

**MINUTES OF THE 59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EAST MIDLANDS
ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION HELD ON MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 19.30 IN
PACE ROOM, CLIFTON.**

Present: Sal Chaffey (DVO), Trudy Crosby (LOG), Roger Edwards (LEI), Mike Godfree (DVO), John Hurley (DVO), Jane Kayley-Burgess (DVO), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Chris Phillips (LEI), Amanda Roberts (LOG), Anthony Squire (NOC), Ernie Williams (LEI), Ursula Williamson (LEI), Dorothy Woodall (NOC), John Woodall (NOC) and Paul Young (DVO).

The meeting was held in person at the Pace Room, Clifton Village and was quorate as 15 members were in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence:

Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Mike Gardner (DVO), Liz Godfree (DVO), Ranald Macdonald (DVO), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), and Iain Phillips (LEI) offered their apologies.

In the absence of Mike Gardner, due to serious and unforeseen circumstances, Ernie Williams volunteered to take the Minutes.

2. Minutes of the 58th EMOA AGM held on Monday 12th September 2022.

It was proposed *“That the Minutes as circulated are a true and accurate record.”* Proposed by John Hurley (DVO) and seconded by Ursula Williamson (LEI). The proposal was carried nem con.

3. Chair’s Report to EMOA AGM September 2023:

This report is very much just a snapshot of what has happened in the region over the last 12 months and I hope that I have not missed anything of importance. If I have, please forgive me and put it down to the aging process!

I am very pleased to report that although the year has not been without its problems, we have had a full and active programme of events during the last twelve months.

Both the Forest and Urban Leagues have had a full programme with some quality events. It has been very good to see new faces taking part in our events and even better, some new faces on the “podium” for the presentation of the 2022 trophies at the start of this year.

As I have mentioned the year has not been without its problems. Permission for land access continues to be a problem despite optimistic noises made by the BOF Environment and Access Officer at the Regional Conference in October 2022. Landowners are under financial pressure to maximise incomes, pressure from regulatory bodies such as Natural England and in some cases, we are experiencing a backlash from the problems caused to landowners by the general public and other organisations. I note that BOF have still not been able to negotiate a new Access Agreement with Forestry England despite the current agreement expiring this month. I understand that, for the present, we are to continue operating under the current agreement.

Our Regional Conference had a different format this year, in that part of the day was devoted to discussions for using the Regional Cash surplus. From that conference a working party chaired by Ranald has looked at the possibilities and the subsequent proposals are being debated by the EMOA Committee. My thanks to Ranald for both organising the conference and chairing the Working Party. Ranald is standing down from the EMOA committee after this AGM and I would on behalf of the Region to thank he for all the work he has done for the Region for many years.

As many of you are aware, in March of this year it was announced that Ernie Williams of LEI had been awarded the Continued Contribution to Orienteering Award by the Board of British Orienteering. Ernie’s contribution to the actives and events of both LEI and the Region has over the last 40 years been immense. Plus, his contribution nationally. It was my great pleasure to

have Ernie as a member of the BOF Events and Competitions Committee during my tenure as its chairman.

In 2004 Ernie was my number two for the Regional JK Day at Graythwaite and many “happy hours” were spent commuting up and down the M6 to the Lakes for meetings with very early breakfast at Motor Way services and very late meals on the way back. I am sworn to secrecy that I will not tell Ernie’s wife Wendy some of the things that we got up to on our travels!

Ernie, very many thanks on behalf of everybody in the region for your massive contribution to orienteering.

Junior Squad. Last September 9 of our juniors took the trip over to Northern Ireland to compete in the Junior Inter Regional Championships - the JIRCS. With such a small squad coming 10th was a very satisfactory result.

The EMJOS coaches Ann-Marie and Ant have arranged several trainings over the last year and these have included joint activities with other Regions. Two of our juniors attended the national training at Hawkshead last November.

Hannah from LOG continues Training with the Northern Region Talant Squad.

Congratulations go to Rahel from DVO and Ben from NOC who were selected for The Junior World Cup and The Junior European Championships.

Two of our Juniors were selected for JROS Tours this Summer. Ellie for LEI went to Deeside and Hannah from LOG to Sweden

I would like to thank both Ann-Marie and Ant for all the work and time that have put in over the last year in managing and coaching the juniors in EMJOS.

Finally, turning to administrative matters in relation to the East Midlands Committee. The committee has met three times since the last AGM in September 2021. A significant amount of time has been taken up with financial matters and I will leave Paul to speak about these in his report.

My thanks to the members of EMOA Committee for their support and hard work over the last twelve months. Much of the work goes on unnoticed by our members but without it we would not be able to function as a Region.

Chris Phillips – Chair - September 2023

4. **Financial Secretary’s Report**

Paul Young circulated the accounts before the meeting to the committee for review.

Below is the proposed income / expenditure statement for next year and outline for further 3 years:

East Midlands Orienteering Association									
FY 2023/24 Budget v0.1									
INCOME	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		Memorandum		
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget v0.1	Var	LTF v0.1	LTF v0.1	
Membership	1,386.00	1,310.00	1,312.00	1,280.00	1,305.00	25.00	1,330.00	1,355.00	EMOA
Event Levies	1,450.40	321.60	1,222.90	1,453.90	1,480.90	27.00	1,521.80	1,562.70	EMOA
Interest	5.91	0.36	0.82	26.45	50.00	23.55	40.00	30.00	EMJOS
Sponsorship and other income	100.00	0.00	127.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EMOA
EMJOS Income	1,292.70	21.00	668.00	693.00	1,500.00	807.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	EMJOS
EMJOS Clothing Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EMJOS
EMJOS Fund Raising	628.50	0.00	186.50	142.00	150.00	8.00	150.00	150.00	EMJOS
INCOME	4,863.51	1,652.96	3,517.72	3,595.35	4,485.90	890.55	4,541.80	4,597.70	
EXPENDITURE									
EMJOS Expenses	1,468.10	71.00	1,312.55	2,891.07	3,500.00	(608.93)	3,000.00	3,000.00	EMJOS
Trophies & Certificates	187.36	47.68	171.00	269.00	300.00	(31.00)	300.00	300.00	EMOA
Volunteer Development	0.00	0.00	60.00	218.34	2,000.00	(1,781.66)	2,000.00	2,000.00	EMOA
Community Coaching Development	0.00	0.00	124.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	EMOA
External Conferences	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	200.00	200.00	EMOA
Support for Senior/Talent Orienteers	700.00	0.33	457.10	1,012.90	1,000.00	12.90	1,000.00	1,000.00	EMOA
Coach development	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.00	0.00	171.00	0.00	0.00	EMOA
Sub total	2,355.46	119.01	2,124.89	4,562.31	7,000.00	(2,437.69)	6,500.00	6,500.00	
Running costs									
Web licence and bank charges	22.18	23.33	58.33	79.53	85.00	(5.47)	90.00	95.00	EMOA
Hire of meeting room	80.00	0.00	30.00	60.00	70.00	(10.00)	80.00	90.00	EMOA
English Orienteering Council	387.00	354.00	371.00	353.00	371.05	(18.05)	398.90	406.10	EMOA
Sub total	489.18	377.33	459.33	492.53	526.05	(33.52)	568.90	591.10	
EXPENDITURE	2,844.64	496.34	2,584.22	5,054.84	7,526.05	(2,471.21)	7,068.90	7,091.10	
Surplus / Loss	2,018.87	1,156.62	933.50	(1,459.49)	(3,040.15)	(1,580.66)	(2,527.10)	(2,493.40)	

Below is the balance sheet:

Balance Sheet 30 June 20xx									
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget v0.1	Var	LTF v0.1	LTF v0.1	
Current Account	9,335	10,698.79	11,823.92	11,030.05	8,989.90	(2,040.15)	6,972.80	4,999.40	EMOA
EMJOS Deposit Account	3,809	3,809.08	4,351.85	3,322.23	2,322.23	(1,000.00)	1,812.23	1,292.23	EMJOS
	13,143.83	14,507.87	16,175.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63	
Accrued Income - Chinery Churn	0.00	129.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Deferred Income - Bulwell Hall Park	0.00	(5.10)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Accrual - Website Costs	(22.18)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Accrual - ECC Contribution	0.00	(354.00)	(371.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
DVD map contribution	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Accrued Income - BDF June	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Accrual - Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	(5.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63	
Represented by									
Accumulated fund	11,702.78	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	(1,459.49)	11,312.13	8,785.03	
add surplus	2,018.87	1,156.62	933.50	(1,459.49)	(3,040.15)	(1,580.66)	(2,527.10)	(2,493.40)	
Carry forward	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63	
Note EMJOS * <i>Old</i> * Clothing Stock	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	-	Nil	Nil	
Note EMJOS * <i>New</i> * Clothing Stock	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	250	-	125	Negligible	
EMOA cont to EMJOS				1,000.00	800.00		800.00	800.00	
Memo									
EMOA "Profit"	559.86	206.26	390.73	(429.87)	(2,040.15)		(2,017.10)	(1,973.40)	
EMJOS "Profit"					(1,000.00)		(510.00)	(520.00)	

2022/23 Accounts

The EMOA year end is 30th June 2023, Roger Edwards has reviewed the accounts and issued the following statement:

"I confirm that these accounts represent a true and fair record of the Association's affairs."

A copy of the noted accounts is attached for the record.

Roger is thanked for again being the independent financial examiner of the accounts.

There were no questions raised about these accounts.
 The balance sheet was approved by the meeting.
 Proposer: John Hurley
 Seconder: Ernie Williams
 The floor unanimously approved the balance sheet.

5. Election of Principal Officers:

Chris Phillips stated that two of the Officers – himself as Chair and Paul Young as Financial Secretary – were willing to continue in place for 2023-2024. Pre-meeting an agreement had been reached with Ann-Marie Duckworth who has indicated that she would be willing to take on the role of Vice-Chair for 2023-2024 and then as Chair for 2024-2025, if Chris was prepared to continue as Chair for the year 2023-2024 and this he had agreed so to do. Following the retirement of Ranald Macdonald, the role of Development Co-ordinator was currently vacant. The Chair asked if there were any nominations for this key role but there were no nominations forthcoming.
 The Principal Officers for the year 2023-2024 listed below were unanimously elected by a show of hand of those present and thanked for their willingness to both stand and serve.

Post	Nominee
Chair	Chris Philips (LEI)
Vice-Chair	Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO)
Financial Secretary	Paul Young (DVO)
Development Co-ordinator	(Position vacant)

Proposed by: John Woodall (NOC) Seconded by: John Hurley (DVO)
“That a ‘Vote of Thanks’ for each of the 2022 -2023 Principal Officers be given by the membership.”

Those present were unanimous in their support with a show of hands and vocal agreement.

6. Other EMOA Officers:

Members of the Association shown below had expressed their willingness to continue to undertake for the year 2023-2024 the non-elected roles as listed and were thanked en-bloc for their continued service to and for the Association’s membership.

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	Ursula Williamson (LEI)
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)

NB: The Club Representatives for DVO, LEI, LOG, and NOC on the EMOA Committee are nominated by their Clubs.

7. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner:

Roger Edwards agreed to continue as Independent Financial Examiner for the next year. Roger was again thanked by the meeting for performing this role.

8. Budget Projections and Recommendations for membership fees and event levies:

At this point in the meeting Paul Young went through each of his recommendations and Budget proposals for 2023-2024 (see below), some of which were directly linked to the 2023 British Orienteering Federation AGM Agenda Item 6 Proposals iii to vii of the Board that are to be put to the membership on Saturday, 16th September 2023 i.e.

iii. to create part-year membership fees for new members;

iv. to create a membership category for families;

v. to create a membership category for young adults between the ages of 21 and 25;

vi. to create a levy fee category for senior non-member participants;

vii. to approve the member, levy and club affiliation fees from 2024.

whilst others were about the Association's Reserves and East Midlands Event Levies etc.

Paul, as Financial Secretary, gave an 'Overview' of his Budget Proposals with regard to both 2023-2024 and to future years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 as a 'Long-Term Forecast', with specific reference to EMOA and to EMJOS, and the intention of resulting in a 'break even' situation annually, and in reducing the Association's 'Reserves' to £5000 by the end of the 2025-2026 financial year.

Overview

Appendix 1 summarises the proposed EMOA Budget for the 2023/24 Financial Year. The assumptions take into account recent financial performance and the objectives of EMOA. In addition to the 2023/24 Budget, the appendix includes a Long-Term Forecast (LTF) covering both 2024/25 and 2025/26. These are memorandum in nature and intended to give an indication of longer-term financial stability of EMOA.

Both the Budget and Long-Term Forecast (together the "Forecast") seek to reduce the level of reserves held by both EMOA and EMJOS to more "reasonable" levels for the organisations in question.

EMOA

Excluding the strategic Development element of the expenditure (shown as "Volunteer Development") from the EMOA Forecast results in an at or around "break-even" each year. This is after making a contribution to EMJOS of £800, and supporting talented orienteers within the region to the tune of £1,000 each year.

The Forecast assumes a three-year programme of Development activity, totalling £6,000 of EMOA funds.

At the end of the 2025/26 Financial Year, the EMOA reserves will be £5,000. This level of reserves would enable EMOA to continue to operate for a period of at least 18-months without receiving any income.

In order for Development activity to continue the beyond 2025/26 Financial Year, EMOA would need to either reduce its other costs, or find alternative sources of funds.

EMJOS

The EMJOS Forecast assumes a net reduction in Reserves of £2,000 over the next three years. At the end of the 2025/26 Financial Year, the EMJOS Reserves will be £1,300.

The Forecast takes a prudent view on participant contributions and EMJOS fundraising over the term, and also assumes a continued level of support from EMOA.

EMOA Budget for 2023/24

1. Membership

British Orienteering (BO) has proposed the introduction of a number of new membership “tariffs” and categories, and subject to approval at their upcoming AGM it is my understanding that they would come into effect from 1 January 2024.

At this time, it is unclear if the BO membership system would cope with the increased complexity which would come about if EMOA were to follow suit. Given the low cost of EMOA annual membership I am recommending no change to the existing membership fees for calendar year 2024.

£3 per Senior member*.

£1 per Junior member.

*If the membership category of Young Adult is introduced following the BO AGM then I recommend the EMOA membership for 2024 is set at £3 per Young Adult.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: Hilary Palmer (NOC)

“The meeting is asked to approve the EMOA membership rates for the calendar year 2024 as Senior £3.00, Junior £1.00, Family comprising two adults and any number of children at the same address as £7.00 and, if brought in at the 2023 BOF AGM, a Young Adult rate of £3.00”. The proposal was carried nem con.

2. Event Levies

EMOA event levies are payable by organising clubs in relation to all category C and above events. I recommend that EMOA event levies remain unchanged for the 2023/24 financial year.

£0.50 per Senior** and £0.10 per Junior with the first £25.00 continuing to be retained by the organising club.

**If the membership category of Young Adult is introduced following the BO AGM then I recommend the EMOA levy is set at £0.50 per Young Adult.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: Ernie Williams (LEI)

“The meeting is asked to approve the EMOA Event Levy rates for Level C and above as £0.50 for Seniors, £0.10 for Juniors and, if brought in at the 2023 BOF AGM, a Young Adult rate of £0.50, and with the first £25.00 to be retained by the Organising Club.” The proposal was carried nem con.

3. Expenses Policy

After a brief discussion and to general agreement the following proposal was put to the meeting.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: John Woodall (NOC)

“That the rates of ‘£0.25 per mile with an additional £0.02 per mile for each relevant passenger up to a maximum of £0.29 per mile’ be approved for the financial year 2023-2024 for mileage incurred by members in relation to both EMOA and EMJOS matters.” The proposal was carried nem con.

4. Reserves

Proposal: The meeting is asked to approve the amendment of the EMOA “target” reserves balance to £5,000. Note: No proposal is made in relation to EMJOS reserves.

This item was discussed at length with a variety of opinions expressed, together with ‘target figures’ and future dates being suggested, and it was also noted that there was no proposal to be put to the meeting in relation to the EMJOS Reserves.

At the end of the discussion, the figure in the proposal was amended to reserve balance of £,9,000 consistent with the 2023/2024 budget. This was agreed, by a show of hands.

It was felt that this needed further discussion and the meeting also mandated the responsibility of the Principal Officers and Committee members to further debate the urgent matter of the Association's 'Reserves Balance' and to make a Report, finally agreed upon, to the membership within six calendar months of the date of the 2023 AGM.

ACTION: The Officers and Committee members are tasked to report back on the finally agreed figure for an 'EMOA Reserves Balance', and the date for implementation, to the membership by Monday 11th March 2024 at the latest.

5. HSBC Banking Mandate

Paul explained the necessity of his next two proposals regarding the HSBC Banking Mandate and the 'Authorised Signatories' together with the formally named user of HSBC Business Internet Banking. Questions raised included the possible extension beyond the accepted three year term of office within EMOA, and the increasing incidence of fraud and money laundering and the need for the prevention of same.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: John Woodall (NOC)

"That the meeting shall agree to the updating of the existing Bank Mandate and any associated documentation such that the Principal Officers of the Association who are appointed from the date of the 2023 AGM have the ability to replace any existing existing authorised signatories." The proposal was carried nem con.

Paul also put forward a proposal relating to the Financial Secretary being the approved 'Primary User' for HSBC Business Internet Banking. After a brief discussion this was agreed.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: Ernie Williams (LEI)

"That the members of the Association are agreed that the Financial Secretary of the Association is to be the 'Primary User' of the HSBC Business Banking facility." The proposal was carried nem con.

6. Deposit Account

Paul explained to the meeting that there were opportunities for the Officers of the Association, with the prospect of better and more favourable rates of Interest becoming available, to agree that part of the 'Reserves Balance' can to be moved to a fixed rate of interest limited term saver or deposit or bond account.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: Ursula Williamson (LEI)

"That the Principal Officers of the Association be granted the authority on behalf of the membership to open a new fixed term Saver/Deposit/Bond account into which, in the opinion of the Financial Secretary, a reasonable part of the Association's 'Reserves Balance' can be deposited to accrue a better rate of interest than heretofore." The proposal was carried nem con.

7. Budget 2023/24

The proposed Budget for the year 2023/24 is set out below for the A.G.M.

Appendix 1 - Budget 2023/24

East Midlands Orienteering Association								
FY 2023/24 Budget v0.1								
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		Memorandum	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget v0.1	Var	LTF v0.1	LTF v0.1
INCOME								
Membership	1,386.00	1,310.00	1,312.00	1,280.00	1,305.00	25.00	1,330.00	1,355.00
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Interest	5.91	0.36	0.82	26.45	50.00	23.55	40.00	30.00
Sponsorship and other income	100.00	0.00	127.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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INCOME	4,863.51	1,652.96	3,517.72	3,595.35	4,485.90	890.55	4,541.80	4,597.70
EXPENDITURE								
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Coach development	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.00	0.00	171.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	2,355.46	119.01	2,124.89	4,562.31	7,000.00	(2,437.69)	6,500.00	6,500.00
Running costs								
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Balance Sheet 30 June 20xx								
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	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget v0.1	Var	LTF v0.1	LTF v0.1
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EMJOS Deposit Account	3,809	3,809.08	4,351.85	3,322.23	2,322.23	(1,000.00)	1,812.23	1,292.23
	13,143.83	14,507.87	16,175.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63
Accrued income - Chinye Churn	0.00	129.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deferred income - Bulwell Hall Park	0.00	(5.10)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accrual - Website Costs	(22.18)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accrual - EOC Contribution	0.00	(354.00)	(371.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DVO map contribution	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accrued income - BOF June	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accrual - Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	(5.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63
Represented by								
Accumulated fund	11,702.78	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	(1,459.49)	11,312.13	8,785.03
add surplus	2,018.87	1,156.62	933.50	(1,459.49)	(3,040.15)	(1,580.66)	(2,527.10)	(2,493.40)
Carry forward	13,721.65	14,878.27	15,811.77	14,352.28	11,312.13	(3,040.15)	8,785.03	6,291.63
Note EMJOS "Old" Clothing Stock	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	-	Nil	Nil
Note EMJOS "New" Clothing Stock	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	250	-	125	Negligible

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: John Woodall (NOC)

“That those present approve the Budget headed ‘East Midlands Orienteering Association FY 2023/24 Budget v0.1’ as set out on Page 4 Appendix 1 of the tabled ‘Financial Secretary’s Budget Proposal 2023/24’ document”. The proposal was carried nem con.

Paul Young was thanked by all present for his presentation and work on the financial affairs of the Association undertaken on behalf of all of the membership.

9. Fixing of Charges:

Following discussions about both the BOF Board's 2023 AGM and the Financial Secretary's Proposals, other than the Individual and Family Membership Fees agreed earlier in Agenda Item 9 (1), it was agreed that there should be no change in two other membership fees.

Proposed by: Paul Young (DVO) Seconded by: Ernie Williams (LEI)

"That for the calendar year 2024 the fee for Associate membership to remain at £10.00 and the fee for Club membership to remain at £15.00." Proposal carried nem con.

10. Changes to the EMOA Constitution and Standing Orders:

Chris Phillips as the Chair indicated that there were a significant number of changes to the Constitution and Standing Order requiring approval by the meeting. These had been made available pre-meeting for download but, due to a technical hitch, the document would not open for either reading or printing. In these circumstances Chris Phillips made an executive decision to verbally go through the changes section by section, giving detail as and when required, prior to acceptance by a show of hands.

- (i) Of the thirty-nine separate amendments, twenty one of them required a change whereby 'Ltd' is to be put after 'British Orienteering Federation';
- (ii) The section referring to 'Open Clubs' and 'Closed Clubs' has been rewritten to make the distinction between the two clearer;
- (iii) With regard to mentions of 'BOF policies' reference is now made as to "where available on the BOF website";
- (iv) The section referring to the 'Re-election of Officers' has been re-worded to make it much clearer than before;
- (v) With regard to 'Signatories' on behalf of the Association the reference to 'cheques' has been removed.

In conclusion, following discussion on certain aspects of the proposals, it was unanimously agreed by those present to accept, by a show of hands, all of the proposed changes as listed in the document, except for any text that may be related to the Association's Reserves, following previous discussion on the same subject.

ACTION: A request was made that Mike Gardner be enabled to update the Constitution and Standing Orders, and ensure that the updated Constitution and Standing Orders be made available on the EMOA website.

11. Chairs Plans for Coming Year: 2023/24

The centre piece of the coming year is the JK at Easter 2024 with the East and West Midland Association as the organising regions. As I hope you all aware LEI are hosting Day 1 the Sprints at Loughborough University and DVO are hosting Day 4 the Relays at Stanton Moor. LOG and NOC have been asked to support Day 3 at Beaudesert by providing helpers.

Apart from hosting the two days the Region has members who are part of the Central Team with Ursula Williamson, Judith Holt, Simon Starkey and myself having roles covering all four days.

The Day Organisers and the Planners have already achieved much over the last few months but there is much still to be done, including recruiting the key volunteers over the next few weeks.

From past experience I know how much the hosting a JK raises a regions profile both nationally and international. The Sprints at Loughborough will be a World Ranking Day and given that it is likely that there will only be one other WRE in the UK next year the event will attract not only the cream of GB Orienteering but a strong overseas contingent.

Looking at the rest of years events programme. LEI are Organising the British Schools Score Championships next month and in February LOG will be welcoming us for the EMOA Championships.

Hopefully we will have both the Urban and Forest Leagues in 2024. However, as several of our clubs have not submitted requests for Regional Events to the Regional Fixtures Secretary, I cannot confirm that the Leagues will be happening. Unfortunately given the lateness of request being submitted it is unlikely that clubs will get any choice of dates. Club Fixtures Secretary's, please can we have your proposals as soon as possible and preferably by the end of this month.

It is intended to have a Regional Training Day next year, probably either mid-summer or early autumn. As we do not have a Regional Development Co-ordinator at present, I will be asking members of the EMOA Committee to pitch in a give a hand organising the day.

Members of EMJOS will be competing at the Junior Interregional over the weekend 24/25 September at Llantrisant Forest near Cardiff, and we wish them every success.

Ann Maria and Ant have arranged a programme of Training for the coming months. I hope that clubs will encourage their juniors' members to take part in the regional training. There is much evidence over the years that taking part in EMJOS does much for the confidence and skill level of our juniors' members.

Finally, one other item on the Committee agenda for the next few months, and one that needs the help of the clubs is finding a vice chair and Regional Development Co-ordinator.

Chris Phillips - Chair 11.9.23

12. Any Other Business:

There was no 'Any Other Business' raised apart from the Chair inviting all present to the 'Open Discussion' to be held following a tea, coffee, and biscuits break.

13. Close of formal meeting:

Those present were thanked for their attendance and contribution to the discussion on the Agenda items, and the Chair formally closed the 59th EMOA AGM at 20:45.

The next EMOA Committee meeting is 27th November 2023 in Pace Room, Clifton.