

# SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 8pm held online using Zoom.  
Draft V2

## PRESENT:

Christine Vince KERNO (chairman); Helen Kelsey BOK (secretary); Steve Robertson QO (treasurer); Richard Sansbury QO (fixtures); Pete Maliphant BOK (cttee and SWJOS); Dick Keighley WIM (cttee); Arthur Vince KERNO (cttee); Julie Astin WSX (cttee); Carol Iddles BOK; Phil Beale DEVON; Liz Yeadon SARUM; Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Paul Taunton NGOC; Neil Fraser NWO; Alasdair Shaw QO; Kevin Pickering WIM; Jolyon Medlock WSX.

1. Apologies. None
2. Chairman's update.  
*CV reported more sad news: that Andy Thornton, previously of SARUM, died recently. He was living in Southend near his children. Ian and Freda Pierce took Charlotte and Ricky to the funeral. A memorial is anticipated in Winterslow when restrictions are lifted.*
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting.  
Minutes approved subject to correction of report about access fees for WIM MapRun league.
4. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.  
Item 2: consideration of possible ways of keeping members informed of SWOA matters. SR suggested structuring SWOA website like QO website where several members can upload information, so regular new information is provided. WIM website also similar. Discussion included better use of the News updates on SWOA website, more links to club websites, use of mailchimp as used by WIM (DK). WSX use yahoo groups internally which could be linked to SWOA website. PM queried how many different places people will be prepared to look. Paul Taunton pointed out that "Legend" – NGOC newsletter still exists. SR suggested RSS feeds for anything on SWOA website. Views about using email rather than/ as well as websites were varied. Roger Hargreaves pointed out that to get attention, information needs to be sent to members rather than giving them opportunity to find it (push rather than pull strategy). General view was that both together would be most effective. Further consideration necessary. **Action: Discuss with Nathan about RSS feeds (HK?)**
5. Review of 2020 SWOA AGM minutes  
Incorrect date in item 2 noted. SR acknowledged that a membership report is needed for next year. Spelling of Ian Peirce corrected.

6. Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report.

SR reported very little financial movement due to lack of orienteering. Levies of £157 had been received from events held by BOK, NGOC and NWO. £33 paid to Nathan for website and renewal of domain name.

Membership renewal statistics look poor initially, but actually a higher percentage of members have renewed than had this time last year. **Action: SR to review in January.**

Some discussion about purchasing an upgrade to zoom to avoid 40 minute cut off. PM reported that he was no longer using the paid for version of Zoom for SWJOS meetings. **Action: CV and PM to discuss the pros and cons of a SWOA subscription.**
  
7. Fixtures report.

British Orienteering has announced a resumption of orienteering in all 3 tiers when current national lockdown ends. Outdoor coaching allowed in all tiers. Indoor activities will be restricted in higher tiers.

QO Segol event has been extended into December, to discourage unnecessary travel during national lockdown.

British Nights (NGOC) still planned to go ahead in February, though there is some question as to whether it can be classed as a National Championship event if some people are not allowed to attend because of the tier they live in. Still planned to be weekend with BOKTrot. RS reported that he now has dates for 8 of the 9 SW League events for the 2021/2 season (awaiting KERNO) It will be a tight season (end Oct – end Feb) because of seasonal restrictions for permissions, so some clashes with other events will be inevitable. Phil Beale, on behalf of DEVON, offered help to KERNO with events proposed at Easter. Planned events are Penhale, only for people staying on site. Long Sprint at Cornwall College, urban in Falmouth and colour coded at Mount Edgcumbe.

7.1 Relay series 2021

CV had had some recent meetings with the BOF chairman and members of the Board. It was quite clear that BOF are not permitting relay events under the present rules. This is because they would look to the general public as if they were mass gatherings which is not permitted under the current national coronavirus regulations. There was discussion about use of "virtual relays" where courses using traditional format and team times are then added at the end. Paul Taunton reported that the White Rose relay has been operating in that way for some time to avoid having a late finish for the event on the day that people travel home. It was agreed that a relay series will be arranged, but it might be necessary for some form of "virtual relay" to be used.
  
8. SWJOS report.

PM reported: Our training day on 14 November was cancelled due to the lockdown and we have fingers crossed that our Christmas 'weekend' will still go ahead. We have several more days planned but no dates due to the current uncertainty. All plans for 2021 remain very unclear.

Changes to the national Talent Squad structure are being explored. Talent South will be led by Mark Saunders and SWJOS coaches and athletes will be playing a significant role in a pilot scheme which will start shortly and run until autumn 2021. The talent pathway is above the club level and below the British team. The change is from one national Talent Squad to 3 super regional talent squads: Scotland, North and South.

The objectives are to reduce travelling, improve communications between centre and regional squads, and to make the talent pathway clearer. Potentially 6 or 7 of the SWJOS could be in the Talent South (rather than 2 currently). There should be no financial demands on SWOA for the pilot, but in the longer term the changes may potentially have some financial impact on SWOA as more SW juniors are involved and looking for support.

9. Possible Zoom conference – sharing best practice under COVID guidelines.  
Possible dates for conference suggested as week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> January, Saturday (23<sup>rd</sup>) in afternoon suggested as suitable time. **Action: club reps asked to identify people who would be organising events in the near future and likely to benefit and those who have organised events recently and could contribute their experience. Names to CV.**  
JA and LY both offered to be involved. Query about clashing with coaching conference but date not known yet. A planning meet was agreed for 15<sup>th</sup> December (using zoom). **Action: HK to set up planning meeting. RS to register conference as an activity with BOF.**  
DK suggested that participants be directed to watch series of short videos about orienteering under Covid regs on WIM website. It was suggested that someone from TVOC should be invited to participate as they have put on some large events. Planners/ organisers of army events would also be useful to have.  
It was commented that BOF webinar along very similar lines was available, although ours is planned to have a SW focus. **Action: CV to look at recording of webinar to avoid our conference covering exactly the same ground.**
10. AOB.  
None
11. Date of next meeting.  
19<sup>th</sup> January 8pm using zoom.