

**East Midlands Orienteering Association Executive Committee Meeting – 4 April 2016**

Item No	Description	Action
<b>Present:</b> Mike Gardner (DVO), Bob Haskins (LEI), Judith Holt (DVO), John Hurley (DVO), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Chris Phillips (LEI), Amanda Roberts (LOG), Julie Webster (NOC), Mark Webster (NOC), Ursula Williamson (LEI), John Woodall (NOC).		
1	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Apologies were received from Dai Bedwell (DVO), Pauline Olivant (NOC), David Olivant (NOC),	
	John Hurley welcomed Julie Webster and stated that John Woodall had now completed his term as BOF elected Board Director and stood down at the BOF AGM. However, Julie was elected to replace John and so had been invited to attend these meetings.	
2	<b>Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016</b> – The minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous meeting. Approved: Hilary Palmer Seconded: John Woodall	
3	<b>Website version of minutes</b> – It was agreed the website could take the minutes as they stood. Approved: John Hurley Seconded: Chris Phillips	<b>Mike Gardner</b> to inform webmaster.
4	<b>Actions Outstanding from previous minutes (not covered elsewhere)</b> Mike Gardner had arranged for DVO to pay their contribution to the Development Day. This was transferred to the EMOA Accounts.	
5.	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> The Treasurer provided a summary based on the current status of the EMOA Accounts. One request had come in for funding support from Euan Tebbutt, this had been approved. Hilary Palmer stated that there were unlikely to be any further coaching costs this year so may be under budget. We are also under budget on grants allocation and the next round tended to be selected in May/June so may not be in this financial year when the funding is requested.	
6.	<b>Development</b> a. Chris stated we need to start thinking about whether we should be pulling together another EMOA Development Day or Planners / Controllers Conference. It was felt that a Planners / Controllers Conference was most appropriate. Chris will look at pulling together some proposed dates and topics. . b. Event Safety Workshop – Amanda Roberts asked if any other clubs were putting on an Event Safety workshop in the near future as LOG had a number of folk needing to attend one. Hilary Palmer offered to tutor a course for LOG.	<b>Chris Phillips</b> to identify potential dates and topics for a Planners / Controllers conference <b>Amanda / Hilary</b> to get together to discuss LOG Event Safety Workshop

	<p>c. LOG did nominate Paul Murgatroyd for Coach of the Year Award (as discussed at last meeting). Unfortunately Paul did not win it.</p> <p>d. Contactless Punching – Mike Gardner provided a short summary on the use of contactless punching at the DVO event at Longshaw. Around 70 competitors hired contactless punches which seemed to run successfully. DVO are looking in to whether they could get a batch of punches (20) for all future events so that they would not need to re-programme boxes between events.</p> <p>In terms of contactless punching the concern folk had was whether if only had limited punches the event would comply with fairness rules. Advice from Events &amp; Competitions Committee was posted on the News page of the BO website on March 14<sup>th</sup> and is pasted in below. Chris Phillips commented that this advice may need to be updated in line with IOF guidance which is slightly different.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Coaching</b></p> <p>As of the end of March LEI have a new level 2 coach. There is one other coach being assessed for level 2 at the moment and expect that to be completed by the end of April. There are no further level 2 coaches in the pipeline. The National Steering Group met at the end of February. A set of new coaching guidelines have been made available in place of current level 1 and 2 from Sport England. The plan at this stage is to provide in-house introduction to Coaching Workshop (as trialled by cricket) in place of current level 1, then coaches who wish to become qualified would do the level 2 award. The guidelines for this are currently being drafted. NOTE: Everyone who is already qualified would retain their qualifications.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Junior Squad</b></p> <p>Dai reported that the Squad had a successful days training at Cademan Woods. However, their trip to Malham was less successful as it snowed and the sessions had to be cancelled. At this stage it is unclear whether the squad will get their money back, or whether the monies will be retained and can be used toward a new coaching weekend being planned in November.</p> <p>JIRCS 2016 – Flights for 15 (13 juniors and 2 coaches) have been booked. Whether there is any way we can get additional attendees there and around events is being looked in to.</p> <p>JIRCS 2018 – Dai still looking in to this.</p> <p>There is no further training planned for the squad in April / May due to Dai's work and controlling commitments.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Fixtures</b></p> <p>a. <b>EMOA League 2016</b> – All going as planned at this stage.</p> <p>b. <b>EMOA Urban League 2016</b> – The LEI event on 26 June will have to be moved from Ibstock to Ashby.</p> <p>c. <b>Future Major Events</b></p> <p>i) <b>10 April 2016 – Yvette Baker Trophy Round 2016</b> – LEI – Spring Cottage – Event ready</p> <p>ii) <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 – Peter Palmer Relays</b> – Controller now in place.</p> <p>iii) <b>8 October 2016 – British Schools Score Champs</b> – Bagworth Heath (LEI)</p> <p>iv) <b>27 November 2016 – East Midland Champs 2016</b> – (LEI) – may involve bussing</p>	

	<p>v) <b>12 March 2017 – Compass Sport Cup Round</b> – LOG – Burwell and Haugham  vi) <b>Midland Champs 2018</b> – LEI - Belvoir</p> <p><b>d. Future Possible Events</b></p> <p>i) <b>Junior Inter-Regional Champs 2018</b> – Dai Bedwell is looking for accommodation.  ii) <b>British Sprints / Middles 2019</b> – LEI / DVO – we have been offered a choice of 4 dates for this. 31 Aug/Sep1; 14/15 Sep; 21/22 Sep; <del>30</del>31 Mar. Need to identify which we want to use. Ursula to talk to the clubs before end of May.  iii) <b>Compass Sport Cup Heat 2019</b> – NOC?  iv) <b>Midland Champs 2020</b> – DVO  v) <b>CompassSport Cup Final 2020</b> – Oct 20<sup>th</sup> approx. – any clubs interested in hosting this?  vi) <b>British / British Relays 2021</b> – Looking in to possibly hosting using SYO areas at present. Expecting response from YHOA to Chris Phillips after 2016 JK - probably need to discuss next in June meeting after JK.  vii) <b>Midland Champs 2022</b> – NOC</p> <p><b>e. Other Fixtures</b></p> <p>a. It was agreed that clubs would like to have a bi-annual EM Score Champs alternating with the EM Sprint Champs. Therefore are there any volunteers to host the EM Sprint Champs next year as we had the Score Champs earlier this year? Also the Score Champs in 2018? Club Reps to check with clubs.  b. JK Saturday – A question had been asked as to whether the JK Saturday event should be a Middle distance event. The committee all felt that this would be appropriate.</p>	<p><b>Ursula Williamson:</b>  Discuss with clubs what dates preferred for British Sprints / Middle 2019.</p> <p><b>Club Reps:</b> Any clubs interested in hosting CompassSport Cup Final in 2020?</p> <p><b>Club Reps:</b> Any club wanting to host the EM Sprint Champs in 2017 and / or Score Champs in 2018? Get details to Ursula.</p>
10	<p><b>Reports:</b></p> <p>1. John Hurley and Amanda Roberts attended on behalf of EMOA the BO Board meeting with the regions (John Woodall and Judith Holt were also in attendance as BOF Elected Directors). The session was split in to two parts covering National Vision and Strategy, and then Finance &amp; Budget.</p> <p>a. The session on National Vision &amp; Strategy is being formulated in to a paper that will be circulated shortly. The document reflects recent discussions on development and identified 3 main focus programmes and 5 supporting programmes. The 3 main programmes were Growth in Competitive Runs; Growth in Number of people experiencing orienteering for the first time; sustained success at World Championships.  When the paper comes out John Hurley will ensure it is circulated to committee. It may be that comments will need to be back by June so may need to have feedback in to John before next meeting.</p>	<p><b>John Hurley:</b> Circulate Vision &amp; Strategy paper when received and collate responses from committee</p>

	<p>b. The second part of the session covered the financial sustainability, which is one of the underlying programmes. The aim is to be able to link the Vision and Strategy to the finances so can see where the money is going, and if lose funding streams can understand the impact on the programmes. However, due to potential reduction in Government Funding it is likely that Sport England will remove all grants supporting administration of sports bodies in next year or so. Therefore to preserve the status quo BOF will need to generate an additional £80-100,000 pa. The Board did propose to the BOF AGM an increase in membership fee of £10 per person pa. However, after a lot of feedback this proposal was withdrawn. John Woodall explained that one issue was that the main performance indicator used by Sport England was participation, but the main indicator used by Sport Scotland was membership. A new proposal is being prepared to cover 2017 onwards, which will be considered at an EGM some time later this year. The EMOA committee agreed that this should not impact the EMOA AGM date and we should continue with our current plans. If, for any reason, there was a need to change EMOA plans / funding then an EGM would be called.</p> <p>2. Something Old / Something New correspondence from Chris James – Chris James had requested clubs and regions to come up with new ideas / lessons learnt / best practices on increasing membership. John Hurley proposed including a Best Practices section in future agendas where we could discuss any ideas folk had.</p> <p>a. Amanda Roberts talked about the experience that LOG have had in liaising with the Park Runs in Lincoln. They set up events in the local parks immediately after the park runs and have now got at least 8-10 new members this way. It seems to be that once you have one person then often they encourage others.</p> <p>b. Mike Gardner commented that this year DVO were attempting to cluster a lot of small events in South Derbyshire and Matlock areas to see if this encourages more participation / membership.</p>	<p><b>Mike Gardner</b> to add a Best Practices section to future meeting agendas</p> <p><b>John Hurley</b> to respond to Chris James.</p>
11	<p><b>EMEWS:</b> The next EMEWS will be out after meeting in about 2 weeks.</p>	
12	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p>a. EOC AGM – John Hurley has injured himself and will therefore not be able to attend the EOC AGM (which is immediately after British Champs). If no-one else is able to attend on behalf of the EMOA committee he will try to provide feedback to the EOC in advance (there is a new constitution being developed which may be voted on).</p>	<p><b>John Hurley</b> to provide feedback to EOC AGM if no-one else able to attend on behalf of EMOA</p>
13	<p><b>Dates and venues for future meetings:</b> All meetings to be held at the Pace Room, St Mary’s Church, Clifton Village, Nottinghamshire at 7.30 p.m. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2016. The EMOA AGM has been provisionally scheduled for Monday September 19<sup>th</sup> 2016.</p>	<p><b>John Woodall</b> to book hall for next committee meetings.</p>

Meeting closed at 9:04pm

## **Contactless Punching**

### **Events & Competition Committee discuss the use of ‘touch-free’ and ‘contact’ electronic punches in competition.**

Event and Competitions Committee wish to advise organisers and competitors that they consider fair competition can only be provided by the use of either of, but not both touch-free or contact electronic punches in the same competition class. All those competing directly against one another should do so in a way that does not confer an unfair advantage on one group.

Touch-free punching may allow the user to punch several seconds quicker per control than someone using a contact punch. The accumulated benefit over a whole course becomes significant.

This advice is in no way intended to restrict the introduction of new technology. Touch-free punching has been successfully used at many events over several years. However, all competitors in those events have used the same type of punching equipment. New technologies and potential developments allow the possibility of using either touch-free or contact punching in an event and consequently an unfair competition may result.

Consequently, Events & Competitions Committee recommend that organisers should ensure that all those in a competition class use either contact or touch-free punches; they should not allow a mixture of punching types in the same competition class."

Item posted by Scott Parker, Administrator, British Orienteering