

# SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY: Helen Kelsey  
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## MINUTES OF 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held online using Zoom on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 20.00

### **Those present:**

**Officers:** Christine Vince KERNO, (Chairman); Helen Kelsey BOK, (Secretary); Steve Robertson QO, (Treasurer and Membership Secretary); Richard Sansbury QO, (Fixtures Secretary).

**Committee:** Dick Keighley WIM, Pete Maliphant BOK, Julie Astin WSX, Neil Fraser NOW, Arthur Vince KERNO, Kevin Pickering WIM.

**SW members:** Richard Hudson BOK; Adrian Taylor DEVON; Roger Hargreaves KERNO;  
The meeting opened at 8.00pm.

### **1 Apologies**

Liz & Alan Yeadon SARUM.; David Faulkner BOK, Paul Lane SARUM

### **2 Approval of Minutes of 2022 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.**

Chairman's report [\[Appendix 1\]](#) no questions

#### **4.2 Fixtures Secretary's report.** Richard Sansbury. [\[Appendix 2\]](#)

Julie Astin queried whether the totals of events included MapRuns. 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.

As this was an issue which was raised at last year's AGM, when Richard had given the same definition and it appears that clubs are approaching this in different ways, it was decided to add this as an agenda item to next committee meeting.

#### **4.3 SW Junior Squad Manager's report.** Pete Maliphant. [\[Appendix 3\]](#)

PM added to his report that SWJOS had achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Junior Inter Regional Championships last weekend (behind Scotland and Yorkshire). The meeting expressed its thanks to Pete and the team and noted how successful the juniors have been recently. PM has reason to believe that the squad will remain very competitive in the coming year

#### **4.4 Recorder of Controllers' report.** Arthur Vince. [\[Appendix 4\]](#)

No questions

### **5 Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report.** Steve Robertson. [\[Appendix 5\]](#)

[Appendix 5a](#) shows the SWOA accounts for 2022-23

Summary of Income v Expenditure compared with 2021-22:

Levies -- 25 percent down, directionally fewer events in the South-West compared to the prior year (10 percent down) and, anecdotally, lower participation.

Grants Although SWOA juniors are one of the more successful groups - fewer have applied for grants this year.

However, on average the cost per junior has increased by about 25 percent. In addition, there was the annual contribution to SWJOS (£1,000)

EOC contribution normally paid in August/September, however contribution requested earlier in 2023 (late June) with result that the payments for 2022 and 2023 both fell in the 2022-23 SWOA financial year.

VHI Deposits have been received from the four home countries and there is a temporary deficit following SWOA payment for event accommodation (YHA) prior to receiving reimbursement.

Other Expenditure higher than 2021-22 due to refurbishment of SWOL and Caddihoe Trophies plus Expense purchase of SWOA achievement badges.

Funds and Outlook: Net cash balance is £6,515 (excluding temporary VHI support) and a steady levy income stream should allow grant support to continue at present levels. However, if the event/participation trend continues we will have to consider levy rates and/or reducing the level of support for the 2024-25 orienteering year.

The charts in [appendix 5b](#) illustrate SWOA financial situation over the past 5 years.

Membership: [\[Appendix 5c\]](#) The membership figures indicate a slight decline in junior members 19% of the total now, compared with 22% 4 years ago, and also illustrate the aging profile of SWOA membership.

## **6 Determination of Membership fees for 2024**

SWOA has not charged membership fees for some years, and it was agreed that the status quo should be maintained with the committee to investigate the effects of increasing the levy.

## **7 Election of officers**

8.1 Chairman: Christine Vince KERNO. Proposed by Helen Kelsey, seconded by Pete Maliphant

8.2 Administrative Secretary: Helen Kelsey BOK Proposed by Christine Vince, seconded by Richard Sansbury.

8.3 Treasurer and Membership secretary: Steve Robertson QO. Proposed by Roger Hargreaves, seconded by Dick Keighley

8.5 Fixtures Secretary: Richard Sansbury QO. Proposed by Helen Kelsey, seconded by Roger Hargreaves.

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 All six were proposed by Richard Sansbury, seconded by Steve Robertson. In the absence of other nominations, all six were duly elected.

## **10 Any other business**

Arthur Vince reported that the trophies and certificates for the South West Orienteering League 2022-23 would be awarded at the SARUM SW League event on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Recipients have been notified.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Minutes recorded by Helen Kelsey.

*These minutes are issued subject to formal approval at the 2024 AGM.*

**Appendices:**

- 1 Chairman's Report
- 2 Fixtures Secretary's report
- 3 SW Junior Squad Manager's report
- 4 Recorder of Controllers' report
- 5 Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report

## Appendix 1      2023 SWOA AGM – chairman’s report

A warm welcome to everyone.

Thank you to all the SW clubs who put on events in support of Regional and National Championships:

WIM for the British Night Championships 2023

DEVON for the Caddihoe, the Southern Championships and the SWOA Middle and Long Distance Championships 2022 (in September)

BOK for the SWOA Sprint Championships 2023

WSX for the CompassSport Cup and Trophy round 2023

NGOC for the Yvette Baker qualifier round 2023

In 2023/24:

NGOC will be hosting the Veteran Home Internationals, the Caddihoe and SWOA Long Distance Championships (30 September/1<sup>st</sup> October 2023)

WSX will be hosting the SWOA Middle Distance Championships (October 2023)

BOK will be hosting the CompassSport Cup and Trophy Final 2023

WIM will be hosting the CompassSport Cup and Trophy round 2024

DEVON will be hosting the Caddihoe 2024 (and in future years)

NGOC and BOK will be hosting the Junior Inter Regional Championships 2024

The Tamar Triple has been a 3-day event held over the Spring bank holiday weekend, aiming to provide high quality orienteering. However, as many of you will be aware it is becoming much harder to get access permissions for suitable areas at that time of year. As a result, DEVON and KERNO have decided they are unable to continue in the future.

The Chairman’s Summer Relay Series is also in abeyance due to current lack of interest.

Courses held in the last year:

None

Courses planned/proposed for the forthcoming year:

Level C Controller’s course – based on NT Montacute, 12 November 2023 (contact Arthur Vince)

Clubs are reminded that all event officials (organiser, planner, controller) now need to have attended an Event Safety Workshop (as of 01 January 2017). SWOA will pay for and organise more Event Safety workshops (via the clubs) for as long as is needed.

Thanks to Nath Fernandes for keeping our website up to date.

Thanks to Spencer Modica QO for his hard work scoring the Galloppen series – now the SW Regional League. My thanks to Helen Kelsey for her work as SWOA Secretary, to Richard Sansbury as our Fixtures Secretary and Steve Robertson as our Treasurer.

Also to Peter Maliphant and all those who keep our Junior Squad working so hard. The Squad has had several successes this year; high places in the Interland competition; the British Long Distance Championships (two 1<sup>st</sup>s and two 3<sup>rd</sup>s); the British Sprint Relay Championships (2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, Junior 16-). A number of Squad members have attended various summer training camps.

Christine Vince, chairman 2022-2023

## Appendix 2

### **Fixtures Secretary's Report for 2023 AGM**

My role as SWOA fixtures secretary is threefold:

- (1) I work with club fixtures secretaries to produce an orderly programme of orienteering across the region,
- (2) I assign major competitions that come to our region,
- (3) I represent SWOA on the national Event Scheduling Group.

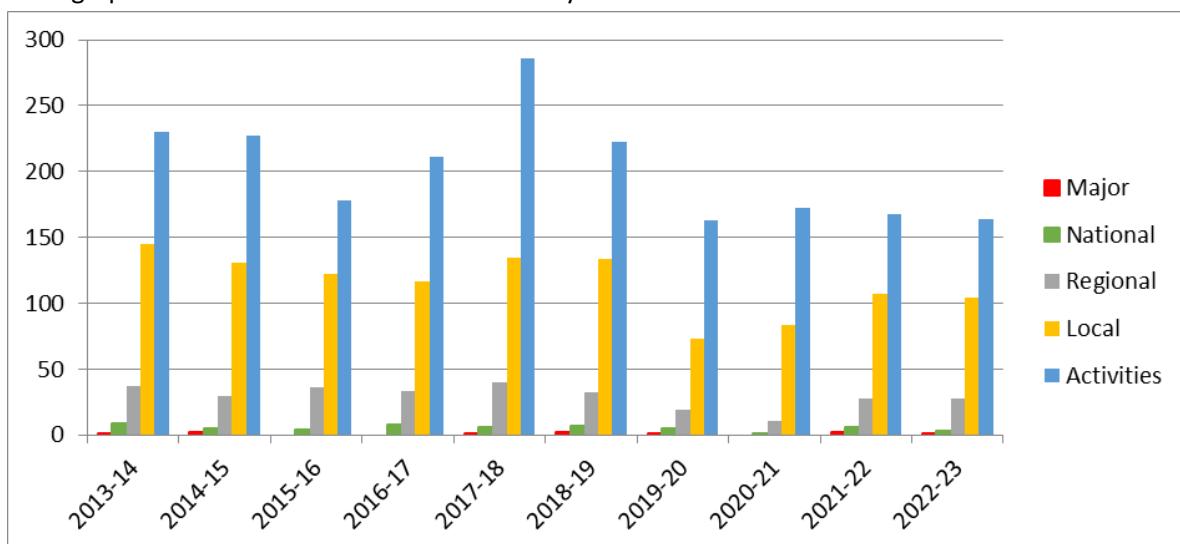
### **Numbers of events and activities**

In last year's AGM report I reported a drop in the number of events and activities to about 75% of pre-pandemic levels, and predicted numbers would stay this way. It is now clear this is the new pattern, as the past year has almost identical numbers to the previous year.

Here are the numbers of events and activities for the year from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023,

Club	Number of events and activities					
	Major	National	Regional	Local	Activities	Total
BOK	0	0	4	22	55	81
DEVON	0	1	4	9	9	23
KERNO	0	0	5	6	0	11
NGOC	0	0	5	25	2	32
NWO	0	0	2	7	1	10
QO	0	0	2	12	23	37
SARUM	0	1	2	5	6	14
WIM	1	0	1	9	10	21
WSX	0	1	3	9	58	71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>300</b>

Here's a graphic to show the trend over the last 10 years:



The years 2019-20 and 2020-21 were significantly affected by the lockdowns. But over the last few years we have experienced reduced access to land - and this is the primary reason for the reduction in events and activities. As many of you will be aware, some landowners have imposed new restrictions on our sport. For many clubs the forest season

now ends in February rather than extending into the spring and the process of obtaining land permission is now much more challenging than ever before.

There are changes to some of our more prominent events as a result. Unfortunately the Tamar Triple - a fixture dating back nearly 30 years - is discontinued. Over the past year Devon & Kerno found it was no longer possible to find terrain accessible of suitable quality in May, and so with regret have had to cancel plans for the intended Tamar Triple in 2024, and all future years. As a consequence, Devon have decided to concentrate their club's efforts on the Caddihoe and will host it every year from next year onwards, so it will no longer be offered to other clubs on alternate years.

### **Large events**

Despite our difficulties we are still able to carry a share of major events. The British Night Championships took place at Moors Valley in February, excellently organised by Wimborne. This is the second time in recent years that a SW club has hosted this competition. It requires a lot of effort for a relatively modest attendance so many thanks to the event team.

Around a year ago Devon hosted the Caddihoe at Hay Tor & Hound Tor. The weekend also served as the Southern Championships as well as our long and middle South West Championships. My thanks to Devon for efficiently managing not only the races but all the prize giving that came with these championships.

This weekend we are off to the Forest of Dean where NGOC are not only organising the Caddihoe Chase but simultaneously the Veterans Home Internationals. In November some of you may be back for the CompassSport Cup finals courtesy of BOK, and in a year's time NGOC and BOK together will host the Junior Inter Regional Championships. We were not able to find a venue for the British Long Distance and Relay Championships in 2025 so that will not be coming our way. This was held in our region in 2022, so perhaps it's not surprising we couldn't do it again so soon. We are however developing plans for British Sprints and Sprint Relays in 2026. And looking further into the future we have the privilege of hosting the JK in 2028.

### **Summary**

The number of events and activities per year may be less than it used to be but it still reflects a huge effort by large numbers of organisers, mappers, planners and controllers. I think this year particular thanks have to go to those who are battling to get our land permissions, without your efforts we simply could not continue. But my thanks to all those volunteering to help at activities and events at all levels.

Richard Sansbury

September 2023

## **Appendix 3**

### **SWJOS Review of 2022-23**

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, QO (for the first time in many years), Wessex and Wimborne made up the 2022-23 squad. SWJOS has had another good year, with 26 active and several more prospective members. We are one of the four largest regional squads and currently have five ex-SWJOS members in the various GB 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 provided eight training days/weekends, despite the Forestry England access situation and costs remaining difficult.

Our 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**

Following last year's 4<sup>th</sup> place at the Junior Inter-Regional Champs, SWJOS will be hoping to go one better in South Wales on the weekend before the SWOA AGM.

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

Lagganlia 14s:	Eskarina Medlock WSX, Marcus Perry BOK, Monty Bratcher-Howard WIM
Deeside 15s:	Vince Nagy-Kovacs BOK
Czech 16s:	Lyra Medlock WSX, Grace French WIM, Harry Bratcher-Howard WIM
Stockholm 17s:	Ben Perry DEVON
Gothenburg 18s:	Jessica Ward NGOC (& Reuben Lawson NGOC)
	Amy Lee-Jones & Emily Elms BOK

Ben Perry and Lyra Medlock were selected for the European Youth Champs GB team, whilst Esk Medlock, Marcus Perry, Grace French and Ben Perry ran for the England team for one or both of the Interland and the Junior Home Internationals. Jess Ward was selected for the Wales JHI team.

The Talent South 2022/23 squad contained 8 South West athletes in the squad of 17 and we hope for a similar level of representation in the 2023-24 squad to be announced soon.

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. It is especially pleasing to see some QO juniors joining SWJOS for the first time this autumn.

Thanks are owed to all the parents who help and support SWJOS at each training day and to Dave Hanstock, Jim Hayward, Jeff Butt and Jamie Hayward for all their coaching work. The continued support from SWOA for the squad and for individuals within SWJOS is also greatly appreciated.

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), Dave Hanstock and Jim Hayward (BOK) or me.

Peter Maliphant  
BOK & SWJOS Coach

## **Appendix 4** **RECORDER OF CONTROLLERS' REPORT**

### **RECORDER'S JOB DESCRIPTION**

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

### **TRAINING COURSES**

No training courses have been held in the past year.

I am arranging a Grade C course in November for two people who are interested in having a licence for that grade.

### **CONTROLLERS in the SW**

SWOA clubs have 66 currently licensed controllers: 3 at Grade A, 20 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. This list is updated as new appointments are made or people retire from controlling, so the current one should always be consulted when clubs want to find a controller.

**CHANGES** Since the 2022 AGM.

**GRADE B** Peter Morton of KERNO has retired from controlling. Arthur Boyt of DEVON died earlier this year.

**GRADE C** New appointments: Paul Gebbett and Tommi Grover of BOK; Tom Cochrane of NGOC.

Retirements: Philip Cooper, WIM; Martin Cross, WIM; Roger Green, DEVON; Tom Mills, NGOC; John Simmons, BOK.

CLUB	Number of licenced controllers in club			
	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Total
BOK	3	4**	6*	13
DEVON	None	1	6	7
KERNO	None	3	9	12
NGOC	None	3	7	10
NWO	None	None	3	3
QO	None	2	4	6
SARUM	None	1*	2*	3
WIM	None	3	4***	7
WSX	None	3	1	4
** SCOA ***	Total	3	20	42
				65

Two licensed by WOA \*One licensed by  
One licensed by 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  
14<sup>th</sup> September 2023*

## **Appendix 5**

### **Treasurer and Membership Secretary's Report**

#### **Appendix 5a SWOA accounts**

#### **Appendix 5b 5 year Financial Summary**

#### **Appendix 5c Membership**

## SWOA Summary by Account 2022 - 23

Full Year July 2023

ACCOUNT DETAIL		Bank Accounts			Summary Level
		Main	VHI 2023	Total	
INCOME					
Levies	BOK	1,582.80	n/a	1,582.80	
	DEVON	985.20	n/a	985.20	
	KERNO	207.60	n/a	207.60	
	NGOC	1,401.00	n/a	1,401.00	
	NWO	426.20	n/a	426.20	
	OO	351.60	n/a	351.60	
	SARUM	367.80	n/a	367.80	
	WIM	418.80	n/a	418.80	
	WSX	635.40	n/a	635.40	
	Other -- VHI	0	800.00	800.00	
		6,376.40	800.00	7,176.40	7,176.40
Other Income	Interest	16.73	0.00	16.73	16.73
	Total	6,393.13	800.00	7,193.13	7,193.13
EXPENSE					
Grants	Junior Squad	(1,000.00)	n/a	(1,000.00)	
	Representation	Junior	(1,632.00)	n/a	(1,632.00)
		Senior	0.00	n/a	0.00
	Tours/Training	Junior	(4,331.00)	n/a	(4,331.00)
		Senior	0.00	n/a	(6,963.00)
Courses	Individuals	0.00	n/a	0.00	
	Clubs	0.00	n/a	0.00	
	Other	0.00	n/a	0.00	0.00
	English OC	(1,619.00)	n/a	(1,619.00)	(1,619.00)
	Website	(264.39)	n/a	(264.39)	
Expenses	Committee	0.00	n/a	0.00	
	Competition	(377.40)	n/a	(377.40)	(641.79)
	VHI 2023		0	(3,826.50)	(3,826.50)
	Misc.	(261.34)	0.00	(261.34)	(261.34)
	Total	(9,485.13)	(3,826.50)	(13,311.63)	(13,311.63)
SUMMARY			Income	Expense	Net
	Levies	6,376.40	0.00	6,376.40	
	Grants	0.00	(6,963.00)	(6,963.00)	
	Courses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	English OC	0.00	(1,619.00)	(1,619.00)	
	Other - VHI	800.00	(3,826.50)	(3,026.50)	
	Other Income / Misc.	16.73	(903.13)	(886.40)	
	Total	7,193.13	(13,311.63)	(6,118.50)	
CASH BALANCES					
	Current	Deposit			
	Account	Account		Total	
Opening Balances	9,607.36	0.00		9,607.36	
Transfers	Deposit	0.00		0.00	
	Current	(3,000.00)		3,000.00	0.00
Transacts	Credit	7,176.40		7,193.13	
	Debit	(13,311.63)	n/a	(13,311.63)	
Closing Balances		472.13		3,016.79	3,488.86
VHI Account		(3,026.50)		n/a	(3,026.50)
SWOA		3,498.63		3,016.79	6,515.36
SWOA Period Change		(6,108.73)		3,016.79	(3,092.00)

## Appendix 5b



## Appendix 5c

