

**MINUTES OF THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EAST MIDLANDS
ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION HELD ON MONDAY 19th September 2016 at Clifton,
Nottingham at 19.30.**

Present: Jill Barker (NOC), Mike Gardner (DVO), Liz Godfree (DVO), Mike Godfree (DVO), Bob Haskins (LEI), John Hurley (DVO), Chris Phillips (LEI), Amanda Roberts (LOG), Graeme Watson (NOC), Julie Webster (NOC), Mark Webster (NOC), Ernie Williams (LEI), Ursula Williamson (LEI), Dorothy Woodall (NOC), and John Woodall (NOC).

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Roger Edwards (LEI), Judith Holt (DVO), Randal Macdonald (DVO), Paul Murgatroyd (LOG), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), and Hilary Palmer (NOC).
2. **Minutes of the 51st AGM held on Monday 21st September 2015.** It was agreed that the minutes were a true record as proposed by Ursula Williamson (LEI) and seconded by Bob Haskins (LEI).

John Hurley reported that at the last AGM a proposal was made to request that all Urban League Events have controllers from outside the organising club. The committee discussed this at the next meeting and while they felt that this might be good practice, they did not want to impose additional restraints that might jeopardise future events.

3. **Proposed Standing Order Change.** There were no standing order changes to be discussed.
4. **Chair's Report**

I have again been well supported during the year by the three other Principal Officers and I'd like to thank them for their efforts. Our Vice Chair, Amanda Roberts, has assisted me in various areas and accompanied me to the British Orienteering Board/Associations meeting in Birmingham on 13/2/2016 at which the Board's Strategic Plan and finance issues were discussed. For the second year in succession, our Financial Secretary Mark Webster (NOC) has led us to a small surplus. Our Development Co-ordinator Chris Phillips (LEI) has continued to take forward the regional Development Plan. Chris also organised our regional Training and Development Day on 31/10/2015 which was attended by 36 EMOA members and also by 6 members of neighbouring associations.

Dai Bedwell (DVO) has co-ordinated the running of the regional Junior Squad throughout the year. A well-balanced programme of coaching activities has been carried out, including both sessions within the region and weekends away. Unfortunately a planned weekend away at Malham in Yorkshire in March had to be cancelled at short notice due to snow on the access roads, but this weekend has been rescheduled for Autumn 2016. The region achieved 5th place in the 2015 Junior Inter-Regional Squad Championships (JIRCS), which is the highest position for some years, and Dai has put considerable work into arrangements to send our team to the 2016 JIRCS which will be held next weekend in the north of Scotland. To help with their fundraising, the regional Junior Squad, with some assistance from their parents, successfully organised a level C event at Bramcote on 20/12/2015.

Ursula Williamson (LEI) has continued in her dual roles as Fixtures Secretary and EMOA League secretary, and has risen to the challenge of scheduling what seems to be an ever-increasing number of national events, regional championships and various junior competitions.

Thanks are also due to those others with specific roles including John Cooke (Webmaster), Paul Murgatroyd (Urban League secretary), Hilary Palmer (Coaching), David Olivant (Mapping), Roy Denney (National Forest) and John Woodall (President). John Woodall stood down as a British Orienteering elected director in March but he has been replaced by Julie Webster (NOC), so we continue to have a good presence on the BO Board. The Club Representatives have been Bob Haskins

(LEI), Amanda Roberts (LOG), Pauline Olivant (NOC) and Mike Gardner (DVO), and Mike has also produced the minutes of our meetings and continued as editor of EMEWS.

All four clubs have continued to provide a regular series of events as part of the EMOA League and urban league, as well as many Level D events and other activities.

Major activities during the year included the East Midlands Championships held by DVO at Birchen Edge on 27/11/2015, the first EMOA Score Championships held by NOC at Clumber Park on 7/2/2016, the British Night Championships held by LEI at Cademan Woods on 27/2/2016, the Midlands Championships held by NOC at Sherwood Forest on 28/2/2016 and the Peter Palmer junior relays held by LEI at Groby on 11/9/2016. We have agreed to hold the East Midlands Score Championships and Sprint Championships in alternate years, so the Sprint Championships will be held in 2017.

I should like to congratulate Peter Hodgkinson (NOC) and Liz Godfree (DVO) on their achievements in international competitions during the summer of 2016. Peter was a member of the GB mixed sprint relay team which won the gold medal at the World Universities Orienteering Championships in Hungary, and he also came 9th in the individual sprint. A few weeks later Peter was in the GB mixed sprint relay team which came 4th in the World Orienteering Championships in Sweden, and he also came 22nd in the individual sprint. Meanwhile Liz won the bronze medal in the W65 class in the sprint race at the World Masters Orienteering Championships in Estonia. The region seems to be developing a specialism in sprint events (although there is as yet no sign of a membership application from Usain Bolt).

My attention has recently been drawn to the British Orienteering O-Safe document, which sets out a framework to meet our commitment to good practice and the safeguarding and welfare of children and at-risk adults within orienteering and orienteering-related activities. This document can be found on the "About" page of the BO website and it is shortly to be updated. Appendix B of O-Safe sets out some regulations related to safeguarding, which are intended to be included in the constitutions of all affiliated regional associations and clubs. We will prepare proposals for the necessary changes to the EMOA constitution and bring them for agreement at the 2017 AGM. In the meantime, clubs are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the updated O-Safe document and consider similar changes to their constitutions.

John Hurley

5. Financial Secretary's Report including membership numbers and presentation of accounts.

Copies of the Report are attached to these minutes.

Membership has fallen slightly by 12 members this year.

The Accounts have been examined by the Independent Financial Examiner, Andrew Lucas. They show a **surplus of £99.41** on the year. The original budget was for a loss of approximately £1,200.

Levy revenue was higher than expected with 32 events paying a levy rather than the average of 24 over the past three years. This is one reason why we have made a surplus, though had planned for a loss.

Savings on expenditure at the Development Day, and a better than expected revenue from attendees from outside the regions also contributed to the surplus.

Expenditure on community coaching, coach development and external conferences was practically zero as opposed to £800 budget.

Andrew Lucas was thanked for being the Independent Financial Examiner.

6. Approval of Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement

The meeting agreed to approve the balance sheet and income and expenditure statement.

Proposed: Chris Phillips

Seconded: Ernie Williams

7. Election of Principal Officers

John Woodall took the chair for the election of officers. He proposed a vote of thanks to all the principal officers for all their work over the last year.

While two of the Officers have reached the end of their 3 year term, all stated they would stand again (though would like to see alternatives next year). It was agreed that the committee would change the standing orders to permit this at the next meeting. The following officers who were willing to stand for election:

Post	Name
Development Co-ordinator	Chris Phillips
Financial Secretary	Mark Webster
Vice-Chair	Amanda Roberts
Chair	John Hurley

The meeting offered no alternatives and the officers were elected unanimously by the meeting.

Proposed: John Woodall

Seconded: Mike Gardner

8. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner.

Mark Webster informed the meeting that Andy Lucas wanted to stand down as Independent Financial Examiner. Alternative names were suggested and these will be approached by Chris Phillips to see if they will fulfil this role.

9. Budget projections for coming year

The Financial Secretary presented a projected budget that is attached to these minutes.

He proposed the membership fees and event levies should remain the same (see below).

10. Fixing of Charges.

Financial secretary proposed no changes in membership fees or event levies.

Thus charges will be

Senior membership fee is £3

Junior membership fee is £1.

Associate membership fee is £10

Club membership fee is £15.

Event levies: 50p per adult and 10p per junior with the first £25 being exempt.

Proposed: John Hurley

Seconded: Amanda Roberts

11. Plans for the coming year.

John Hurley reported that he had no dramatic new plans for next year. We will continue to develop the sport of orienteering within the East Midlands, in line with the specific actions identified in the Development Plan. We will support the interests of our members and we will seek to increase participation. We will also provide constructive feedback on the British Orienteering Strategic Plan as and when it is issued for consultation.

Chris Phillips stated that as part of the Development Plan, the main activity for next year would be the Planners and Controllers Conference which is planned for Saturday March 4th. Chris would like any suggestions for topics to be sent to him and will create an article for the next EMEWS along these lines.

12. Any Other Business

Wirksworth Event - Mike Godfree requested that folk take note that the DVO Urban event at Wirksworth is on 20th November as it had two different dates in the last EMEWS.

Amanda Roberts will get Paul Murgatroyd to check the date on the EMOA Urban League website is correct and Mike Gardner will ensure correct in EMEWS.

Club & Association Conference – John Woodall brought up the fact that the Club & Association Conference was to take place on 29th October, which is before the next EM Committee meeting. It is recommended that the region sends 2 reps and it was agreed that John Hurley and John Woodall should attend on behalf of EMOA.

BO EGM Proposals – There was no consistent view across the East Midland clubs as to which was the proposal that should be accepted. Members were encouraged to use their vote when the final draft comes out.

Urban League – Amanda Roberts reported that the 2017 Urban League events are being finalized and LEI, LOG and DVO have 2 events in the League. Paul is trying to get the final dates from NOC for their events. Ursula Williamson will chase up with NOC to confirm suitable dates from them.

Mandatory Event Safety Workshop – Ernie Williams requested that he would like to add a few paragraphs in next EMEWS to remind folk that ALL officials of ALL levels of events MUST have attended an Event Safety & Welfare Workshop from 1st January 2017. This is part of the BO Insurance requirement.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance at the 2016 AGM and declared the meeting closed at 20.18.

Mike Gardner 20.09.2016

Post Meeting Note - Other EMOA Officers

The club representatives on the EMOA Committee are nominated by the clubs. Members holding non-elected roles within the association are currently:

Mapping – Dave Olivant
Coaching – Hilary Palmer
Juniors – TBD
EM League – Ursula Williamson
Urban League – Paul Murgatroyd
Fixtures – Ursula Williamson
President – John Woodall
Minutes Secretary – Mike Gardner
EMEWS – Mike Gardner
Webmaster – John Cooke
National Forest – Roy Denney