

## East Midlands Orienteering Association Executive Committee Meeting – 22 April 2024

Item No	Description	Action
<b>Present:</b> Trudy Crosby (LOG), Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Mike Gardner (DVO), John Hurley (DVO), David Olivant (NOC), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Chris Phillips (LEI), Iain Phillips (LEI), Ursula Williamson (LEI), and John Woodall (NOC)		
	Meeting held via Zoom	
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Pauline Olivant (NOC), and Paul Young (NOC)	
2.	<b>Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b> – The minutes of the January meeting were approved unanimously by all attendees.	
3.	<b>Website version of minutes</b> – It was agreed unanimously that no changes needed to be made to the website version of the minutes.	<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. This is becoming more urgent as we only have one more meeting before the AGM.</li> <li>d) Item 4 – Club Reps had let clubs know that Ursula can assist with upload of Urban League results to EMOA Urban League.</li> <li>e) Item 5 – Paul Young had shredded older information as agreed.</li> <li>f) Item 6 – Chris Phillips has booked Groby for the EMOA Development Day (see Development Report)</li> <li>g) Item 6 – Club Reps to get names to attend the Training Day to John Hurley by September 13<sup>th</sup></li> <li>h) Item 6 – Trudy Crosby to get name of LOG map rep to David Olivant.</li> <li>i) Item 6 - Other items covered under Development.</li> <li>j) Item 7 – Hilary report covered under Coaching.</li> <li>k) Item 10 – Trudy Crosby worked with Craig Lucas to determine classes and course combinations for EMOA Champs 2024.</li> <li>l) Item 11 – Ursula Williamson has worked with John Cooke to set up Very Short Green in EMOA Forest League, and the scores for this year are now shown (though no trophies will be awarded this year)</li> <li>m) Item 11 - Ursula Williamson has sent email to Roger Thetford to discuss if other regions are considering a Very Short Hypervets course and whether this would be included in his UK Urban League scoring.</li> <li>n) Item 15 – Mike Godfree collected the trophies together for EMOA Champs 2024. Chris Phillips has those trophies not collected / awarded.</li> <li>o) Hilary Palmer mentioned that she still had the National Forest Trophy, and probably needed to return it to LEI.</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 get participants for EMOA Training Day to John Hurley by 13<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p><b>Trudy Crosby</b> to get name of LOG map rep to David Olivant.</p> <p><b>Hilary Palmer</b> to return the National Forest Trophy to Iain Phillips</p>

**5. Financial Secretary's Report**

A summary of the transactions in the last period are set out below.

**Income**

Membership: £921 for the months of December and January (which includes an overpayment by BO of £118 which we are endeavouring to return to them). Income due from BO for February and March totals £84. We expect BO to withhold membership payments to EMOA until the overpayment is recovered.

Event levies: £484 relating to x6 events in the period. All levies for events which have taken place have been paid in full. As is customary with the JK no EMOA levy was paid.

Interest: £61 received over last three months. The vast majority of the balance which would previously have been held in the current account is now in the interest-bearing account, which has driven this large increase in interest receipts from the bank. Total net balance transferred = £11,000.

EMJOS Income: £176 received in the period which relates to the training event held at Allestree Park.

**Expenditure**

EMJOS Expenses: £172 of which £167 relates to the access and printing costs for the Allestree Park training event along with £5 contribution to a member undertaking the BO safeguarding course.

Trophies and certificates: Costs in the period of £103 for the purchase of a W80 trophy.

Support for talent: No payments made during the period.

Coach Development: £50 payment for an individual to partake in the BO Coach Award (pilot).

Web licence and bank charges: £15 has been incurred in the period, this covers x3 month's bank charges.

Hire of meeting room: £70 has now been paid to the church for use of the Pace room for last year's AGM and subsequent committee meeting.

**EOC**

I have reviewed the 2023 accounts for the EOC and they will be presented by their treasurer at the AGM in May. I will press them to confirm and settle any EMOA contribution for the 2024 year prior to end of our current financial year.

**Coach Expenditure**

Hilary Palmer mentioned that for all coaches there is a need, as well as their coach qualification, to also attend first aid and safeguarding courses on a regular basis. Where these coaches are supported by the clubs (most coaches) this funding would come directly from the clubs. However, where a coach's role is to support the EM Junior Squad, then EMOA needed to support these courses. One coach had their request turned down for this funding (it seems like this may have been a mis-communication as to where the funding is coming from). For clarity, full costs for training EM Junior Squad coaches (including first aid and safeguarding) should come from the regional training budget (and not from the EMJOS budget).

Hilary was actioned to send an email to Chris Phillips with the details of the claim, and Chris would liaise with Paul Young to ensure the funds were provided for the coach.

**Hilary Palmer** was actioned to send an email to **Chris Phillips** with the details of the claim (for EM Junior Squad coach), and Chris would liaise with Paul Young to ensure the funds were provided for the coach.

<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Development</b></p> <p><b>Officials Training Day 2024</b></p> <p>Chris Phillips has now booked Groby as the venue and John Hurley would like to get names of participants by 13<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p><b><u>Development Projects</u></b></p> <p>John has had one firm application and 2 preliminary expressions of interest. Before looking at these John just wanted to establish some ground rules for the development projects (based on what has been received so far).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Timeliness – ideally we want to have time to consider the approach in advance before the project is underway. However, we do also need to be agile (the firm approach has already been advertised).</li> <li>2) Funding by club – Ideally we would want to see some support for the project from the club (i.e. EMOA is not only source of funding), though this may be waived in some circumstances.</li> <li>3) Split – Should the region always have a specified split for the funding between club and region. If we believe the proposal is of benefit to the region we should be able to go to 100% funding if agreed by the committee.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Firm application</u></b></p> <p>DVO have proposed the introduction of a set of MapActive courses based on those developed by NOC previously. NOC, LEI and LOG had been contacted to see if they wished to be involved, but LEI have other activities, and NOC already have a planned MapActive approach based on funding from previous courses and participants. DVO’s approach is to use their professional officer to lead these courses. It is believed that other funding from Orienteering Foundation (which requires input from the club as well) has been provided to assist this. The request was in two parts, one to develop the courses initially (£500), and a second tranche, which was not clearly defined yet, to cover further publicity and future courses (a further £500). After discussion to understand the approach, it was agreed that the first part of the funding would be approved by the committee, but DVO were asked to provide more details for the second tranche.</p> <p><b><u>Preliminary expressions of interest</u></b></p> <p>LOG are looking at additional funding to update their club website. It was suggested that they may want to talk through the updates with DVO who have just updated their website (and may be able to provide support for LOG). It was noted that a professional website often does generate a lot more hits.</p> <p>DVO have been staging a series of Map Run events. These started in the autumn and the events had no fees for entrants and paid no BOF levy. The results seemed positive as a number of the Map Run attendees have started to compete in regular orienteering events. At the start of 2024, DVO had a follow on series of events and again advertised them as free entry. However, BOF has now requested payment of the levy on these events, which was a surprise that this came up in the middle of the series (though the BOF website still has the old levy approach shown). DVO may request help to continue these events for free, but are looking into this. Chris Phillips said he believed the chairs were sent something about the levy change and he would liaise with John Hurley on this.</p>	<p><b>John Hurley</b> to take response back to DVO on MapActive courses, and request more detail on second tranche of funding.</p> <p><b>Chris Phillips</b> said he believed the chairs were sent something about the levy change and he would liaise with John Hurley on this.</p>
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	<p><u>Club-funded development projects</u> John is still interested in hearing about any development work being undertaken in clubs.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Coaching</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Since the last meeting Hilary has hosted an adult coaching day at Allestree Park (in conjunction with EMJOS squad). There were 27 expressions of interest in attending (10 NOC, 6 DVO and 5 LEI turned up) and with the help of John Palmer and 3 DVO coaches the day went well.</li> <li>2) There does seem to be interest in this type of coaching, so if other clubs could offer a venue Hilary would be happy to co-ordinate further sessions.</li> <li>3) Ant Squire is running a level D event at Nottingham University on June 9<sup>th</sup>. This will incorporate sprint training for those interested in readiness for the British Sprint Championships on June 22<sup>nd</sup>/ 23<sup>rd</sup> in Birmingham.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Club Reps</b> to see if each club can provide an area to assist with club coaching.</p>
8.	<p><b>EMJOS</b></p> <p><b><u>January to April 2024</u></b> <u>Training, events and JROS Camps</u> Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March Training at Allestree Park was a combined event with <b>West Midlands Juniors</b> and an adult club member session led by Hilary Palmer (NOC) (22 people from NOC, DVO and LEI). The Adult group used the same training exercises as the Junior squads but only the contour only exercises, as their session was only 2 hours long (morning only). The junior session was focused on developing young EM juniors at TD3 (Orange) with formal training introducing the skills of planning a leg using other handrails, beacons and attack points. The afternoon then focused on the contour detail in the wooded area using maps with no footpaths, in preparation for the British Champs (Beaudesert). The more advanced WMJS squad flew through the morning stars and loops, so progressed on to the virtual MapRun courses (but also flagged by a helpful parent), around the wider park area. Again, the combining of junior squads worked well, with our younger juniors getting a better feel of the buzz training with many juniors all together. Joining forces with the Adult club member group allowed both to use the same area access and training exercises, so reducing the effort to hold the training day.</p> <p>Looking forward to the <b><u>JROS Summer camp and tours</u></b> we have 3 juniors wishing to go: Eoin Simpson (M14) will be nominated for Lagganlia (Championship times already achieved); Ellie Simpson has put her name forward to the selectors of Czechia tour (early set backs for the selection races with asthma breathing problems, has meant emails have been sent from myself and parents explaining the situation); and finally Hannah Mather has emailed Mark Saunders regarding her interest in going on the Gothenburg tour.</p> <p><u>Future training and events</u> <b>Sprint training at Nottingham University 9<sup>th</sup> June</b> (preparation for Sprint Champs at end of month) has been advertised to our squad, the neighbours as well as the Talent North and top tier 4/5 international athletes. Online entry to this event via NOC website. East Midlands will have a mixed ability group again, so some might migrate to the YHJS/WMJS groups. Working with coaches Andy Simpson and Toni O'Donovan, we need to identify dates for another training session in the region or away at a neighbouring squad in the autumn period of early September– this year JIRCS is being hosted by SW</p>	

	<p>region and based near Bath (28<sup>th</sup> &amp; 29<sup>th</sup> Sept). Then possibly an away weekend using the Orienteering Foundation coaching day or another squad.</p> <p>Call for clubs to <u>develop and encourage more 8 year old + children to join the sport</u>. I am very happy to assist where I can by inviting the rising talent to join EMJOS sessions once they are good Orange standard.</p> <p>Ann-Marie Duckworth EMJOS coach and coordinator Andy Simpson and Toni O'Donovan.</p>	
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Mike Gardner had received the following emails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31 Jan – Peter Brooke – Coaching Safeguarding Update – Peter pointed out that Safeguarding was introduced for coaches 3 years ago so many coaches may need to renew their qualifications.</li> <li>• 8 Feb – BO – Development Conference Content – Links provided to the sessions that were part of British Development Conference</li> <li>• 4 Mar – Paul Young – Overpayment of Association Membership Returns – Paul had made BO aware of an overpayment error for the January returns to regions. This was being amended in the February returns.</li> <li>• 12 Mar – Ursula Williamson – Circulated an export from BO website of EMOA events (have tried to make sure the agenda now shows those events, though minutes of last meeting may be slightly different)</li> <li>• 22 Mar – Peter Hart – British Orienteering &amp; Trimtex Partnership</li> <li>• 10 Apr – Scott Collier – AGM of English Orienteering is on 20<sup>th</sup> May. Need to nominate an attendee (videoconference). It was agreed that Paul Young would represent EMOA at the EOC AGM.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paul Young</b> to represent EMOA at the EOC AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> May.</p>
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Fixtures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>JK 2024</b> - Chris wanted to thank everyone for their help during the weekend. It was a fantastic 4 days. Feedback was pretty good, with lots of nice comments on how the 2 regions worked together.</li> <li>2. <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>19<sup>th</sup> May – DVO – Hardwick Park (also YBT Heat)</li> <li>29<sup>th</sup> September – DVO – Calke Park</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>24<sup>th</sup> November – DVO – Longstone Moor (TBC)</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> December – LEI - Outwoods</li> <li>22<sup>nd</sup> December – NOC - Walesby</li> </ul> <p>Note: We only have 12 events nominated so far, at this stage it will be 7 events to count (if other events are nominated, we can amend this during the year)</p> </li> <li>3. <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> </ul> </li> </ol>	

	<p>30<sup>th</sup> June – NOC – Clifton  14<sup>th</sup> July – DVO – Chesterfield  11<sup>th</sup> August – LEI – Coalville &amp; Whitwick  18<sup>th</sup> August – LOG – Lincoln City (Boultham Park area)  6<sup>th</sup> October – NOC – Nottingham City  20<sup>th</sup> October – LOG – Bourne  The usual 8 events with 4 to count.</p> <p>4. <b>Future Major Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>16 Feb 2025 – East Midland Champs</b> – LEI – Ratby and Martinshaw</li> <li>b. <b>23 Feb 2025 – Compass Sport Cup Heat</b> – NOC – Clumber</li> <li>c. <b>12 Jul 2025 – EuroCity Day 1</b> – NOC - Meadows Area</li> <li>d. <b>13 Jul 2025 – EuroCity Day 2</b> – LOG</li> <li>e. <b>7 Sep 2025 – Midland Champs</b> – DVO - Chinley Churn</li> </ul> <p>5. <b>Future events for EM:</b> VHI 2028; JIRCS 2030. LEI are looking to host Midland Night Champs towards end of decade.</p> <p>6. Hilary Palmer had requested more discussion on the recommendations for course winning times / course / class combinations for major events such as the East Midlands Championships. The major concern is that the course / class combinations seem to encourage longer courses, yet we also have major concerns about older competitors being out too long. Chris Phillips had talked to the chair of Events Committee for clarification and they had stated the reason for the changes are two-fold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The rules are based as much as possible on IOF and they have found that the running speeds of older competitors have increased, and hence the need for much longer courses.</li> <li>b. The IOF has also tried to ensure winning times for women are equalised to the winning times for men.</li> </ul> <p>These two factors have primarily led to changes in the course combinations / classes for major events. However, it states in rule 14.5 that for level B events “The format, courses, classes and eligibility are all determined by the specific national or local competition Rules.” Hence, the course combinations for the EMOA Champs can be different to those recommended by the Rules.</p> <p>There was discussion as to whether EMOA should follow the National standards (some clubs preferred this), or whether we should use our own rules for the EMOA Champs. Chris Phillips took an action to work with Ursula Williamson to work up a proposal for the next EMOA Champs which will be the LEI event at Ratby in 2025. The concern is that the rules would mean that for the majority of the older competitors they would end up being out for a very long time.</p>	<p><b>Chris Phillips</b> took an action to work with Ursula Williamson to work up a proposal for the next EMOA Champs which will be the LEI event at Ratby in 2025.</p>
11.	<b>Reports</b>	

	Following our discussion about allowing junior alliances from adjoining clubs at JK and British Relays, there were 2 teams in the mini-relay and 2 teams in the junior relay at the JK (one of whom from HAVOC/NOR were 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Junior Relay) and East Midlands team were 6 <sup>th</sup> in Mini-Relay.	
12.	<p><b>Sharing Best Practice</b></p> <p>1) Pauline Olivant had asked about the rules for the appointment of controllers for Level B events. New rules were published at the beginning of January and in effect they are contradicting each other. Rule 14.4 for level C events states “The Association should approve/appoint a level C controller who should ideally come from a different club...” while Rule 14.5 for level B events states “A Controller must be appointed who is Grade B or above...” (no mention of region appointing them. In the Appendices of the Rules under Event Officials (1.4 on page 85) it states for level C, the controllers is appointed by the club (and the region where controller is from same club), and for level B it states Regional Association is responsible for the appointment of the controller.</p> <p>It was agreed at the EMOA meeting that we will interpret this in the East Midlands to mean that if the region has appointed a controller at level B, they will be deemed suitable to control any level B events and do not need to be submitted for each level B event to the committee for approval. The same will be true of level C controllers for level C events.</p>	
13.	<p><b>EMEWS:</b></p> <p>Mike has a copy date of June 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 for EMEWS with intention of getting the edition out in Mid July 2024.</p>	
14.	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p>1) There was no AOB raised.</p>	
15.	<p><b>Dates and venues for future meetings:</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be on July 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm and will again be on Zoom.</p> <p>The following meeting will be the AGM which was agreed to be on 16<sup>th</sup> September at Clifton Village Hall. (John Woodall to book hall)</p>	<p><b>John Woodall</b> to book Clifton Village Hall for AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> September</p>

Meeting closed at 9:02pm