine many clubs are similarly affected.
- Communicating with parents of juniors to encourage attendance at BOK junior training sessions (Orange standard+) as well as Welsh Junior Orienteering Squad (WJOS) sessions (Yellow standard+).
- Liaison with BOK junior coordinator (Duncan Perry) to start to build links between the juniors in team competitions, where possible.

Tasks Progressing

- Communicating with the members running the CSC heat to forward the final details.

Tasks Planned

- Emails to be sent re the JK relays (1 April, Matlock), BOC relays (14 April, Whitby), Cotswold Way relay (6 July) and the Yvette Baker heat (9 June, BOK event)

NOT IN ROLE:

Other Tasks Completed

- Planning for Flaxley league in October – to include some re-mapping. Tom Mills has been very helpful.
-

Name: Alan Pucill
Role: Treasurer
Report: February 2024

- Current balances (at 14/02/2024)

○ Current Account	£8,763.00	(Prev. report £9,693.36)
○ Deposit Account	£15,710.28	(Prev. report £15,649.21)
○ Total	£24,473.28	(£25,342.57)

- Summary of larger items since last report on **30/11/2023** (rounded figures):

- **Income**

- Income from Fabian4 for November and December

• League	£2,048
• Maprun	£293
• NYD	£813
• WNL	£51
• Total	£3,205

▪ EOD net income	£477
▪ CSC Entries	£231
▪ Mapping (Leckhampton Primary School)	£100
▪ Sale of O-tops and t-shirts	£69
▪ Café/shop	£18
▪ Interest	£61
▪ Membership	£28
▪ SW Juniors (Bixslade)	£23
▪ Misc. Income	£18
Total	£4,230

- **Expenditure**

▪ BOF/SWOA/WNL levies	£1,652
▪ Landowners (FE + Speech House* + Witcombe Estate + Farmer at Edge)	£2,235
▪ Domain Name Registration	£68
▪ Café Supplies	£11
▪ Sundries (Bank Charges)	£10
▪ Printerbase	£146
▪ Donations (Purple Pen, OOM, Maprun)	£241
▪ Planners/Organisers/Controllers/Mappers expenses	£496
▪ Prizes etc. (Maprun cakes and League Prize)	£23
▪ Schools (Cleeve School Travel Expenses)	£92
▪ Equipment	£121
Total	£5,095

- Income from Fabian4 lags a month behind.

- Expected income at end of February (from entries made in January)

▪ League (Cooper's Hill, Symonds Yat)	£1,117
▪ WNL (Blakeney)	£245
▪ Mapruns	£76

- Expected income at end of March (from entries made in February)

▪ League (Symonds Yat)	£995
------------------------	------

Notes:

- * Speech House got around to invoicing us for the 2nd day of the Caddihoe/VHI so the final surplus for the weekend was a very respectable £4,972.27.
- The bill from FE for Symonds Yat includes a charge of £26.52 (inc. VAT) for toilet cleaning. They applied this charge for the Blakeney League event, so it seems to be a new fund-raiser for them (though surely the car park charge should cover it as it does for members of the public?).
- Cleeve School have been invoiced £145 for the day the club put on for them on 7th February.
- I am still awaiting feedback from the audit of our accounts for 2022-23! I have contacted Nigel Ferrand again but he seems too tied up with work for Croeso. Maybe we need to find someone else?
- EOD numbers are steadily rising despite the financial disincentive. (14 @ S Yat, 11 @ Coopers).
- I am awaiting the invoice for CSC entries, which was due on 12th February.
- Generally our finances are stable and we have enough in reserve for some capital outlay, in particular a new printer.

Name: Greg Best
Role: Fixtures/Permissions Officer
Report: February 2024

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Permissions for recent events held (at Bixslade, Edge, Coopers Hill, Blakeney, Cleeve Hill, Symonds Yat)
- Meeting at Cheltenham College with the deputy head of their prep school. I proposed that we make an orienteering map for them in exchange for allowing us to hold a sprint event there, as we did at Dean Close. He is very keen on this idea, so the plan is to hold the event in August – precise date to be confirmed.

Tasks Progressing

- Finding event officials for next year's fixtures – just a few gaps remain. The fixture list is finally looking more concrete, so will push this now. The gaps are the summer relay at Toadsmoor, the sprint at Cheltenham College, WNL at Cranham and the league event at Lightning Tree Hill.
- Have had to move some events/dates for this year, to fit in with permissions restrictions. Will ask Tom to make a public announcement of these soon.
- Have helped Ian secure a site for his Chair's Challenge Ultra-Sprint. The area will be a much-extended version of Tom's Nottingham Knolls.
- As always, lots of event permissions and fixtures issues on-going.

Tasks Planned

- Paul and I to arrange a meeting with Glos council to discuss use of Gloucester for urban next year. No longer to be used this year, however.

NOT IN ROLE:

Mapping Work Completed.

- Major update of the Stroud map for the UKUL event in September.

Mapping Work Progressing

- Finishing off the major revision of the remaining bits of the Mallards Pike map. The JIRCS area is complete, so just some other periphery bits to finish off now.
- Making the new 'Nottingham Nooks n Knolls' map to be used for the Chair's Challenge
- Mapping Cheltenham College grounds. This is part of the existing Cheltenham map.

Mapping Work Planned

- NTR

Other Tasks Completed

- Assisting Hannah with the New Years Day event.
- Acting as adviser to Ginny for Coopers Hill event
- Helped at school event on Cleeve Hill

Other Tasks Progressing

- Organiser of the JIRCS individual day (28 September 2024). Initial outline plans are now in place. Permissions in progress

Name: Pat MacLeod
Role: Equipment Officer
Report: February 2024

Tasks Completed

- None

Tasks in Progress

- Purchasing a new smaller club tent for use at events where only a few NGOC runners are present, such as Relays etc. Considering a smaller version of the new Quest tent purchased last year – to review with Captain and others before deciding.
- 12 controls sent to SI for repair or battery replacement.

Tasks Planned

- NTR

NOT IN ROLE

Tasks Completed

- Helped at lots of events.
- Ran an orienteering day for 300 students from Cleeve School. Overall very successful, and much appreciated by the school, the pupils, and the NGOC helper team, for whom grateful thanks for their support and enthusiasm. The school will pay £145 for equipment hire.
- Finalised and delivered a map of the school to Leckhampton Primary School, who have paid the club £100.

Tasks in Progress

- Ongoing MapRun UK coordination and support, typically 2-3 requests a week from Peter Effenev to respond to new inquiries from UK people.
- Ongoing submission of entry details to Fabian for our events, and website maintenance. Fabian is taking quite a long time to publish our events, for various reasons, so we need to submit the events to them earlier than we have been doing.
- Ongoing discussions with a small, informal, coaching/development sub-group on what we can do to improve both

- Mentoring various planner/organisers for upcoming League events, and Croeso 2024 (21 July 2024)
- New map of the Dowards, Started, but slow progress due to other event commitments and the weather. Will be ready for the planned event in the Autumn, however.

Tasks Planned

- Update of Knockalls map following the forthcoming event, planning for which by Alan P has indicated that it needs a complete review and update. No progress and will probably be dropped for the time being.
- Update of the website beginner info to include excellent material collected by Tom Mills at the O-Ringen – not yet started.
- Replacement of a couple of posts in Highmeadow Permanent Orienteering Course (POC) – and check on the rest, following a comment from someone who ran the course over Christmas that others were broken or missing.

Name: Ian Phillips
Role: Mapping Officer
Report: February 2024

Maps printed since 1st December 2023: -

Caldicot Maprun - 61 x A4 Maps = £19.57.

Bixslade - 258 x A4 maps and 50 x CD's = £83.55.

Cheltenham Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £9.63.

Edge NYD event - 170 x A3 Edge maps and 48 sheets of CD's printed = £70.58.

100 x A4 blank sheets of Pretex for Pat M = £18.00.

Printer trials - 20 x A3 and 30 x A4 Pretex sent to Xerox = £10.80.

Coopers Hill League 1 - 186 x A4 maps & 39 x A4 CD's = £60.27.

Cinderford Maprun 42 x A4 maps = £13.48.

Blakeney WNL - 52 x A4 maps plus 13 sheets of CD's = £16.89.

Cleeve Hill, Cleeve School event - 122 x A4 maps Cleeve School Event and 2 sheets CD's = £39.18.

Symonds Yat League 2 event - 269 x A4 maps and 51 sheets CD's = £87.10.

Ross South Maprun - 40 x A4 Maps = £12.84.

In Stock – In the order of 2000 sheets of A4 and 250 sheets of A3 Pretex.

Printing Cost – Since last Committee Meeting report = £441.89p

Current prices:

Paper is: A3 - 27p, A4 - 18p

Name: Ginny Hudson
Role: Membership Secretary
Report: February 2024

Membership figures as of 12 February 2024:

- 147 total members of whom 30 are Juniors.
- 29 lapsed members.

Welcome to new members: -

- Bob Larcombe
- Henri du Toit

Name: Judith Taylor
Role: Welfare Officer
Report: February 2024

- Licensed coaches are required to attend a refresher safeguarding course, which can be done online.
- Those wishing to qualify as a licensed coach for the first time must complete a tutor-led course.
- BOF has contacted coaches directly about this.

Name: Paul Taunton
Role: Committee Member
Report: February 2024

ACTION: from minutes of NGOC committee meeting 4 December 2023:

Item 7 - Purchase of defibrillator: 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?

Paul to research and report back to the committee.

Summary of research provided separately to committee.

Other items to report:

- Heard from Vanessa Lawson that former member Chris Morris died just after Christmas. He was Legend editor from 1999 to 2002. Liaised with Alan Brown on the piece in January's Legend and with David May on a piece for the SLOW magazine (*Chris had been a founder member of SLOW*). His website is of general interest: <https://chrismorrisarchive.com/early-days/>
- Attended Chris's memorial service 10th Feb. Sent a brief report to Alan.
- The new 2024 "Rules of Orienteering" are now live! My rule change request that the standard scale for urban maps should be 1:4,000 has been accepted. (*Maps specifically drawn at 1:5,000 are still acceptable, but for reasons of clarity NOT maps drawn according to ISSprOM at 1:4,000 and then reduced, as most seem to have been!*)

- Took part in the British Orienteering Major Events webinars, held on last two Monday evenings. The first highlighted some aspects of the new Rules. *Will miss the third webinar as it clashes with this NGOC committee meeting, but recordings of all will be available.*
- The new Rules clarify “uncrossable” and “not to be crossed” as applied to ISOM and ISSprOM maps. Wrote an explanatory piece for next Legend (checked by controller Greg).
- Made two initial visits to assess vegetation in the southeastern part of BOK’s New Beechenhurst map, which we intend to borrow for a League event in a year’s time.
- Organised “new-style” string course at Symonds Yat Regional. The only snag was that all the available “standard” maps showed the course west of the start/finish, but we needed the area to be east of the start/finish, so I had to draw a new map the day before. Not a difficult job! **Realistically** I don’t think it would matter, as none of the runners were likely to be using a compass, but I feel that we should start them off right, with north at the top of the map! Otherwise, the new system was easy to operate, thanks Maggie.
- Helped at Cleeve Hill school training event.
- Sales of club T-shirts, O-tops and jackets have been very slow.