

**MINUTES OF THE 53rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EAST MIDLANDS
ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION HELD ON MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2017**

at Clifton, Nottingham at 19.30.

Present: Andrew Breakwell (NOC), Roger Edwards (LEI), Bob Haskins (LEI), Peter Hornsby (LEI), John Hurley (DVO), Randal Macdonald (DVO), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Chris Phillips (LEI), Amanda Roberts (LOG), 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 Trudy Crosby (LOG), Roy Denney (LEI), Mike Gardner (DVO), Liz Godfree (DVO), Mike Godfree (DVO), Judith Holt (DVO) and Paul Murgatroyd (LOG).
- 2. Minutes of the 52nd AGM held on Monday 19th September 2016.** It was agreed that the minutes were a true record. Proposed by Ernie Williams(LEI) and seconded by John Woodall (NOC).
- 3. Standing Order Change.** It was agreed at the 2016 AGM that both Mark Webster and Chris Phillips would stay on for one more year, over their 3 years maximum stated in the standing orders. The following amended wording was agreed to be included under Election of Principal Officers at the committee meeting on 7 November 2016. An officer can serve “for not more than 3 consecutive years, unless mutually agreed by the Principal Officers, when no other person has been nominated.” The wording was proposed by Mike Gardner and seconded by Ursula Williamson.
- 4. Chair’s Report**

During my third and final year of office, I have been well supported by the three other Principal Officers Amanda Roberts (Vice Chair), Mark Webster (Financial Secretary) and Chris Phillips (Development Co-ordinator) and I'd like to thank them for their efforts. Mark has kept a tight grip on the finances which has again led us to a small surplus. Chris organised our regional Planners and Controllers Conference on 4/3/2017 which was attended by 32 EMOA members. 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. The region achieved 8th place in the 2016 Junior Inter-Regional Squad Championships (JIRCS), which was held in the north of Scotland.

In September 2018, the JIRCS will be held in the East Midlands, using Chatsworth for the individual event and Carsington for the relay. DVO are taking the lead and are providing the weekend co-ordinator, but EMOA have agreed to take financial responsibility for these events and as such the Principal Officers will be closely involved in agreeing the final budget and monitoring the event finances.

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). Julie Webster has been attending our Committee meetings in her role as a British Orienteering elected director, providing us with a good communications

channel to 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 LEI at Wakerley on 27/11/2016, the EMOA Sprint Championships held by NOC at The Meadows (Nottingham) on 17/6/2017 and the British Schools Score Championships held by LEI at Bagworth on 8/10/2016. We have agreed to hold the East Midlands Score Championships and Sprint Championships in alternate years, so the Score Championships will be held in 2018.

I should like to congratulate Peter Hodkinson (NOC) on his achievements in international competitions during July 2017. Peter achieved 13th place in the sprint event at the World Orienteering Championships in Estonia, 12th place in the sprint event at the World Games in Poland and was a member of the GB mixed sprint relay team which came 5th in the World Games sprint relay.

In April 2017 some members competed in the World Masters Orienteering Championships in New Zealand, with the best performances being 7th place for Mike Godfree in the M65 Sprint and 13th place for Viv Macdonald in the W65 Sprint.

The British Orienteering Strategic Plan was issued for consultation at the end of January 2017 and I collated a response on behalf of EMOA. We asked for British Orienteering to work towards the development of a set of Rules which were clear and consistent, and to negotiate land access agreements with national bodies such as the Forestry Commission and the National Trust. We cautioned that the introduction of any "Volunteer Recognition Scheme" must avoid alienating long-standing volunteers, perhaps by allowing recognition of previous "service". We agreed with the desirability of reviving university orienteering clubs within the region, and felt this would be best tackled by encouraging them to form partnerships with their neighbouring open clubs. The Strategic Plan sets out objectives in the three main programme areas of Participation, Competition and Podium Success and in general it provides a helpful framework for EMOA and its constituent clubs to work with.

John Hurley

Hilary Palmer requested that it be noted in the minutes that the committee would like to thank the Chair for his enthusiasm and effort over his term of office.

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 35 members this year. There was concern that numbers were slowly decreasing and that membership was becoming age heavy.

The Accounts have been examined by a Financial Independent Examiner, Roger Edwards. They show a **surplus of £774.10** on the year. The original budget was for a loss of approximately £550.00.

The auditors comments highlighted that the reserves at twice the annual turnover are in excess of that needed for prudential reasons and consideration should be given to setting a policy for the size of reserves needed.

John Hurley noted that the Junior Squad had worked very hard to balance their expenditure and over the last 2 years to fall within budget.

The committee should take into account any future requirements by BOF for clubs to take financial responsibility for large events.

Roger Edwards 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: Hilary Palmer

Seconded: John Hurley

7. Election of Principal Officers

Post	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Amanda Roberts	Hilary Palmer	Ranald Macdonald
Vice-Chair	Chris Phillips	Amanda Roberts	John Hurley
Financial Secretary	Mark Webster	Chris Phillips	John Woodall
Development Co-ordinator	No Nomination Post Vacant		

There were no other nominations and the officers were elected unanimously by the meeting. Mark Webster although having now completed 4 years in post stated he would stand again under the amended standing orders. Club Representatives were asked to advertise the vacant Development Co-ordinator post to their members.

8. 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 - David Olivant

Coaching - Hilary Palmer

EMJOS Co-ordinator - Ann-Marie Duckworth aided by Ant Squire

EM League - Ursula Williamson

Urban League - Paul Murgatroyd

Regional Fixtures Secretary - Ursula Williamson

President - John Woodall

Minutes Secretary - Mike Gardner

EMEWS - Mike Gardner

Webmaster - John Cooke

National Forest - Roy Denney

9. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner.

Roger Edwards agreed to continue as Independent Financial Examiner for the next year.

10. Budget projections for coming year.

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

In light of the comments made by the auditor the following ideas were discussed that could affect the budget figures:

Reduction of charges for attendees at Training and Development days.

Reduction of membership fees.

Reduction of event levies and/or increase of exempt payment.

Increase in financial assistance for training coaches and development

Travel expense claims by committee members.

11. Fixing of Charges.

The Financial Secretary proposed no changes in Membership Fees or Event Levies.

Roger Edwards proposed an amendment that the Event Levies should be suspended for one year. A vote on the amendment was taken For: 9, Against: 5, Abstained: 3 . Therefore the amendment was carried.

The amended proposal was agreed unanimously.

As a result Fees will remain as follows:

Senior membership fee is £3

Junior membership fee is £1.

Associate membership fee is £10

Club membership fee is £15.

Event Levies will be suspended for one year and reviewed at the 2018 AGM.

The 2017/18 budgeted income will be reduced by £1950, leading to a budgeted loss of £2225.

12. Proposed Updates to the Constitution. The previously circulated constitution

change was proposed by John Hurley, seconded by Amanda Roberts and agreed unanimously. The following constitution change will be made :

DELETE existing clause 2.3 (which states : "The Association will also adhere to and support current policies of the British Orienteering Federation.")

ADD new section 11.

11 BRITISH ORIENTEERING POLICIES

11.1 The Association agrees to adopt the up to date British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.

11.2 All individuals involved in orienteering through the Association, in any capacity, are deemed to have assented to and abide by and adhere to the British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.

11.3 Both the Association and its members agree to abide by the final outcome of any disciplinary and appeal proceedings.

13. Plans for the coming year.

Amanda Roberts introduced herself and highlighted the fact that the East Midlands Orienteering Association would be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2018.

There are 3 national level events to be hosted in the region over the coming year, the Midland Championships at Belvoir in Mar 18 (LEI), JIRCS at Chatsworth in Sep 18 (DVO) and the East Midlands Championships at The Dukeries in Nov 18 (NOC) and the Association would provide support where required.

The Association aims to support clubs by helping to train more coaches and event officials with both a Level 2 Coaching Course and a Regional Training Day planned for 2018. It is hoped that this will help clubs attract increased participation and in turn increase membership.

14. Any Other Business

EGM & Club & Association Conference 14 October 2017 – EMOA can nominate 2 attendees to represent the region. John Woodall agreed to attend as an EMOA delegate.

There being no further business John Hurley thanked all present for their attendance at the 2017 AGM and declared the meeting closed at 20.20hrs.

Amanda Roberts 20.09.2017