

Reports September 2026

Name: Ian Jones
Role: Chair
Report: September 2026

It has been a typically busy summer for the club with various events put on in the area. As a club we remain with the issue of our organisational volunteering coming from the same small cohort, which seems to be common for many clubs, at least in the South-West.

I hope people enjoyed the Chair's Challenge. We had more than 80 competitors which is a good total. The owner of the site has welcomed us back. He normally opens the Maize Maze at the start of the school holidays but would be happy to open it slightly earlier if we want to use it for a relay event or training. I can imagine a useful exercise in map memory whereby copies of the next leg are displayed at each control and participants run without a map, having to remember the route from the map on display at each control.

British Orienteering have come to terms with the fact that the South-West will not be hosting JK2028 due to lack of suitable sites for forest orienteering, although options will continue to be sought. South-West region clubs are likely to be asked to help with the event once a location is confirmed, particularly if this is the Midlands or South Wales.

Also at British Orienteering level, the governing body has launched recruitment for a senior performance leadership role, announced dates for the Major Events Conference 2026, introduced reduced £2 part-year memberships, and rebranded the popular SportsShoes "Quid Games" as the "O-Games". The latter seems similar to an urban score event, but with prizes and no small amount of production value. BO has also updated safeguarding guidance following DBS eligibility rule changes effective from 1 September 2026.

Tasks Completed since last meeting

- Chair's Challenge

Tasks Progressing

- Preparation for the AGM

Tasks to do

- Identify a volunteer for the next Chair
- We need to make sure we are across the rules from the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, widely known as Martyn's Law. I am fairly certain that our orienteering events are wholly out of scope given they are outdoor venues, but we should check for final confirmation.

Name: Vanessa Lawson
Role: Captain
Report: September 2026

IN ROLE:

Tasks completed

- Written a report about the Sprint Relays for Legend.

Tasks ongoing

- Communicating with parents of juniors continues via the NGOC Juniors Parents WhatsApp group. This is working really well. Parents of younger juniors being made aware of this group.
- Discussions about awards and recognition for juniors ongoing.

NOT IN ROLE:

Other Tasks

- Helped collect controls at various club events.
- Volunteered to coach at Lagganlia JROS camp in July.
- Organising Chepstow MapRun in December and planning to organise a WNL in 2027.

Name: Alan Pucill
Role: Treasurer
Report: September 2026

- Current balances (at **06/09/2026**)
 - Current Account £4,461.74 (Prev. report £3,166.90)
 - Deposit Account £22,492.20 (Prev. report £22,492.20)
 - **Total** **£26,953.94** (**£25,659.10**)
- Summary of items since last report on **14/07/2026** (rounded figures):
 - **Income**
 - Income from Fabian4 for June and July
 - League £1,921
 - Maprun £795
 - **Total** **£2,716**
 - EOD net income £64
 - Membership income £1
 - Interest £0
 - Café Income £20
 - Club Kit Sales £0
 - Chepstow BUOS net income £396
 - Sale of Car & Laptop Stickers £0
 - **Total** **£3,197**
 - **Expenditure**
 - Levies
 - British Orienteering £464
 - SWOA £151
 - **Total** **£615**
 - Forestry England £0
 - Other Landowners £0
 - Café Expenditure £46
 - Planners/Organisers/Controllers/Mappers/Volunteers expenses £38
 - Equipment £0
 - Courses (Safeguarding) £46
 - Toilet Hire £0
 - Equipment Insurance £436
 - Printing Costs (Printerbase) £62
 - Labels for relay maps £30
 - Web Hosting and Domain Name renewal £287
 - Leaflets for Gloucester Urban £13

▪ POC Courses	£229
▪ Donation to Brynmawr School	£100
Total	£1,902

- Income from Fabian4 lags a month behind.
- Expected income at end of September (from entries made in August)
 - League £0
 - Mapruns (Sling, Fownhope and Dursley) £406
 - Summer Relay £554
 - Chair's Challenge £628

Notes

- Finances remain very healthy.
- Regarding annual accounts, we have again made a small surplus (two outgoings totalling £360 just missed the year-end deadline, but that still leaves us with a surplus of over £500). In the light of this and the fact that we are sitting on more money than seems justified, my recommendation to the AGM is that we do not increase entry fees next year, and we continue to subsidise entries to the Yvette Baker, Compass Sport Cup and national relays at the same rate (that is we pay the full cost of junior entries, 50% of senior entries for relays, and subsidise the senior entries to the CSC so that the cost is the same as our league events).

Name: Judith Taylor
Role: Safeguarding & Welfare Officer
Report: September 2026

- There have been no safeguarding incidents or concerns raised since the last committee meeting (my last report).
- If you've had a chance to read the latest BO newsletter, you'll have seen that there's a summary of the 5 steps that anyone should take if they experience, witness, or receive a safeguarding concern,

<https://britishorienteering.cmail20.com/t/d-l-wydikul-hthykjlhut-yd/>

I suggest that we add this to the Safeguarding section on the club website.

- Also included in the newsletter is a summary of the changes relating to DBS checks:

[Extract]

- From 1 September 2026, the [rules defining "regulated activity with children"](#) are changing in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Previously, someone undertaking activities such as coaching, teaching, instructing, caring for or supervising children could, in some circumstances, fall outside regulated activity where they were sufficiently supervised by another person. From 1 September, this supervision exemption will be removed.
- For example, an assistant coach who regularly works with children could previously fall outside regulated activity where they were sufficiently supervised by a lead coach. That supervision will no longer take the role outside regulated activity. **Now, where someone carries out the same relevant activity more than once, but not frequently enough to meet the regulated activity threshold, they should still be considered for an Enhanced DBS check without a Children's Barred List check**
- Please use [this flowchart](#) to help check eligibility. This is a useful opportunity for all Clubs to review their safeguarding arrangements and ensure that coaches, volunteers and others working with children have the appropriate vetting checks for the roles they undertake.

I've highlighted the key section, which I believe only applies to our 3 registered coaches.

Social Secretary's soapbox!

- Outstanding action for me to work with Ginny to include a poll in a future newsletter so club members can vote on the options. I think the strategy should be to offer a variety of activities and see what the take-up is. The low-key picnic after May Hill was well attended despite the drizzle so we could do that again before the weather turns. **Greg has suggested a Pub of the Night after MapRuns which I think is a great idea** – could combine that with the dominoes/ charades that we played in Czechia!

Not in role

- Volunteered to plan the League event at The Dowards on 19/12/26: thank you to Alan for offering to help put out and wake up controls on event day to supplement my "team" who will hopefully be almost back to fitness post-op.
- Supporting Rosie with the NYD score event.

Name: Greg Best
Role: Fixtures/Permissions Officer
Report: September 2026

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Permissions for recent events held (at Hartpury, plus the doomed Rodborough event). Note that Ian arranged permissions for the Maize Maze.
- Held the annual fixtures sub-committee meeting last month, together with Pat, Pete Ward and Andy Creber. Fixture list is now in place for next year with provisional venues and dates. All registered with BOF too. Of course, this is all permission dependent!

Tasks Progressing

- As always, lots of event permissions and fixtures issues are on-going.
- Soudley night and day weekend next November. Continuing to liaise with SBOC Development Officer over a proposed training day sponsored by the Orienteering Foundation, to be held in combination with this weekend. Also liaising with the army, as they are piggybacking on the weekend for their championships. And the British squad!
- Have started the process of recruiting event officials for the latter part of this year and 2027. There has been a good response so far, but still some gaps to be filled when I do my second push! The Taylor family have come forward to organise at short-notice the up-coming December league (Judith) and NYD (Rosie), for which I am very grateful and relieved.
- The fixtures committee decided we should hold another league event next year on a SWOC area, after the success of the Clydach event. Have asked their fixtures officer which area we can use and am awaiting a reply.
- Harvester Relay 2027. May Hill confirmed as the venue, but some fine details still to be sorted.
- Tom's Monopolo event. After Edge was not allowed, Tom wants to use Painswick instead. It will be delayed to next year, possibly early April.
- Ginny's Rodborough Common event. I do not intend to re-schedule it for this year, so there will be one fewer league event than originally planned.

Tasks Planned

- To liaise with Hartpury for us to help them in some way with their outdoor education students, in exchange for access to the site.

NOT IN ROLE:

Mapping Work Completed.

- Extension of the Symonds Yat map to include the land north of the public car park up to the Rock viewpoint.

Mapping Work Progressing

- I have been investigating some potential extensions to the Parkend and Bixslade maps, particularly the intricate Dark Hill and Fetter Hill areas close to Ellwood. I feel this would be a good addition to those maps

Mapping Work Planned

- Still waiting for HOC to hand over ownership of Dymock Woods. When/If this finally happens, the map will need updating.
- Long delay..... a member has asked me to do some mapping training using Lidar, so I intend to do this fairly soon. He has done a bit of mapping in the past but not using Lidar. He would like to make a new map of Robinswood Hill. The training will probably take place over a couple of evening sessions. The intention is to open it to anyone else who is interested. Still need to get this scheduled.
- The annual Cleeve Hill gorse update. I have now received information from the ranger on areas they have trimmed this year, so can get out and do it soon.

Other Tasks Completed

- NTR

Other Tasks Progressing

- Planner/organiser at Nottingham Hill on 26th September. Pretty much all ready to go.

Name: Pat MacLeod
Role: Equipment Officer
Report: September 2026

- Nothing to report

Name: Pat Macleod
Role: Mapping Officer
Report: September 2026

- Nothing to report

Name: Ginny Hudson
Role: Membership Secretary
Report: September 2026

As at 16.7.26

Category	Renewed/ Current	Other - 2nd club
Senior	125	2
Junior	33	
Young Adult	4	
Total	162	2

As at 9.9.26

Category	Renewed/ Current	Other 2nd club
Senior	126	2
Junior	35	
Young Adult	4	
Total	165	2

Welcome to new members: Matti Teed, Charlotte Scott,
Michelle Scott

Name: Ian Prowse
Role: Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Report: September 2026

- Nothing to report

Name: Duncan Liddle
Role: LEGEND Editor
Report: September 2026

- Continuing to work on a special commemorative issue celebrating Carol Stewart.

Name: Ginny Hudson
Role: Communications & Publicity Officer (excl. Instagram)
Report: September 2026

- I sent an email to all parents of junior members requesting preferences about photos and names appearing in our communications. I received 6 responses. All are happy for their children to be mentioned in newsletter results and Legend articles, but with different preferences about photos & names attached. My conclusion: we should ask permission in every instance to publish photos to allow for flexible choices.

Name: Andy Creber/Paul Taunton
Role: Committee member
Report: September 2026

Bufs/Caps (Paul)

So far, I have received only 12 orders for neck gaiters, and 12 expressions of interest for running caps. Minimum order for each 20. Last time we ordered 75 neck gaiters but that was long ago, before they were popular and I expect that by now, like us, most NGOC members have a drawer full? (Neck gaiters were given to every entrant at one JK and are often awarded as prizes). Neck gaiter price probably around £8 and cap price twice that. Can save on carriage if we order both at the same time.

Three decisions needed:

- Is the new neck gaiter design agreed?
- How many shall I order?
- Should we order 20 caps at the same time?

My votes: yes, 30, yes.
