

SWOA 2013 AGM Minutes Appendix 1

Chairman's Report for 2012-2013

The most encouraging sight for me this year has been the continued progress of our juniors. This was clearly shown at the final of the Yvette Baker Trophy for club junior teams, held in early July near Grantham. Following last year's win by Bristol OK on relatively home ground in Salisbury, the club was joined on the podium by Devon OC, respectively in third and second places. Only the experience of Octavian Droobers thwarted Devon by just two points in 880. Two clubs in the first three is a feat rarely achieved, and the strength in depth of both clubs was impressive.

To complement this performance, Lucy Butt of Sarum is a member of the Elite Development Squad, and Bristol OK have three members of the Men 17-20 section of the Talent Development Squad. The continuing work of Jeff Butt with the Regional Junior Squad is clearly bearing fruit at National level. Club coaches too have played their part, and a number of coaching courses have taken place in the last year to widen the spread of coaches within clubs at both senior and junior level.

Regional Secretary Arthur Vince is retiring at the AGM. As is well known, Arthur is our "controller" of controllers, and thereby maintains event standards throughout the region. While meticulously carrying out his secretarial role, he has also found time to control a JK event in a neighbouring region. We wish him a more relaxing and well-deserved retirement.

I am pleased that Katy Dyer has offered to take up Arthur's role, and I am sure that all clubs – and controllers – will extend their good wishes to her in this essential work.

Finally I wish to thank all those who have helped me in the past two years as your chairman, to fulfil the key roles of support for, and liaison with, club officials within the South West. If the performance of our juniors is followed, then we have a promising future.

John Dyson

5th Sept 2013