SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY: Helen Kelsey

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MINUTES OF 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held online using Zoom on Wednesday 26th October 2021 at 20.00

**Those present:**

**Officers**: Helen Kelsey BOK, Secretary; Steve Robertson QO, Treasurer and Membership Secretary; Richard Sansbury QO, Fixtures Secretary.

**Committee:** Dick Keighley WIM,

**SW members**: Richard Hudson BOK; Adrian Taylor DEVON; Neil Fraser NWO; Kevin Pickering WIM; Paul Taunton NGOC; Andrew Beldowski WSX.

The meeting opened at 8.04pm.

1. **Apologies**

Christine Vince (Chairman) KERNO, Arthur Vince KERNO; Pete Maliphant BOK; Julie Astin WSX, Jolyon Medlock WSX; Liz Yeadon SARUM.

**2** **Approval of** **Minutes of 2021 AGM**

There were no amendments to the minutes, which were approved as a true record of the meeting.

**3** **Matters arising from those minutes**

No matters arising not addressed elsewhere

**4 Reports were issued in advance to all who had informed the secretary of their intention to attend.**

4.1 **Chairman’s** **report**.

There was no Chairman’s report, due to the recent ill health and extended hospital stay of our chairman. HK reported that Christine was considered by the hospital to be fit to return home last Friday and that she should now be at home. The meeting wished to send best wishes for a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her (hopefully) chairing the meeting in November.

4.2 **Fixtures Secretary’s report.**  Richard Sansbury. [Appendix 1]

 RS reiterated that whilst the number of events/activities was still not up to pre pandemic levels, the region is hosting a vast number of events and activities, averaging out at over 6 per week during the year.

He also reported that unfortunately the possible venue for British Long Distance Championships 2025 had proved not to be a possibility, since the publication of the report, so SWOA will not now be hosting this event.

Kevin Pickering asked why SWOA was hosting the British Night Championship for the second time in three years. RS responded that whilst most major events are distributed around the associations on a rota basis, the night championships are allocated on the basis of offers, and NGOC and WIM had both offered. SWOA is one of the largest associations, with a strong night orienteering scene.

Adrian Taylor queried the total of 1 activity between DEVON, KERNO and NGOC, whereas BOK and WSX had over 50 each. RS explained that it just depended upon how the event/activity was registered with BOF – BOK registers weekly training runs as activities, WSX registers Mapruns as activities, whilst nearly all DEVON, KERNO and NGOC were registered as events. RS clarified that the definition of an event is one which is competitive, and results are provided, an activity is a non-competitive event with no results, eg. Coaching/training and that event incurred levies, whereas activities did not.

4.3 **SW Junior Squad Manager’s report**. Pete Maliphant. [Appendix 2].

As Pete was unable to attend HK read the report that he had submitted. The meeting wished to express how grateful SWOA is for the work done by Pete and the other coaches. It was noted that our region dominates the South Talent Squad and wished to express our thanks to Pete and the rest of the group.

4.4 **Recorder of Controllers’ report**. Arthur Vince. [Appendix 3]

As Arthur was unable to attend, DK read his report to the meeting. It was noted by Neil Fraser, that NWO has 3 grade C controllers and Neil agreed to check the list of controllers on the SWOA website and contact AV with any queries.

**5** **Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report.** Steve Robertson. [Appendix 4]

Steve presented the meeting with a powerpoint report on both membership and finances [Appendix 4a]. On membership, he commented that whereas SWOA used to be the largest region in terms of membership numbers it is now equal with the North West. RS asked whether all clubs offered a family membership as, if not, this might skew the data as presented. It was uncertain as to whether all clubs do offer such a membership category and SR will query this. DK suggested that one of the reasons why we had not attracted as many new members as in previous (pre Covid) years was that as Covid restrictions were lifted the clubs aims were more focused on offering something for existing members than tailoring their events towards attracting new members.

The summary account for the year were presented [Appendix 4b]

**6** **Membership fees for 2023**

SWOA has not charged membership fees for some years, and it was agreed that the status quo should be maintained.

**7 Proposed Amendment to the Constitution**

*Item 8 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*

*Add this sentence:*

*A quorum shall consist of not less than four of the elected members of the current Committee.*

Reason for amendment:

The current constitution says nothing about a quorum at the AGM. So that decisions could conceivably be taken by just one or two SWOA members. That is not a good idea.

The quorum proposed is the same as for Committee meetings, see Item 2(a).

Arthur Vince

KERNO, BOF No 149171

Proposal seconded by Richard Sansbury QO

Everyone agreed that this was just bringing requirements of the AGM in line with those for committee meetings and the proposal was agreed unanimously.

**8** **Election of officers**

8.1 Chairman: Christine Vince KERNO. Proposed by Helen Kelsey, seconded by Richard Sansbury

8.2 Administrative Secretary: Helen Kelsey BOK Proposed by Dick Keighley, seconded by Steve Robertson.

8.3 Treasurer and Membership secretary:Steve Robertson QO. Proposed by Richard Sansbury, seconded by Kevin Pickering

8.5 Fixtures Secretary: Richard Sansbury QO. Proposed by Dick Keighley, seconded by Paul Taunton.

In the absence of other nominations, the above were elected.

**9** **Election of Committee**

All of the following had previously said that they would be willing to serve on the committee: Dick Keighley WIM; Arthur Vince KERNO; Pete Maliphant BOK; Julie Astin WSX. Neil Fraser NWO and Kevin Pickering WIM also agreed to stand as committee members. All six were proposed by Richard Sansbury, seconded by Helen Kelsey. In the absence of other nominations, all six were duly elected.

**10** **Any other business**

There were no items of AOB.

The meeting closed at 8.58pm.

Minutes recorded by Helen Kelsey.

*These minutes are issued subject to formal approval at the 2023 AGM.*

**Appendices**:

1 Fixtures Secretary’s report

2 SW Junior Squad Manager’s report

3 Recorder of Controllers’ report

4 Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report

**Appendix 1**

**Fixtures Secretary's Report for 2022 AGM**

My job as SWOA fixtures secretary is to develop an orderly programme of orienteering across the region and to assign major competitions. I do this by frequent liaison with club fixtures secretaries and by representing SWOA on the national Event Scheduling Group. My intention is always to give equal opportunity to SW clubs to bid for major competitions and to find space in the fixtures calendar.

**Numbers of events and activities**

Here are the numbers of events and activities for the year from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| :Club | Number of events and activities |
| Major | National | Regional | Local | Activities | Total |
| BOK | 0 | 1 | 3 | 23 | 56 | 83 |
| DEVON | 1 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 17 |
| KERNO | 0 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 12 |
| NGOC | 1 | 0 | 8 | 29 | 0 | 38 |
| NWO | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 17 | 25 |
| QO | 0 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 16 | 29 |
| SARUM | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 18 |
| WIM | 0 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 25 |
| WSX | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 55 | 64 |
| TOTAL | 2 | 6 | 28 | 107 | 168 | 311 |

Here's a graphic to show how this compares to previous years:

This should have been the first full year of orienteering since the pandemic. We can understand the drop in event numbers in the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 due to the lockdowns. But although our major and national events are back at full level, our regional events, local events and activities have only come back up to roughly 75% of pre-pandemic levels.

The reasons for the drop in event numbers are not obvious but my suggestion is this is a consequence of difficulties getting permissions. Early in the year we were still seeing cancellations due to Covid - more to do with our landowners having backlogs of paperwork than the disease itself. However, SWOA committee is very aware that some landowners have imposed new restrictions on our sport and the process of obtaining land permission is now much more challenging than ever before. In many cases the forest orienteering season now ends in January or February rather than continuing through to the spring. As a committee we have spent some time discussing the permissions situation but unfortunately there isn't much we can do about it. British Orienteering now has an Access Officer and we hope that will help us in the future, but in the meantime we are very grateful that there are many volunteers engaging with this problem and getting on with the hidden but necessary task of obtaining permissions.

Despite the drop in event numbers, let us be positive and note we are still having on average 6 events and activities per week, so it represents an amazing effort by large numbers of organisers, mappers, planners and controllers. My thanks to all those volunteering to help at activities and events at all levels.

**Large events**

Our two major events last year were the British Long Distance Championships that DEVON hosted with strong backing from BOK on an unseasonably wet weekend at Braunton last October, and shortly after that NGOC held the British Night Championships on an unexpectedly snowy night on Cleeve Hill in November. Both events went very well and my thanks and congratulations to the officials and helpers involved.

There were other large events of note, including Wimborne's Caddihoe weekend in sunny September. Sarum provided us with the Salisbury City race on the November classic weekend as well as the Saunter in the Spring. QO hosted our CompassSport Cup heat in February and Devon & Kerno held their Tamar Triple on the jubilee bank holiday weekend.

I will also mention although it will fall into next year's report that Devon kindly incorporated the Southern Championships into this year's Caddihoe on Dartmoor.

**The future**

Sticking with major events, next year will see the British Nights coming back to our region - Wimborne are hosting this in February. Wessex are providing our CompassSport Cup heat in January, and next year's Caddihoe is courtesy of NGOC who are simultaneously holding the Veterans Home Internationals.

Further ahead I am sure we will continue to play our part in major events. We are hoping to host the British Long Distance and Relay Championships in 2025, British Sprints in 2026 and the JK in 2028. Clubs are already committed to several other major events such as the CompassSport Cup Final in 2023 and the Junior Inter-Regional Championships in 2024.

As regards our bread and butter events we will continue to see challenges in obtaining permissions so I do not expect our event numbers to fully return to pre-pandemic levels. Perhaps we will see a further trend from some clubs to fill the spring gap with urban events. Whatever happens, all clubs are continuing to thrive and provide a wide range of orienteering opportunities for us all to enjoy.

Richard Sansbury

October 2022

**Appendix 2**

**South West Junior Squad Manager’s report.**

**SWJOS Review of 2021-22**

The South-West Junior Squad provides a focus and a series of training activities for developing junior talent within the South-West. Athletes from BOK, Devon, NGOC, Wessex and Wimborne made up the 2021-22 squad. SWJOS has had another good year, despite some covid constraints, with 24 active and several more prospective members. We are the third or fourth largest of the twelve regional squads.

**Squad Training**

Normally training takes place during September-March aimed at achieving peak performances in the main Championships and selection races in March, April and May. This year we have trained almost like normal, although the Forestry England access situation is difficult and having to pay £110 every time 15 juniors train for a day on FE land does not feel fair or reasonable.

Zoom meetings have continued, but on a less frequent basis and we will carry on using them to meet, brief and review races with our geographically scattered squad.

**Achievements**

SWJOS has just returned from the annual Inter-Regional Champs in Northern Ireland. This trip was a big experience for all of us (I’ve never booked 42 flight tickets before) and although we didn’t match the remarkable success of last year, we finished 4th of 12 teams and only a few points behind the North West in 3rd.

We have a young team this year, with 14 of 19 runners in the lower year of their age class, so this was an excellent result and everyone hugely enjoyed themselves despite sleeping on hall floors with 100 other people.

There have been numerous SW selections for summer camps and international races this year:

Deeside 15s:            Lyra Medlock WSX, Grace French WIM, Harry Bratcher-Howard WIM

Ben Perry DEVON

Czech 16s:               Rose Taylor NGOC, Jessica Ward NGOC (& Reuben Lawson NGOC)

Stockholm 17s:    Will Thomas DEVON, Emily Elms BOK (selected but unable to attend)

Gothenburg 18s:  Lizzie Horsler WIM

Tom Perry was selected for the GB team at the Junior European Cup. Lyra Medlock was selected for the European Youth Champs GB team and also the England team for the JHIs and Interland. Jessica Ward was selected for the Wales JHI team.

Will Taylor, Tom Perry, Emily Elms, Amy Lee-Jones and Rose Taylor were all selected for the 2021/22 Talent South squad. The 2022/23 squad, which has just been announced, contains no less than 8 SW athletes in the squad of 17!

We also have seven ex-SWJOS athletes that have run for GB at Senior or U-20 level this year.

However, SWJOS is not just about achievements at a national level and we welcome anyone who wants to travel widely, improve their skills and have fun as part of a close-knit team of orienteers.

Thanks are owed to all the parents who help and support SWJOS at each training day and to Jeff Butt, Dave Hanstock, Jim Hayward and Jamie Hayward for all their coaching work this season.

SWJOS provides development opportunities for junior athletes who are usually bottom year M/W14 or older, willing to and able to travel widely for their orienteering and keen to progress beyond Light Green courses, club and local races, 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.

Peter Maliphant

BOK & SWJOS Coach

**Appendix 3**

**Recorder of Controllers’ Report**

**TRAINING COURSES**

No training courses have been held in the past year.

**RECORDER’S JOB DESCRIPTION**

This can be found on the SWOA website in the *SWOA Specific* *Documents* section.

**CONTROLLERS in the SW**

SWOA clubs have 68 currently licensed controllers: 3 at Grade A, 22 at Grade B and 43 at Grade C. An up-to-date list of controllers can be found on the SWOA website in the *Newsletter and Documents/Controllers* section. The current list is dated 1st June 2022.

There have been two new appointments since the 2021 AGM.

**CHANGES to the list of controllers in SWOA**

**GRADE A** Roger Hargreaves and Arthur Vince of KERNO have stepped down to Grade B.

**GRADE C** Stuart Fisher of NWO and Ian Phillips of NGOC have been approved as Grade C controllers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CLUB | Number of licenced controllers in club |
|  | Grade A | Grade B | Grade C | Total |
| BOK | 3 | 4\*\* | 5\* | 12 |
| DEVON | None | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| KERNO | None | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| NGOC | None | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| NWO | None | None | 2 | 2 |
| QO | None | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| SARUM | None | 1\* | 2\* | 3 |
| WIM | None | 3 | 6\*\*\* | 9 |
| WSX | None | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Total | 3 | 22 | 43 | 68 |

\*\*Two licensed via WOA \*One licensed via SCOA \*\*\* One licensed via SEOA

**APPOINTMENT OF CONTROLLERS**

Clubs and individuals are reminded that in order to become a licensed controller, or move from Grade C to Grade B, as well as completing the necessary training course and fulfilling the other BOF requirements it is necessary to be approved by both their club and SWOA. Application forms are available from me. Grade A controllers are appointed by the BOF Events and Competitions Committee.

*Arthur Vince, KERNO*

*10th October 2022*

**Appendix 4**

 **Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s Report**

**Appendix 4a**

**Summary Accounts 2021-22**

SWOA Summary by Account 2021 - 22 Fiscal Year 2021-22 (End July)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACCOUNT DETAIL |  | Bank Accounts |  | Summary |
|  |  | Main | Major Event | Total | Level |
| INCOMELevies | BOK | 2,068.20 | n/a | 2,068.20 | 7,743.20 |
|  | DEVON | 777.90 | n/a | 777.90 |  |
|  | KERNO | 371.70 | n/a | 371.70 |  |
|  | NGOC | 1,816.20 | n/a | 1,816.20 |  |
|  | N WO | 453.20 | n/a | 453.20 |  |
|  | QO | 543.00 | n/a | 543.00 |  |
|  | SARUM | 528.00 | n/a | 528.00 |  |
|  | WIM | 923.40 | n/a | 923.40 |  |
|  | WSX | 261.60 | n/a | 261.60 |  |
|  | Other | 0.00 | n/a | 0.00 |  |
|  |  | 7,743.20 | n/a | 7,743.20 |  |
| Other Income | Interest | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total |  | 7,743.20 | 0.00 | 7,743.20 | 7,743.20 |
| EXPENSEGrants | Junior Squad | (1,000.00) | n/a | (1,000.00) | (7,527.00) |
|  | Representation | Junior 0.00 | n/a | 0.00 |  |
|  |  | Senior (50.00) | n/a | (50.00) |  |
|   | Tours/Training | Junior (6,477.00) | n/a | (6,477.00) |  |
|   |   | Senior 0.00 | n/a | 0.00 |  |
| Courses | Individuals | (279.00) | n/a | (279.00) | (279.00) |
|   | Clubs | 0.00 | n/a | 0.00 |  |
|   | Other | 0.00 | n/a | 0.00 |  |
| English OC |   | (784.00) | n/a | (784.00) | (784.00) |
| Website |  | (260.00) | n/a | (260.00) | (361.95) |
| Expenses  | Committee | (89.95) | n/a | (89.95) |  |
|   | Competition | (12.00) | n/a | (12.00) |  |
| JK21 |  | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Misc. |    | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total |  | (8,951.95) | 0.00 | (8,951.95) | (8,951.95) |
| SUMMARY |  |  |  | Income | Expense | Net |
|  |  | Levies  |  | 7,743.20 | 0.00 | 7,743.20 |
|  |  | Grants |  | 0.00 | (7,527.00) | (7,527.00) |
|  |  | Courses |  | 0.00 | (279.00) | (279.00) |
|  |  | English OC |  | 0.00 | (784.00) | (784.00) |
|  |  | Other |  | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
|  |  | Other Income / Misc. |  | 0.00 | (361.95) | (361.95) |
|  |  | Total |  | 7,743.20 | (8,951.95) | (1,208.75) |
| CASH BALANCES | Current  |  | Deposit |  |  |
|  | Account |  | Account |  | Total |
| Opening Balances | 10,815.51 |  | 0.00 |  | 10,815.51 |
|  Transfers Deposit | 0.00 |  | 0.00 |  | 0.00 |
| Current | 0.00 |  | n/a |  | 0.00 |
| Transacts Credit | 7,743.20 |  | 0.00 |  | 7,743.20 |
| Debit | (8,951.95) |  | n/a |  | (8,951.95) |
| Closing Balances | 9,606.76 |  | 0.00 |  | 9,606.76 |
| Period Change | (1,208.75) |   | 0.00 |   | (1,208.75)  |

October 3, 2022

**Appendix 4b**

**Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report.**

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