

## East Midlands Orienteering Association Executive Committee Meeting – 29 January 2024

Item No	Description	Action
<b>Present:</b> Trudy Crosby (LOG), Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Mike Gardner (DVO), John Hurley (DVO), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Chris Phillips (LEI), Iain Phillips (LEI), Ursula Williamson (LEI), John Woodall (NOC) and Paul Young (DVO)		
	Meeting held via Zoom	
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> None	
2.	<b>Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b> – The minutes of the November meeting were approved unanimously by all attendees.	
3.	<b>Website version of minutes</b> – Minor changes were made to the minutes to remove reference to amounts paid to individuals as part of talent support. Approved unanimously by all attendees.	<b>Mike Gardner</b> to inform webmaster.
4.	<p><b>Actions Outstanding from previous minutes (not covered elsewhere)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Item 3 – Mike Gardner had provided the previous approved minutes to the webmaster who has uploaded them to the EMOA website.</li> <li>b) Item 4 – Paul Young has still to forward the mandate to Mike Gardner for completion. Paul still needed to do this so this remains as an action item.</li> <li>c) Item 4 – We still need committee members to consider possible names for new Vice-Chair and Financial Secretary for the 2024 AGM.</li> <li>d) Item 5 – Paul Young had moved monies from current account to deposit account as agreed.</li> <li>e) Item 6 – John Hurley report covered under Development.</li> <li>f) Item 7 – Hilary report covered under Coaching.</li> <li>g) Item 9 – Mike Gardner published the EMOA Trans Competition Policy in EMEWS as agreed.</li> <li>h) Item 10 – Ursula Williamson has started to use the new scoring system for EMOA League. Has had feedback from 2 people so far (one from someone outside EMOA regretting they are not included in scoring system, and another from EMOA member welcoming the change). There is now a lot more for the organisers to do as the approach required is to remove all none EMOA members from results before they are uploaded. Ursula has said she can do this on behalf of clubs if needed (<b>Club Reps</b> to let organisers in their clubs know this). Iain Phillips volunteered to work with Ursula to assist in making this easier for her.</li> <li>i) Item 11 – Discussion on Very Short Green on agenda for later this meeting.</li> <li>j) Item 15 – Ann-Marie discussion on junior relays being across clubs is covered later in the meeting.</li> <li>k) Item 16 – Hannah Mather article was forwarded to Mike Gardner for EMEWS and published in the last edition.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paul Young</b> to get any forms to Mike Gardner as secretary and Ann-Marie (as Vice-Chair) for addition of new officials to bank mandate.</p> <p><b>Committee members</b> to consider possible names for new Vice-Chair and Financial Secretary for 2024 AGM.</p> <p><b>Club Reps</b> to let organisers know that Ursula (with help from Iain Phillips) can upload the results of EMOA Urban League.</p>
5.	<p><b>Financial Secretary's Report</b></p> <p>A summary of the transactions in the last period are set out below.</p>	

<p><b>Income</b></p> <p>Membership: £358 for the month of November, with a further £604 and £184 outstanding from BO for the months of December and January respectively. (The December monies should be in EMOA Accounts very soon).</p> <p>Event levies: £399 relating to x6 events in the period. All levies for events which have taken place have been paid in full.</p> <p>Interest: £33 received over last three months. Following the last committee meeting I transferred the majority of the balance in the current account to the deposit account which has led to increased interest receipts from the bank. Total net balance transferred = £9,000. (Paul thought we need to be aware that as we are now earning interest we may need to pay tax on this if it gets too high).</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to all clubs for ensuring their levy payments from events were fed through so quickly.</p> <p>EMJOS Income: Net £30 received in the period. This includes an adjustment relating to the OF coaching weekend which has been more than offset by receipts for the recent Hawkshead event.</p> <p><b>Expenditure</b></p> <p>EMJOS Expenses: Net costs of £287. This includes a partial refund from the organisers of the OF event, which was more than offset by the associated food, travel, and access costs for the event, net £115. The event at Hawkshead incurred costs in the period of £119. Further costs relating to DBS and First Aid Course totalled £53.</p> <p>Trophies and certificates: (Ursula has sorted out the prize-givings for both the EMOA Forest League and the EMOA Urban League) Costs in the period for the 2023 Urban League, £55, and the 2023 Forest League (including additional plaque), £119 were incurred.</p> <p>Support for talent: Payments were made to support regional talent totalling £564. This included x1 athlete - various events, x1 athlete Talent North and Stockholm Tour, and x1 athlete Deeside Tour. There are currently no outstanding applications for support.</p> <p>Web licence and bank charges. £35 has been incurred in the period, this includes the renewal of the EMOA domain name and hosting service along with x2 month's bank charges.</p> <p>There are no worries with regard to income and expenditure at this stage as seem to be in line with our proposed budget.</p> <p><b>Outstanding transactions:</b></p> <p>John Woodall and Paul Young have chased up the billing for recent use of the Pace Room, the church are yet to issue the invoice.</p> <p><b>Historic Paperwork</b></p> <p>In line with the constitution Paul has been keeping historic paperwork. However, the constitution only calls for 7 years of paperwork to be retained. Paul asked for permission to destroy old paperwork more than 7 years old. The meeting agreed that Paul could do this (through a shredder).</p> <p><b>Young Adult Category</b></p>	<p><b>Paul Young</b> actioned to shred historic paperwork more than 7 years old</p>
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	<p>People have started to join BOF using the new Young Adult category, but there is no category for this in event levies. At this stage Paul is treating these as adults in the levy payments made by clubs.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Development</b></p> <p>John Hurley reported on the two main areas he is looking at:</p> <p><b>Officials Training Day 2024</b></p> <p>The provisional date at this time is Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>, and the proposed venue is Groby Community College. Chris Phillips is going to liaise with the college to see if that date is acceptable (and if not look at a few other suitable venues) (though may be after JK as that is priority currently).</p> <p>The courses and presenters are:</p> <p><b>Organisers</b> : vacancy (Chris Phillips said should be able to do this)</p> <p><b>Planners</b> : Mike Gardner (Mike has reviewed the current course against the new online course and thinks it should be possible to reduce the time of current course by an hour if folk have done the online course)</p> <p><b>Controllers</b> : Ranald Macdonald</p> <p><b>Mapping Workshop</b> : David Olivant (Dave has put feelers out to the folk he knows about the Mapping Workshop. Could Club Reps identify their key map reps to David so he can talk to them. The session will be aimed at experienced mappers, but others can attend as long as they realise this will not be a training course).</p> <p><b>Lunch</b> : Chis Phillips &amp; Ursula Williamson (Ursula mentioned that when club reps get names of folk can they make sure she is made aware of any dietary requirements)</p> <p>In terms of participants must clubs felt we will need to wait till the summer to get lists of names.</p> <p><b>Development Projects</b></p> <p><u>Firm applications for EMOA funding</u> None so far.</p> <p><u>Preliminary expressions of interest</u> None so far</p> <p><u>Club-funded development projects</u></p> <p>DVO/23/1 Club Development Officer. Pursuing various strategies to attract new participants, including urban Maprun events targeting running clubs.</p> <p>NOC/24/1 MapActive. Learn advanced mapreading skills applicable to a range of outdoor activities, and practice them at an orienteering event.</p>	<p><b>Chris Phillips</b> to see if can book Groby for Officials Training Day</p> <p><b>Club Reps</b> to identify participants for courses on Officials Training Day (though this may not happen till summer)</p> <p><b>Club Reps</b> to identify their key map reps to David Olivant</p> <p><b>John Hurley</b> to develop Map Active proposal from DVO in alignment with NOC (then take to LEI and LOG to see if they want to be involved).</p>

	DVO are also interested in a grant for starting a Map Active scheme (using similar approach to NOC). John is going to approach DVO to get a rough draft of what they hope to do and then will liaise with NOC to see if can get a 2 club project together. He hopes then to share the approach with LOG and LEI and see if they also want to be involved. Hilary mentioned that Vic Knight is currently producing a write up on NOC's recent experiences with Map Active. The meeting agreed that the route proposed by John should be followed.	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Coaching</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The event at Shirebrook on 13<sup>th</sup> January attracted a sudden rush of interest nearer the date. Folk from NOC, DVO and LEI attended supported by 3 NOC Coaches and 1 DVO coach. It seemed to go well and Hilary hopes it is indicative of folk recognising need for these sort of coaching sessions to improve their orienteering.</li> <li>2) Following on from Shirebrook, would it be possible for each EM club to offer an area so that we could move our club coaching around in order to give people experience of other types of terrain? Initially it would be good to have, perhaps 4 such sessions each year.</li> <li>3) The hope is that there will be another session aligned with the EMJOS squad in March. Clubs can talk to Hilary to get details.</li> </ol>	<b>Club Reps</b> to see if each club can provide an area to assist with club coaching.
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>EMJOS</b></p> <p>There has been no activity since November. The squad coaches are having a meeting to decide what to do in March (possibly a link with WMOA for Welsh Champs or use Shipley Park on 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> March). There are a few new people coming through and want to encourage them.</p> <p>In terms of the action for allowing clubs to merge junior teams at British and JK Relays, just after the last meeting JROS was approached by BOF to get their views on a similar proposal. Ann-Marie obviously fed back our view of allowing adjacent clubs to share juniors in these relays. It is going back to BOF and will be raised at the Events and Competitions Committee. So, at this stage Ann-Marie is awaiting further feedback to see if this will happen at this years JK and / or British.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Mike Gardner had received the following emails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received from Peter Hart - Rules consultation (which was until 12 December 2023). Follow up today - In case you missed the <a href="#">British Orienteering News item</a> of December 22<sup>nd</sup> you will need to know that the main "Rules of Foot Orienteering" have had a major update and are now current! The change has been driven by the new British Orienteering policy (in line with that of the IOF) that men's and women's winning times should be equalised. This has had a knock-on effect in many areas and means that the 2023 edition is totally superseded by that for 2024. You can download the 2024 Rules <a href="#">here</a>. In addition, all Competition Rules have been updated to be in step.</li> <li>• BOF Development Conference 2024 Information</li> <li>• Paul Young informed officers - Following receipt of levies relating to a number of events and also payment from BO for membership, I have moved a further £1,000 from EMOA to the deposit account on 7 January 2024.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trudy Crosby asked for EMOA Champs details to be circulated.</li> <li>• Peter Brooke mentioned the Safeguarding webinar on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024</li> <li>• Joe Fermor Worrel sent details of major events webinars on next few Monday evenings</li> </ul>	
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Fixtures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>EMOA League 2024</b> – we are depleted this year as have 3 level B events in the area as well. The events in the league still to take place are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11<sup>th</sup> February – LEI – Beacon Hill</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> March – DVO – Lindop (TBC)</li> <li>17<sup>th</sup> March – NOC – Byrom’s Walk</li> <li>7<sup>th</sup> April – NOC – Boundary and Tippings Wood</li> <li>19<sup>th</sup> May – DVO – Hardwick Park (also YBT Heat)</li> <li>6<sup>th</sup> October – DVO – Venue to be decided</li> <li>27<sup>th</sup> – October – LEI – Cademan and Thringstone Woods (TBC)</li> <li>17<sup>th</sup> November – NOC – Shirebrook (TBC)</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> December – LEI - New Area (TBC) – Outwoods as back up</li> <li>22<sup>nd</sup> December – NOC - Walesby</li> </ul> <p>Note: We only have 11 events nominated so far, at this stage it will be 6 events to count (if other events are nominated, we can amend this during the year)</p> </li> <li><b>EMOA Urban League 2024</b> – the following are the events identified still to take place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> June – LEI – Ibstock</li> <li>30<sup>th</sup> June – NOC – Clifton</li> <li>14<sup>th</sup> July – DVO – Chesterfield</li> <li>11<sup>th</sup> August – LEI – Coalville &amp; Whitwick</li> <li>18<sup>th</sup> August – LOG – Lincoln City</li> <li>29<sup>th</sup> September – NOC – Nottingham City</li> <li>20<sup>th</sup> October – LOG – To be decided</li> </ul> <p>The usual 8 events with 4 to count.</p> </li> <li><b>Future Major Events</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>25 Feb 2024 – East Midlands Champs</b> - LOG – Chambers Wood (new area)</li> <li><b>29 Mar 2024 – JK Sprint</b> – LEI - Loughborough</li> <li><b>1 Apr 2024 – JK Relays</b> – DVO – Stanton Moor</li> <li><b>16 Feb 2025 – East Midland Champs</b> – LEI – Ratby and Martinshaw</li> <li><b>23 Feb 2025 – Compass Sport Cup Heat</b> – NOC – Clumber</li> <li><b>12 Jul 2025 – EuroCity Day 1</b> – NOC</li> <li><b>13 Jul 2025 – EuroCity Day 2</b> – LOG</li> <li><b>7 Sep 2025 – Midland Champs</b> – DVO - Chinley Churn</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

	<p>4. <b>Future events for EM:</b> VHI 2028; JIRCS 2030. LEI are looking to host Midland Night Champs towards end of decade.</p> <p>5. <b>East Midlands Champs Classes 2024.</b> Ursula had sent out a concern around the new classes in the latest rules at Championship Events. Her concern was that some of the older competitors were having to run much longer courses according to the latest rules (e.g. Last year M70 was asked to run Green, this year Short Blue; M75 Short Green last year, Green this year; W65 Short Green last year, this year Green). (The new rules did suggest M85/M90 run Very Short Green as opposed to Short Green). Some members had commented that they would not attend the event as they did not want to run the longer courses (we almost seem to be discouraging the folk who are the current lifeblood of the sport!). This was discussed and it was felt that as the East Midlands Champs are based on the EMOA rules we could allocate the classes to courses however we wanted. It would be left to LOG as organisers to define clearly which classes would be allocated to which courses, but it was recommended at this stage probably stick to the same classes as last year.</p>	<p><b>Trudy Crosby</b> to liaise with Craig Lucas to come up with a workable solution (and ensure the controller is happy with this)</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p><b>Very Short Green</b> This item was added to the agenda after discussions at the last committee meeting.</p> <p>The feeling of the meeting is that it would be a very good idea to add an additional course into the EM Forest League for next year of Very Short Green. Ursula to arrange to include this course in the 2025 EM Forest League.</p> <p><b>Very Short Hypervets in Urban League</b></p> <p>The addition of this class is much more complex for a number of reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) There are no current standards defined for the course at a National level (e.g. no course ratio to define exactly how long should be).</li> <li>2) The course is not part of the UK Urban League so scoring it in Roger Thetford's system may be more difficult.</li> <li>3) Potentially it could restrict numbers on the courses and thus result in some courses not having enough scoring members to get ranking points.</li> </ol> <p>However, there are members who are now M85/90 in East Midlands who are having to compete against M70 in the current classes which does not seem fair.</p> <p>The meeting agreed that before we went forward with adding this class into the 2025 Urban League we needed to have more thought on exactly how we would be able to define the course to planners, how it would be scored for the East Midlands Urban League (is it likely other regions have same thoughts and it could be added at National level?). Ursula Williamson to discuss with Roger Thetford as to whether other regions are considering a Very Short Hypervets course and whether this would be included in his UK Urban League scoring.</p> <p>There is no reason to prevent clubs from putting on this sort of course at events this year to see how it is received. Club Reps to take back to clubs that they could include a Very Short Hypervets course in this year's Urban League events if they want (though will not be scored for the league).</p>	<p><b>Ursula Williamson</b> to arrange to include Very Short Green in the 2025 EM Forest League.</p> <p><b>Ursula Williamson</b> to discuss with Roger Thetford as to whether other regions are considering a Very Short Hypervets course and whether this would be included in his UK Urban League scoring.</p> <p><b>Club Reps</b> to take back to clubs that they could include a Very Short Hypervets course in this year's Urban League events if they want (though will not be scored for the league)</p>

12.	<b>Reports</b> No formal reports.	
13.	<b>Sharing Best Practice</b> 1) No items.	
14.	<b>EMEWS:</b> Mike has a copy date of February 28 <sup>th</sup> 2024 for EMEWS with intention of getting the edition out in Mid-March 2024.	
15.	<b>Any Other Business:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) John Woodall asked if we had set up for the return of trophies for EMC 2024. Mike Godfree normally collates the trophies and Mike Gardner was tasked to formally ask him to do this again. John Woodall was also asked to present the trophies as EMOA President.</li> <li>2) Chris Phillips reported that Judith Holt is collecting trophies for the JK. If anyone has a trophy from last year please let Judith have the trophy before JK.</li> <li>3) Trudy Crosby stated that LOG have an area called Ostler's Plantation. It is owned by Forestry England. They have refused a request for an event as Forestry England currently have no administrative staff in place to process applications for the site. LOG have been told they could try again in September for next year. There is a job advertised but Chris Phillips reported that WMOA also were having a similar problem with Forestry England. BOF are also in the process of renegotiating the agreement with Forestry England for future years. Trudy to keep Chris Phillips aware of how any access progresses for the area.</li> <li>4) Pauline Olivant asked if she could have the names of the Junior Reps in each club. NOC have a couple of juniors who may want to form a team (even if Non-Competitive at JK Relays). It was suggested she contact Hannah Mather (LOG), Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Richard Robinson (NOC) and David Cladingboel (LEI).</li> </ol>	<p><b>Mike Gardner</b> to ask Mike Godfree to collect up the trophies for East Midlands Champs.</p> <p><b>Trudy Crosby</b> to keep Chris Phillips aware of any progress (or not) with Forestry England for access to Ostler's Plantation.</p>
16.	<b>Dates and venues for future meetings:</b> The next meeting will be on April 22 <sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm and will be on Zoom. The following meeting will be on July 1 <sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm and will again be on Zoom.	

Meeting closed at 9:00pm