

**SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION**  
**SECRETARY: Katy Dyer 19 Bramble Drive, Bristol BS9 1RE**  
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Minutes of the Committee meeting held at 7.00 pm on  
27 November 2018 at the Corner House Hotel, Taunton TA1 4DQ

**Those present:**

Officers: Christine Vince KERNO (Chairman); Katy Dyer BOK (Secretary); Richard Sansbury QO (Fixtures). Committee Members: Helen Kelsey BOK; Eric Peckett DEVON; Dick Keighley WIM Club representatives: Alan Honey BOK.

Katy Dyer BOK was thanked for being secretary for five years.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Mark Lockett KERNO (Treasurer, Committee); Nicholas Maxwell DEVON (Committee); Julie Astin WSX chair, Jason Falconer WSX joint chair.

**2. Approval of Minutes for the SWOA meeting of 09 October 2018**

The minutes were approved as a correct record, subject to addition of item 3.2 below.

**3. Matters arising from those minutes**

3.1. Item 6.1.1 – British Sprint and Middle Championships 2018 accounts; SPORTident bill and decision on a charitable donation to the farmer for the Middle Championships are outstanding. **Christine Vince**

3.2 Item 6.2.3 – addition; delegates should apply to SWOA treasurer before the Coaching Conference for a grant to pay fees.

**4. Acknowledgements**

WIM was thanked for the British Schools Score Championships on 13 October 2018. Christine Vince will write to the WIM chairman with thanks. **Christine Vince**

**5. Finance**

5.1 Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report: Income and Expenditure from 01 August 2018 to 26 November 2018. Balance in hand is £7678.68. For SWOA accounts and budget, see **Appendix 1**.

5.2 Grants. All clubs and members are reminded that requests for SWOA grants must be made to the SWOA treasurer before the event.

5.2.1 No grants requested but several are expected for the World School Championships, 29 April – 5 May 2019. Christine Vince to look into the budget required (i.e. how many grant requests might be received). **Christine Vince, Mark Lockett**

5.3 Expenses: none not dealt with elsewhere.

**6. Fixtures**

6.1.1 For SWOA Fixtures' secretary's report, see **Appendix 2**.

6.1.2 SWOA Fixtures:

a. Summer Relay series' dates now agreed.

b. Dates for Galoppen series 2019-2020 based on one event per club are complete, less one club.

**Richard Sansbury**

c. SWOA Middle Distance Championships offer from DEVON, 19 May 2018, conflicts with SARUM events. DEVON and SARUM are to be asked to resolve this themselves. If no resolution is reached the committee will accept DEVON's offer. **Richard Sansbury**

6.2 New SW Orienteering League proposal.

6.2.1 Following BOK's proposal for changes to the Galoppen series (see Minutes SWOA meeting 9.10.2018, item 7.2), Christine Vince has canvassed clubs for their views. For comments received from some clubs so far, see **Appendix 3**.

6.2.2 With up to 18 potential events, competitors would need to attend up to ten events to win (half + one) – not five as at present. This would represent a considerable cost of travel (which was not intended), notably to younger members. It was observed that date clashes would be very likely. Richard Sansbury said that it may be helpful to allow more regional events on one day and that any name change should be in place by September 2019.

6.2.3 After much discussion it was agreed that:

a. Christine Vince will send out a new discussion paper to the SW clubs with all views received, asking for responses before the next meeting.

b. Given the number of opinions expressed in the meeting, committee members were asked to clarify their views and respond to the chairman by Christmas. **All**

c. Still outstanding: the possibility of having bespoke software to help the scorer, Spencer Modica QO, manage the league results. **Christine Vince**

6.3 JK 2021

6.3.1 For coordinators' report, see **Appendix 4**.

6.3.2 Richard Sansbury suggested backup areas should be considered now to enable embargoes to be arranged. Christine Vince said mapping a larger area of Plymouth (Day 1 Sprint) may be considered in

case the Citadel not available. Exeter University is most unlikely to be the backup area. **Christine Vince**

## 7. SW Junior Squad

7.1 The SW Junior Squad management and team were thanked for their excellent work. For the SW Junior Squad report, see **Appendix 5**

7.2 Oliver Tonge BOK was congratulated on his excellent report of his Deeside trip; see **Appendix 6**

## 8. Volunteers

8.1 Recent training courses:

8.1.1 DEVON Introductory Planners' course, 07 and 15 November 2018; for report see **Appendix 7**.

8.1.2 NGOC Event Safety Workshop (ESW), 23 November 2018; for report see **Appendix 7**.

8.2 Training courses arranged:

8.2.1 SARUM First Aid course (open to all), 9 February 2019.

8.2.2 DEVON Organisers' course Level C/D (local /regional), 02 January 2019 (open to all).

8.2.3 DEVON Organiser's course Level B (national); 20 March 2019 (open to all).

8.3 Training courses proposed/needed:

8.3.1 NGOC ESW, early 2019.

## 9. Controllers

9.1 Damian Wilson DEVON was approved to be a Grade C Controller.

9.2 For the Recorder of Controllers' report, see **Appendix 7**.

## 10. Development

10.1 BOF Club and Association Conference, Birmingham, 20 October 2018. BOF report not yet available. For a brief report, see **Appendix 9**.

10.2 BOF Major Events Conference, Swindon, 10 November 2018. BOF report not yet available. For a brief report see **Appendix 9**. **Christine Vince**

10.2.1 Alan Honey suggested all SWOA Grade B controllers should be invited to attend this annual conference to encourage the step towards Grade A controller qualification. Christine Vince will ask Arthur Vince (Recorder of Controllers) to do this. **Christine Vince**

## 11. Coaching

11.1 British Orienteering Coaching Conference, 12/13 January 2019, Nottingham University. SWOA Licensed Coaches must apply for expenses' grants to the SWOA treasurer before the conference. See item 3.2 above. See BOF website.

## 12. Other SWOA business

12.1 New Exeter University Orienteering Club (OROX). Christine Vince will invite OROX to join

SWOA as a closed club. The club will then be eligible for SWOA grants. **Christine Vince**.

12.2 New SWOA secretary. Helen Kelsey BOK was welcomed as the new SWOA secretary from 01 January 2019.

12.3 SW Sprint Championships format. Chris Kelsey BOK proposed a change to the format of the SW Sprint Championships; (it is currently the same as the British Sprint Championships). See **Appendix 10**.

12.3.1 There was much discussion. After seeing Chris Kelsey's proposal, Alan Honey had analysed entry figures and age groups of previous SW Sprint Championships and suggested that changing the age groupings of the Championships to those of urban events could allow for one of the races to be considered as a UKOL event, thus encouraging more participation.

12.3.2 Post meeting note: Alan Honey sent the analysis and some notes to Christine Vince, Katy Dyer and Helen Kelsey. As a championships based on urban class/course combinations would be a new event for SWOA (i.e. SW Urban Sprint Championships), Christine asked Alan to write a Set of Rules for such an event, so that the committee can give it proper consideration. **Alan Honey**

Christine also asked the committee to consider a return to the original scoring for the SW Sprint Championships (i.e. combining the results of the Prologue and Final); also to consider having some bespoke software written to score the results. **Christine Vince**

## 13. Any Other Business including matters raised by club representatives

13.1 Peter Hart has invited SWOA and the SW clubs to raise any issues for the next BOF board meeting in December. No SWOA issues were identified. **Katy Dyer**

13.2 Dick Keighley said Peter Hart had offered to meet with WIM and Natural England regarding access issues. Christine Vince suggested WIM applies to SWOA for a grant towards the cost of the meeting. **Dick Keighley**

## 14. Date and venue of next committee meeting Wednesday 13 March 2019

7.00pm

**The Corner House Hotel, Taunton TA1 4DQ**

*These minutes are subject to formal approval at the next SWOA Committee meeting. You are invited to send comments on these Minutes to the secretary before the next meeting.*

**Appendices to minutes:**

Appendix 1 - SWOA accounts and budget

Appendix 2 - SWOA Fixtures Secretary's report

Appendix 3 – Comments from clubs re SWOA  
Regional league.

Appendix 4 – JK 2021 coordinators' report

Appendix 5 – SW Junior Squad report

Appendix 6 – Deeside Summer training camp 2018  
report

Appendix 7 – Volunteer courses' reports

Appendix 8 – Recorder of Controllers'

Appendix 9 – Conference reports

Appendix 10 – Suggested changes to SWOA Sprint  
Championships

## Appendix 1 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018 - SWOA Accounts and Budget

### SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

Accounts for the period 01 August 2018 to 26 November 2018

<b>INCOME</b>		Budget 18/19	
Event Levies	1340.00	7700	
Interest	0.68	4	
Colour Coded Badges	0.00	15	
BOF Major Event Conference	408.00	435	
British Champs 2018	32367.07		
Total Income	1748.68	8154	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
English O.C.	0.00	750	Annual Affiliation Fee to English OC
SINS	0.00	0	SW Newsletter Printing and Postage (currently not being produced)
Officials Expenses / Controllers	0.00	100	
Committee Expenses	78.49	300	Room hire, meetings and AGM, Travel Expenses, National Meetings
Competition Expenses	81.49	150	Gallopen Trophies and Certificates, SW Champs Certificates
Tour Grants	1035.00	3500	Training camps, international competitions, home internationals, Interland
Junior Squad	0.00	1500	Support the running of the SW Junior Squad.
Grants for Courses	0.00	2500	First Aid Courses for Coaches, Event Safety Courses, Controllers Courses, Mapping/OCAD Courses
Web Site Expenses	68.39	300	Website updates, Domain Name
Major Events/BOF Conference	0.00	200	Committee/SWOA Representative at Major Events/BOF Conference
Club Conference	0.00	150	
BOF Major Event Conference 2018	326.25	443	
JK 2021	127.00	100	
British Champs 2018	32367.07	0	
Total Expenditure	1,716.62	9993	
Surplus of Expenditure	32.06	-1839.00	
Balance B/Fwd 01/08/18	7,646.62		
Surplus of Expenditure	32.06		
Balance in Hand	7,678.68		
Represented by:	Current Account	4,682.76	
	Business Money Manager Account	2995.92	
		7678.68	

## Appendix 2 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018

### SWOA Fixtures' Secretary's report

1. Dates for 2019 summer relay series now agreed.
2. Dates for 2019-20 Galoppen series almost there, just waiting for KERNO. This is on the basis of one event per club.
3. We have an emerging offer for the SW Middle distance Championships 2019. DEVON are considering turning their league race scheduled for 19th May at Braunton into a Middle distance race with the intention that it becomes the Championship. This is the only known Middle distance event in the SW in 2019. QO and SARUM were also considering events on the same day. QO are likely to move to Saturday, SARUM response is unknown.
4. At a national level, there are gaps in the major event calendar as soon as 2021, prompted by Eastern regions stating they cannot host many of the British Championships. The most likely solution is that some days of the JK will also serve as a British Championship event. This demonstrates that the current event structure is unsustainable and the Chief Executive Officer is hinting at an events review.

Richard Sansbury 21.11.2018

## Appendix 3 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018

### Comments from some clubs on the proposal to change the Galoppen series to a Regional League

The proposal, as sent to club chairmen and secretaries, for consideration at their next committee meeting:

SWOA are considering a proposal to change the Galoppen League from September 2019.

- it is to be renamed as the SW Orienteering League
- SW clubs are encouraged to register up to two Regional events each year for the League, via Richard Sansbury, Fixtures Secretary
- the best five scores to count for each competitor
- competitors will need to run in at least three different clubs' events to qualify

#### **DEVON (prior to their committee meeting in December):**

Thanks for the email regarding the SWOA Galoppen League. We have circulated the proposed changes to members of the Devon OC committee and I have attempted to represent the consensus of the committee's views below – it is not a complete set of responses, and we were not able to discuss face-to-face in a committee meeting, as we do not meet again until early December.

To take each of your points in turn:

*it is to be renamed as the SW Orienteering League*

There was full support for the proposed change of name, and dropping 'Galoppen'. It was felt that this, together with an advertising drive, would breathe life back into the Regional League (see in particular John Chester's response below).

*SW clubs are encouraged to register up to two Regional events each year for the League, via Richard Sansbury, Fixtures Secretary*

All those but one that responded felt that this was **too many** to include in a Regional league – most preferred the existing model of one event per club, i.e. nine events.

*the best five scores to count for each competitor*

Yes, agreed, but out of nine, not 18 !

*competitors will need to run in at least three different clubs' events to qualify*

On the assumption that we (DEVON) support nine events in the league each year, then this would not need to apply. If the league were based on more than that number, then there is a serious risk of devaluing the league as a truly Regional competition.

I hope these summary comments are helpful. Regards, Rob Parkinson (Secretary)

John Chester's email response below discusses the proposed changes very fully:

*A) I would welcome an effort to raise the profile of the Galoppen Series. It should be, in my opinion, seen as the premier SWOA competition. At present, I do not believe that it is recognized as such. In fact, there are many members who are not really aware of what exactly a Galoppen is. A change of name may help, but so would more effective promotion, administration and advertising of the league. Make people aware! I recently looked on the SWOA website Galoppen page in order to check this season's dates and venues, only to find the 2017/18 fixtures, even after renewing the page. How helpful is this?*

*B) If all member clubs did register two events for the Galoppen/League series, we would have 18/20 such events. Surely, this is too many. How many weekends are there in a season, and where would the space for club league events be found? Alternatively, if some clubs held two events, and others only one, the competition would not be fair. Some competitors would have two events on 'home terrain', while others may have only one such event. At the top end of competition, such marginal gains can be decisive.*

*C) Traditionally, the number of best scores to count towards an individual's final score has been half the total number of events in the series, plus one. In this way, the possibility of two equal final totals is much reduced. Given that a set of maximum scores is often required, and sought, to win a league (certainly the Brown, in recent years), the adoption of a five best scores policy within an expanded league could lead to complications. In theory, there could be three competitors with an identical (maximum) final total score in a season of 15 events, for example. If there were 18 events, an individual would have to attend, and win, 14 of those events to be sure of outright victory. Surely, that is far too big a requirement.*

#### **BOK:**

Given that one of our members raised this issue at SWOA Committee, it should perhaps go without saying that the BOK Committee, after due consideration, strongly supports the proposals for updating the SWOA Galloppen/League. Our Committee, while it has its moments, is rather more united than certain political parties at present!

Best wishes, Chris Johnson, BOK Secretary

#### **WIM: We did discuss this at the Wimborne committee meeting this week.**

As a club committee we are in agreement with the proposed change but what we did feel was necessary was that a clear set of league rules are published to accompany the change. These rules would, as a minimum, set out the basis of the league, the minimum requirements and how the league scores are calculated.

We await your response on this matter which we would then discuss at our next committee meeting before responding formally.

Regards, Andrew French, Chairman Wimborne Orienteers

Collated by Christine Vince 25 November 2018

#### **Further comments received before the meeting (27.11.2018) and post the report above.**

**KERNO:** If 18 events are needed then 10 events should count.

**WIM and WESSEX:** No age groups are specified for the colour coded courses in the current rules.

Katy Dyer 02.12.2018

## Appendix 4 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018

### JK 2021 - Coordinators' report

The areas, which will need to be embargoed from Easter 2019, are confirmed as:

2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2021	Sprint	Plymouth Hoe
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021	Middle Distance	Hayle Towans
4 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Long Distance	Penhale
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Relays	Penhale

#### Notes - general

- We are considering what we could use as reserve areas. We would much prefer to have access to the Citadel in Plymouth; there is due to be a new CO by next Easter, so that is not worth pursuing until then.
- Plymouth Hoe: road closures would cost approx. £1100; a SWOA member has a contact for this. We have someone working on an event centre for Day 1. Planner is Gavin Clegg BOK. We have received an offer to control this event.
- Hayle Towans: we may have a mapper (we are considering someone who has drawn some good maps of sand dunes). We are working on finding a parking field. We need to identify the Assembly, Start and Finish areas as there are several options. Planner is Phil Newall KERNO.
- Penhale: we have a mapper (John Pearce DEVON). We are working on finding a parking field; there is limited on-site parking at the Haven campsite where Assembly will be. The MoD charge per capita for courses which go north of the fence, so thoughtful planning is required. We have a Day Organiser for Days 3 and 4 (Graham Pring KERNO). Long planner is Ben Chesters DEVON; relay planners are James Hargreaves BOK + one other, mentored by Charles Daniel BOK.
- Treasurer is Mike Forrest BOK. There will be a meeting with BOF in the New Year to discuss the partnership agreement.
- Forest SPORTident equipment will be managed by Barry Olds KERNO.
- Website: we can have a page attached to the main JK site (which currently hosts JK 2019). We are working on a design for a logo with National Office.
- We are considering offering one day as a WRE; the sand dunes would allow us to stage a good Elite start.

Christine Vince KERNO  
Roger Hargreaves KERNO  
Joint Coordinators

## SW Junior Orienteering Squad Report

Our 2018/19 training programme started with a training day at Ham Hill on 27<sup>th</sup> October. More than half the attendees were new to SWJOS, which is excellent news. All enjoyed the day and demonstrated the maturity and commitment to travel and develop their skills that membership of SWJOS requires. They're all coming back for more at the SWJOS Christmas weekend too, which sold out in a few days. It's particularly pleasing to report the growing Wimborne/Wessex contingent.

Also very encouraging is the presence of several juniors who have found orienteering through their school's involvement in the ASO League and are now making the leap into orienteering more widely, at a regional level and beyond. SWJOS is working closely with BOK coaches and ASO to further develop these links.

During October we also planned four track sessions around the region, which the majority of squad members attended and each now has their own personalised training programme, thanks to Dave Hanstock's analysis of their 3km time trial results.

Six of our M/W16s will be travelling to the annual Hawkshead Lake District weekend with all the junior squads on 1/2 December. The following weekend, 25 juniors will be training on New Beechenhurst for the annual SWJOS Christmas weekend in the Forest of Dean, thanks to 10 or more coaches and parent helpers' support. Jim Bailey BOK and Flurry Grierson Devon are also training monthly with the National Talent Squad as well.

Competitions-wise, the November Classic produced a host of top 3 finishes for SWJOS members and it was good to see SWJOS runners ahead of some very famous SW adult orienteers! We also have a few athletes travelling far and wide in search of selection for the 2019 England Interland team.

In 2019, we have a training day on 12<sup>th</sup> January, followed by a residential Dartmoor weekend on 23/24<sup>th</sup> February to prepare everyone for the major championships during March-May.

SWJOS provides development opportunities for junior athletes who are usually bottom year M/W14 or older, willing and able to travel widely for their orienteering, currently competing on Light Green courses, keen to progress beyond club orienteering to compete in major races nationally and progress towards the British Orienteering Talent Development Programme.

If you have anyone in your club who would like to find out more, please take a look at [www.swjs.co.uk/about.html](http://www.swjs.co.uk/about.html) or contact any of the SWJOS families, Jeff Butt (Sarum) or me.

Pete Maliphant  
BOK/SWJOS  
15 November 2018



## Appendix 6 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018

### Deeside – Summer Training Camp 2018 - report

This summer I was lucky enough to get selected for the Deeside training camp. 17 athletes were selected from across the country from their results across the major events this year. I really enjoyed the week, spending time with my friends and getting to know new people. I feel as if I really benefitted from the training and advice given. On the first evening we took part in an obstacle course carrying jugs of water filled to the brim,

tied to one another by the wrist. This was especially entertaining as we all tried to make it down the slide. Later in the evening we did a high scale micro sprint where the control descriptions were necessary. Controls were placed in clusters, on different sides of trees, under benches, halfway up trees, on both sides of a wall; not a single person made it around without mis-punching!

Each day of training, the junior coaches had planned exercises that focussed on each aspect of PDP – Plan, Direction, Picture. In the morning we had training exercises – the most difficult of these being a windows exercise over the tough terrain of Scolty, trying not to get distracted by the multitude of bilberries in my path. These made up for the long uphill walk to the base point of the morning. Other areas posed other problems such as thick gorse and head high bracken which proved very difficult especially on the map memory exercises. The afternoon often involved a highly competitive competition with the winner receiving a yellow jersey to wear for the whole of the next day. My favourite areas were the Sand dunes of Balmedie and Thorphantrick which proved more runnable and this resulted in some high paced relays, including a 4 man one at Thorphantrick where the other teams would aim to tag you and stop you and make you switch tops. As you can imagine this caused a lot of laughter as Scots were made to wear England tops and coaches made to wear tight fitting small ones.

After training each day we had time to have fun and mess about in the River Dee (freezing) and on one day the North Sea (freeeeezing). At Balmedie we did some team challenges including races up and down the biggest sand dune found, including both a stylish ascent and descent. This involved one team doing the conga up, another leapfrogging up, and teams rowing, rolling and swimming down the sand dunes. All these challenges scored all important points for the weeks point board where the teams battled out to gain wacky prizes. Credit must go to the coaches who found an ingenious way of collecting the controls in – awarding points for them and getting us to do the job for them. On the afternoon of the ‘rest’ day, we went to the Aberdeen lido and stayed in the 30 degree sea water for over 2 hours before a bbq in the evening.

As tradition, throughout the week there was the Sprint race, Night race and Classic race. The sprint event was held on the second evening around Templars Park – the area we were staying at. The 1:3000 scale and short legs made it hard to balance speed and navigation. After a night practise the previous night, we all attempted the night event at Crathes; I was lucky enough to be wearing the yellow jersey for this event which allowed me to stand out as a nice target in the distance. We were rewarded by nice crumble when we eventually made it back to the accommodation.

The Classic event was on Glen Dye and was split into two parts – the first part being made like a middle distance, and the second like a long. This was a nice area with a reasonable amount of runnability, a nice contrast to the other areas throughout the week. Despite the steep hill coming at the end of a long leg towards the end of the course, I really enjoyed the course as it gave us a variety of intricate detail to tackle and a few route choice legs.

We finished off the week picking bilberries for a crumble, and getting very little sleep before an early start for the flight the next day.

I would like to thank BOK and SWOA for helping to fund the trip and giving me such a valuable experience.

Oliver Tonge  
22 October 2018

## **Appendix 7 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018**

### **Volunteer Courses' reports**

#### **1. DEVON Introduction to Planning course – tutor John Pearce; 07 and 15 November 2018**

The DEVON Introduction to Planning course was held over two 2-hour evening sessions, tutored by John Pearce and coordinated by Alan Simpson and was very well received. Homework was set between the sessions to design White, Orange and Brown courses in two areas. John comments that a full day would have allowed more practical exercises but no homework. The students had to do a long leg exercise on the Brown course though Purple Pen (PP) proved to be an inadequate tool for demonstrating course shapes etc. He later sent them two demo courses with 'long legs' to illustrate the point. When he plans, he likes to look for a long leg on each of the TD5 courses, and then link the ends back to the start and finish via the rest of the course.

There are three planning tools: Purple Pen (PP), OCAD and Condes. John comments that Purple Pen is very good for its purpose but it is not for everyone. Most people on the course had some knowledge of PP. Some people like mappers may prefer to plan on OCAD. The situation may arise where some planner/controller combinations cannot work together - as courses cannot be transferred between the two systems (i.e. PP and OCAD). John recommends that all controllers should be proficient on OCAD, PP, & Condes (if needed) - which is not currently the case.

There were many compliments in the post-course questionnaire and no complaints about the extra travel required by the two sessions. The participants worked very hard.

Alan Simpson coordinated the course and comments that next time he will explain the purpose of the questionnaire - feedback will help improve future courses. Students were happy to give a 0 - 5 score in the various headings with no extra comment.

Attendance for each session: 4 DEVON members and 4 QO members.

Collated by Katy Dyer BOK from reports by Alan Simpson DEVON coordinator and John Pearce DEVON tutor.

20 November 2018

#### **2. NGOC Event Safety Workshop 23 November 2018**

Seven NGOC members attended this good course.

## **Appendix 8 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018**

### **Recorder of Controllers' report**

Grade C application:

Damian Wilson of Devon OC has applied to be appointed as a Grade C Controller.

He has fulfilled the requirements set out in Appendix C of the BOF Rules, so his application can be approved by the committee.

Arthur Vince 20th November 2018

## **Appendix 9 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018**

### **Conference reports**

#### **BOF Club and Association Conference – 20 October 2018**

Peter Hart CEO plans to hold an event/championship review in 2019. Government funding will cease from 2021 including £70,000 allocated to the Talent Squad. There was a debate regarding the role of the Talent Squad (e.g. whether its role is to inspire others rather than to concentrate on winning medals, whether it is better to concentrate on a few runners or spread the money more widely).

Report from Alan Honey BOK 27 November 2018

#### **BOF Major Events Conference – 10 November 2018**

This was an opportunity to pass on tips from Major Event officials to others.

Christine Vince suggested that more people (including Grade B controllers) should attend this Conference and recommended that they attend more than once. She believes that the Conference should move to different regions.

Report from Christine Vince co-organiser with Chris Phillips 27 November 2018

## **Appendix 10 to SWOA Minutes, 27 November 2018**

### **Suggested change to SWOA Sprint Championship format**

Having controlled this year's event in Taunton, I'd like to propose that the SW Sprint Championships reverts to a format whereby the cumulative time for both races is used to determine finishing position. I know I have support for this from organisers of the previous event (Wimborne).

I believe the change to the current format was proposed by BOK to try to align it with the British Sprints, in which only the Final is used to determine position. However, the British Sprints use heats to qualify for the Finals, so the heats do serve a competitive purpose. For the SW Sprints, the numbers are insufficient to justify heats, so the first race is effectively meaningless, being used only to determine starting position in the Final. Indeed, the first race could be abused in order to become more familiar with the area if both races are held on overlapping areas. Using the cumulative time from both races ensures that everyone tries hard in both races and needs two good results to do well overall. I believe it would enhance the competitive nature and enjoyment of the event.

I've mentioned this to a few members of the BOK committee but haven't raised it formally as a committee discussion point, so my personal view isn't necessarily shared by the BOK committee. But given that it's a SWOA event, I'm assuming it would be appropriate to raise the topic directly with SWOA in the first instance. SWOA may then choose to seek opinion from the SWOA clubs.

Chris Kelsey email 23.11.2018