

**MINUTES OF THE 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EAST MIDLANDS ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION HELD ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018 at Clifton, Nottingham at 19.30.**

Present: Andrew Breakwell (NOC), Trudy Crosby (LOG), Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Roger Edwards (LEI), Mike Gardner (DVO), Liz Godfree (DVO), Mike Godfree (DVO), Bob Haskins (LEI), Judith Holt (DVO), Peter Hornsby (LEI), John Hurley (DVO), Randal Macdonald (DVO), Viv 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), and John Woodall (NOC).

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received from Roy Denney (LEI), and Paul Murgatroyd (LOG).

**2. Minutes of the 53<sup>rd</sup> EMOA AGM held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record. Proposed by Ursula Williamson (LEI) and seconded by Ernie Williams (LEI).

**3. Standing Order Change:**

There were no standing order changes submitted to this AGM.

**4. Chair's Report:**

Firstly, I need to thank John Hurley (Ex Chair) and Chris Phillips (Vice Chair) for watching over me for the past year, their experience and knowledge of the EMOA being invaluable. Mark Webster (Financial Secretary) has now been looking after our finances for 4 years and Ursula Williamson (Fixtures Secretary) continues to work hard on our behalf at the event scheduling meetings. Thanks, are also due to all the other members of the Committee, the club reps and those who hold specific roles within the EMOA. At our April meeting we were delighted to welcome Peter Hart, the newly appointed Chief Executive of British Orienteering, who came along to meet us and see how we operate in the East Midlands. Maybe some of our comments will help shape the future of orienteering.

We are now over half way through the EMOA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. I would like to thank Ernie Williams for the new logo design that marks this milestone and John Cooke for the new fresh look to the EMOA website. We are planning a final celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> year at the East Midlands Championships to be held at the Dukeries by NOC in December.

As usual all the clubs have been busy putting on a large selection of events for our members, ranging from club activities and training sessions right through to organising major national level events. Our thanks go to all those planners, organisers and volunteer helpers for all the time and effort they have put in both on the day and behind the scenes. Orienteering relies on you.

Unfortunately, despite all this hard work the weather can and has disrupted our sport this year. DVO had to postpone the 2017 East Midlands Championships at Eyam Moor in Nov 17 due to an early fall of snow, managing to reschedule in Jan 18. LEI put in a massive amount of work to put on the Midland Championships at Belvoir Castle in March this year only for the event to be cancelled due to a late fall of snow, with no possibility of rescheduling. DVO had to cancel their EM League event at Linacre in Mar 18 due to snow, but hopefully the event will go ahead without any problems in Nov this year. It is appreciated that cancellation of events is often a difficult call for the Organiser to make as our weather can be so variable across the region, however, the safety and welfare of volunteers and competitors must be paramount.

Next weekend DVO hosts JIRCS 2018 at Chatsworth and Carsington Pastures, the culmination of months of planning and juggling figures. Our thanks to Sarah Pennell for taking on the role of

Co-ordinator for the weekend and all the team for their hard work. It is unfortunate that, due to circumstances beyond their control, the EM Score Championship 2018 at Carsington Pastures has had to be cancelled.

One of the aims of the EMOA is to support the training of club coaches and event officials. Hilary Palmer ran an L2 Coaches course over the winter and we will have 5 more qualified coaches in the region when all their practical sessions have been completed. There is a Regional Training Day planned for Saturday 24 November 2018 at Charnwood College that will be offering training for Level C & B Controllers, Level C Planners, Level C & B Organisers and Mappers. Roger Edwards became qualified as a Level A Controller earlier in the year. We are still looking for someone to take on the role of Development officer within the EMOA so if anyone is interested in taking on the role please let us know.

Ann-Marie Duckworth and Anthony Squires took over the running of the regional junior squad from Dai Bedwell at the start of the autumn 2017 series. Our thanks go to Dai Bedwell for all he has contributed to the junior squad over many years. The reports given to the committee over the last year have illustrated the varied and interesting programme of training that they have put on. Ben O'Donnell (DVO) has put in a lot of time updating the Junior squad website which shows what the squad has been up to, a link to the site is on the EMOA website. At JIRCS 2017, held in the Surrey Hills near Guildford, the squad achieved 5<sup>th</sup> place, their best result for several years. We wish the team the best of luck this coming weekend for JIRCS 2018 at Chatsworth. Ben Squire (NOC) was selected for England at Interland in March 2018 and came in 6<sup>th</sup> place. We would also like to congratulate Rachel Duckworth (DVO) and Ben Squire (NOC) on their selection to represent England in the 2018 WJHI to be held in Scotland on 7 Oct 18, and wish them the best of luck.

Peter Hodgkinson (NOC) represented GBR in the European Championships, congratulations on his 23<sup>rd</sup> place in the Sprint event and 6<sup>th</sup> place as a member of the GB mixed sprint team and 6<sup>th</sup> place in the GB long relay team. Iain Phillips (LEI) represented GBR at the European Trail-O Championships in Bratislava, Slovakia in April 2018. Club successes include DVO taking 4<sup>th</sup> place in the CSC Final 2017 held at the Virtuous Lady in Devon, and LEI taking 5<sup>th</sup> place in the YBT Final held on 1 July 2018 at Arrow Valley, Redditch.

Amanda Roberts

5. **Financial Secretary's Report including membership numbers and presentation of accounts:** Mark Webster reported that the membership numbers have remained fairly static this year (with a slight drop in junior numbers). The accounts have been examined by an Independent Financial Examiner, Roger Edwards. They show a loss of £1,747.24. The original budget was for a loss of £2,225. The main difference between the initial budget and the final figures was the support for talented orienteers was £500 under the estimate.  
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 (NOC)  
Seconded: Chris Phillips (LEI)
7. **Election of Principal Officers:** John Woodall took the chair for the election of principal officers and thanked Amanda, Chris and Mark for their continuing roles as the principal officers. John

stated EMOA still needed a Development Officer and would take any volunteers but he would nominate the continuation in their roles of the 3 principal officers:

Post	Nominee
Chair	Amanda Roberts (LOG)
Vice-Chair	Chris Phillips (LEI)
Financial Secretary	Mark Webster (NOC)
Development Officer	No nominee

Ernie Williams (LEI) seconded John's proposed and the meeting unanimously accepted the election of the principal officers.

John Woodall also thanked Mike Gardner for his ongoing role as EMOA Minutes Secretary and EMEWS editor.

8. **Other EMOA Officers:** The club representatives on the EMOA Committee are nominated by clubs. Members holding non-elected roles with the association are currently:

Post	Nominee
Mapping	David Olivant (NOC)
Coaching	Hilary Palmer (NOC)
EM Junior Squad	Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), aided by Ant Squire (NOC)
EM League	Ursula Williamson (LEI)
Urban League	Paul Murgatroyd (LOG)
Regional Fixtures Secretary	Ursula Williamson (LEI)
President	John Woodall (NOC)
Minutes Secretary	Mike Gardner (DVO)
EMEWS Editor	Mike Gardner (DVO)
Webmaster	John Cooke (DVO)
National Forest	Roy Denney (LEI)

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 to 30.6.2019 and recommendations for membership fees and event levies:** The Financial Secretary presented a project budget that is attached to these minutes.

The budget was based on a proposal made at the last EMOA committee meeting "*EMOA should maintain a cash reserve of £10,000 in the current and savings accounts (excluding the Junior Squad Deposit Account), to allow for the support of major events*".

The Financial secretary had proposed a budget with this in mind which therefore required the reinstatement of the levies for events in the forthcoming year. It was reported that during the year the bank balance had reduced to just £200 due to supporting JIRCS 2018.

After discussion the proposed fees were voted on.

11. **Fixing of Charges: The Financial Secretary proposed that there should be no change in membership fees but the event levy should be reintroduced:**

Senior membership: £3

Junior membership: £1

Associate membership: £10

Club membership: £15

Event levies should be reintroduced at 50p per adult and 10p per junior, with the first £25 being exempt.

The budget for 2019 is to break even.

The budget was proposed by Randal Macdonald and seconded by Hilary Palmer and the meeting voted on this with 1 person abstaining and the rest voting for the proposed budget. The proposed charges were therefore approved.

## **12. Plans for Coming Year:**

EMOA have a number of major events taking place in the near future.

JIRCS 2018 is to take place hosted by DVO next weekend. It is a shame some land issues have meant the cancellation of the EMOA Score Champs but the event should be a success.

The East Midland Championships are due to be hosted by NOC in December.

In 2019 we have the British Sprints at Loughborough hosted by LEI and the British Middles at Chinley Churn hosted by DVO.

Next year LOG are hosting the East Midland Sprint Champs and the East Midland Champs (though controllers are needed for both of these events).

Amanda also proposed considering how we can encourage juniors to attend events.

Hilary Palmer also mentioned that next January in the EMOA region is the annual Coaching Conference. There are some really interesting topics on the agenda and Hilary encouraged clubs to support their coaches in attending the event, as it will greatly aid coach development. Details on the event should be out in the next week.

## **13. Any Other Business:**

- a) Roger Edwards raised a couple of concerns about the East Midlands league. Firstly that juniors find it difficult to attend 8 events in a year as they either go to other events outside the region, squad events, or can't make events in EMOA. This means they don't get recognition in the league. Alternative suggestions such as a separate league for juniors, or fewer events counting in a year for juniors need to be considered.

Another concern that Roger raised was that the league tends to encourage long distance events which leads to not having any sprint events in the region (and limited middle distance events).

It was suggested that club reps take these concerns back to their clubs and bring thoughts forward to the next EMOA Committee meeting.

- b) Ann-Marie Duckworth reported that the junior squad had a number of events planned such as weekends at Epping with SEOA squad, and with the YHOA squad at Kilnsey.

## **14. Close of formal meeting:**

The meeting was formally closed at 20:38.