SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of meeting held on 31st May 2022 by zoom

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; Andy Reynolds DEVON; Liz Yeadon SARUM; Paul Taunton NGOC; Neil Fraser NWO; Alasdair Shaw QO; Kevin Pickering WIM; Spencer Modica DEVON.

1. Apologies. Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Jolyon Medlock WSX.
2. Chairman’s update. Nothing to report which is not covered elsewhere
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting. Approved.
4. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

Noone has come forward to take responsibility for the Caddihoe Trophies. **Action: add to next meeting agenda**

CV has not been able to investigate cost of embroidered badges and would like someone else to take that on. **Action: HK/CV to liaise with Jolyon Medlock to try to move this on.**

1. Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report. *See Appendix 1.* SR confirmed that membership is now at 98% of this time in previous years. Financial: currently have nearly £12,600 in account. Levies are coming in, only outgoing is website and one grant so far, but expecting more from juniors.

5.1 Extra grant for SWJOS for JIRCs. JIRC is in Northern Ireland this year, making it a much more expensive trip than usual. PM is keen to field the strongest team possible to continue the success from last year. Tickets for flights have been bought to obtain reasonable price, PM requested that in the event of cancellation SWOA take responsibility for a third of the cost incurred (rest funded by SWJOS and parents of juniors concerned). Agreed unanimously.

1. Fixtures report.

Events agreed since last meeting:

Major: VHI 2023 – NGOC offered to run in conjunction with Caddihoe, autumn 2023

JIRCs 2024 – BOK offered

National: CSC heat 2023 - although no heat in our region, there are now two possibilities for SWOA clubs to attend: SOC/WSX in New Forest 22nd January 2023, South Wales 13th March 2023.

Caddihoe 2023 – NGOC see above

Regional: SW Championships 2022 – Long to be Day 1 of Caddihoe, Middle to be Day 2 of Caddihoe. There are no suitable sprint events in the region, so there will be no SW Sprint Championship this year.

New events for which offers are required:

Southern Night Championships - November 2023

British Championships 2025, requires a long distance and a relay. Venue needs to bedecided by this autumn. **Action: Club reps to report to clubs that a venue is needed.**

JK 2028 – after discussion with main organisers for cancelled 2021 JK it is clear that this event will need to be built from scratch, requiring different areas and a new organising team.

Permissions:

Very little to report. RS has sent through all the information gathered, to Emma Monkman. JA commented that there is now a WhatsApp group for permissions/ access officers in clubs across the country, so that Emma can keep up to date with an overall view of the permissions situation. **Action: Club reps to make sure that the relevant people in their club are aware and have joined this group.**

* 1. Proposal for handicap scoring system for SWOL *See Appendix 2*

Spencer Modica has produced a document with supporting data as a proposal to introduce a handicap system for scoring the SWOL in order to make it a fairer competition for both the younger and the older competitors. Questions to the committee:

Is a handicap system a good idea?

What should the handicap system be?

PM reported back from the SWJOS that they thought a handicap system of scoring would be a good idea. He also noted that there are very few juniors outside the squad who attend more than 1 or 2 events and attendance by squad members not very consistent – reasons given were family events and also that sometimes clashes with major events elsewhere in the country. The general feeling was that a handicap scoring system would be popular, if run alongside the standard scoring sytem. CV pointed out that middle distance was a different discipline from long distance, Spencer had considered both in the tables submitted and come up with a proposed ratio. CV also referred to BOF age related handicaps ratios in Appendix B table 7.1, which Spencer has subsequently compared with other data. AV questioned whether we should be giving out prizes/certificates for the handicap results as well as the main trophies.

DK suggested that we agree to run a handicap scoring system as a trial throughout the coming season and publish it on the website along with the standard results and ask for feedback from the competitors during and at the end of the season. This was agreed. In discussing which handicap system to use, it was felt that Spencer had put a lot of time in to considering the different systems and we should be guided by his conclusions. KP offered to send him the WSX night league handicap system to consider. **Action: Spencer to consider other systems and come up with what seems the most appropriate, for use as a trial during the coming league season.**

1. Recorder of Controller’s Report *See Appendix 3*

AV pointed out that there was an error in his report: Ian Phillips is a member of NGOC, not NWO.

The committee thanked Arthur and Roger for their contribution to many major events as grade A controllers for many years.

1. SWJOS report. *See Appendix 4*

PM summarised that there are 12 SWJOS members who have been selected for national camps or GB teams, and noted that half the Junior World Championship team was from the SW. His report included mention of all levels, to avoid the impression of an elite squad and encourage others to join. Currently there is space for more members, so can afford to be a bit flexible on entry standards, particularly given the period of time when events were not running due to the pandemic, meaning that some juniors have not had the usual opportunities to reach the required standard.

Pete was congratulated by the committee on his well deserved double award of Coach of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

1. Coaching CV has stood down from organising the coaching conference. There should be something to report on this in July
2. AOB.

Julie Astin put forward the idea that SWOA could offer grants to support the costs of professional mappers. With fewer people available in some clubs who are able/willing to provide high quality maps, clubs are having to use professional mappers, which is very expensive. DK pointed out that in the past SWOA had lent money to WIM for mapping costs, which was then paid back when costs were recouped from using it at various events. SR said that QO experience was that the mappers the club had relied on for decades were no longer able to provide that service and few have the time or resources to provide major updates of maps or map new areas. QO had used a professional mapper for the update of Ramscombe for recent CSC round, helped by a grant from Hinkley Point.(cost £2500)

Most thought that it would be a good use of SWOA funds, provided there was a commitment to use the map for several events. **Action: All to consider what should be the criteria for grants for mapping.**

Andy Reynolds reported that he had some very old copies of SINS that had been kept by Noel Gould. RS has a collection of paper copies of SINS, so would be happy to identify and keep any that were not duplicates.

Carol Iddles reported on the funeral of BOK member John Grenfell, attended by 10 members of BOK

1. Club reps report to clubs.

* Emma Monkman has set up a WhatsApp group for permissions/access officers so that she can keep an overall view of the permissions situation nationally – please check that your club’s officer(s) know about this and are included.
* British Long Distance and Relay Championships comes to our region again in 2025 and now is the time to express interest in getting involved. Richard is looking to find a venue over the next few months.

1. Date of next meeting.

Tuesday July 26th proposed.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report.



Appendix 2: Proposal for handicap scoring system for SWOL





Appendix 3: Recorder of Controllers Report



Appendix 4: SWJOS report

