SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY: Helen Kelsey
Tel. 01278 723246. Email kelseys4@btinternet.com

MINUTES OF 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held online using Zoom on Tuesday 21st October 2025 at 20.00

Those present:
Officers: Christine Vince KERNO, (Chairman); Helen Kelsey BOK, (Secretary); Steve Robertson QO, (Treasurer and Membership Secretary); Rob Mills WIM, (Fixtures Secretary).
Committee: Pete Maliphant BOK, Julie Astin WSX, Neil Fraser NWO, Arthur Vince KERNO, Kevin Pickering WIM.
SW members: Richard Hudson BOK; Adrian Taylor DEVON; Richard Jackson DEVON, Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Graham Pring KERNO; Richard Sansbury QO; Liz Yeadon SARUM
The meeting opened at 8.05pm.

1 Apologies
None received

2 Approval of Minutes of 2024 AGM
There were no amendments to the minutes, proposed by Christine Vince and seconded by Kevin Pickering and approved by the meeting as a true record of the 2024 AGM.

3 Matters arising from those minutes.
No matters arising not addressed elsewhere.

4 Reports:

4.1 **Chairman's report**.
Chairman's report [Appendix 1]. Christine concluded by saying that we need to look in the coming year at having more courses in the South West. There were no questions.

4.2 **Fixtures Secretary's report.** Rob Mills. [Appendix 2]

It was queried as to whether the new SPUNCH courses counted as events in the listing, and Rob Mills confirmed that they do as they involve producing results, which is the main distinction between an activity and an event.
Richard Sansbury asked for some background to the decision about JK2028, Rob Mills and Christine Vince explained briefly that the issue was to do with permissions and access, as all the SW best areas had reasons why obtaining confirmed permissions for such a large event for so far into the future was proving impossible.

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

Christine Vince expressed her thanks to Pete and the team for all the hard work they have put into supporting the juniors and helping them to become such a successful squad.

4.4 **Recorder of Controllers' report**. Arthur Vince. [Appendix 4]
No questions

5 Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report. Steve Robertson.

The Membership and Financial reports were illustrated by a series of slides [Appendix 5]
Steve Robertson presented the membership data [Appendix 5a] and reported on the financial status of the association [Appendix 5b]

Steve Robertson was thanked for his accounting and for presenting the information to the meeting in such a

straightforward and easily understandable way.
Approval of the accounts was proposed by Richard Sansbury, seconded by Julie Astin and passed unanimously by the meeting.

6 Determination of Membership fees for 2026

. Following the report on the SWOA financial position and the recommendation to keep membership fees unchanged, the meeting voted that SWOA membership fees should remain at zero for all members

7 Proposed amendment to the constitution

It was proposed by Arthur Vince, KERNO
To add to the end of paragraph 2(a)
Committee and General meetings may be held as virtual meetings, which do not require the physical presence of those attending.
Reason for amendment: this acknowledges how Committee meetings and the AGM are currently held.
The proposal was seconded by Rob Mills WIM and agreed unanimously by the meeting.

8 **Election of officers**

8.1 Chairman: Christine Vince KERNO. Proposed by Rob Mills, seconded by Liz Yeadon
8.2 Administrative Secretary: Helen Kelsey BOK Proposed by Arthur Vince, seconded by Christine Vince
8.3 Treasurer and Membership secretary: Steve Robertson QO. Proposed by Julie Astin, seconded by Helen Kelsey
8.5 Fixtures Secretary: Rob Mills WIM. Proposed by Helen Kelsey, seconded by Richard Sansbury.
In the absence of other nominations, the above were duly elected.

9 Election of Committee

Richard Jackson DEVON was nominated to stand for the committee, proposed by Christine Vince and seconded by Roger Hargreaves. All of the following had previously said that they would be willing to serve on the committee: Arthur Vince KERNO; Pete Maliphant BOK; Julie Astin WSX: Neil Fraser NWO and Kevin Pickering WIM. All five were proposed by Helen Kelsey, seconded by Roger Hargreaves. In the absence of other nominations, all six were duly elected.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Minutes recorded by Helen Kelsey.

These minutes are issued subject to formal approval at the 2026 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 2025 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:

QO for the CompassSport Cup and Trophy qualifying round, February 2025
SARUM for the Southern Championships, March 2025
BOK for the SWOA Long Distance Championships, June 2025
WIM for the SWOA Sprint Championships, June 2025
BOK for the Yvette Baker qualifiers, June 2025
DEVON for the SWOA Middle distance Championships, October 2025

In 2025/26:
WIM will be hosting the CompassSport Cup and Trophy qualifying round, February 2026
KERNO will be hosting the Yvette Baker qualifiers, April 2026
BOK will be hosting the British Sprint and British Sprint Relay Championships, June 2026

Courses held in the last year:
BOK and NGOC arranged a Coaching Course.

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 DEVON for his hard work scoring the SW Regional League (formerly the Galoppen).
My thanks to Helen Kelsey for her work as SWOA Secretary, to Rob Mills 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. Please see Pete's report for details of their successes.

Sad to say that John Warren WIM and Peter Hambleton SARUM died this year.

Christine Vince, chairman 2024-2025

Appendix 2 Fixtures Secretary's Report for 2025 AGM

My role as SWOA fixtures secretary is threefold:

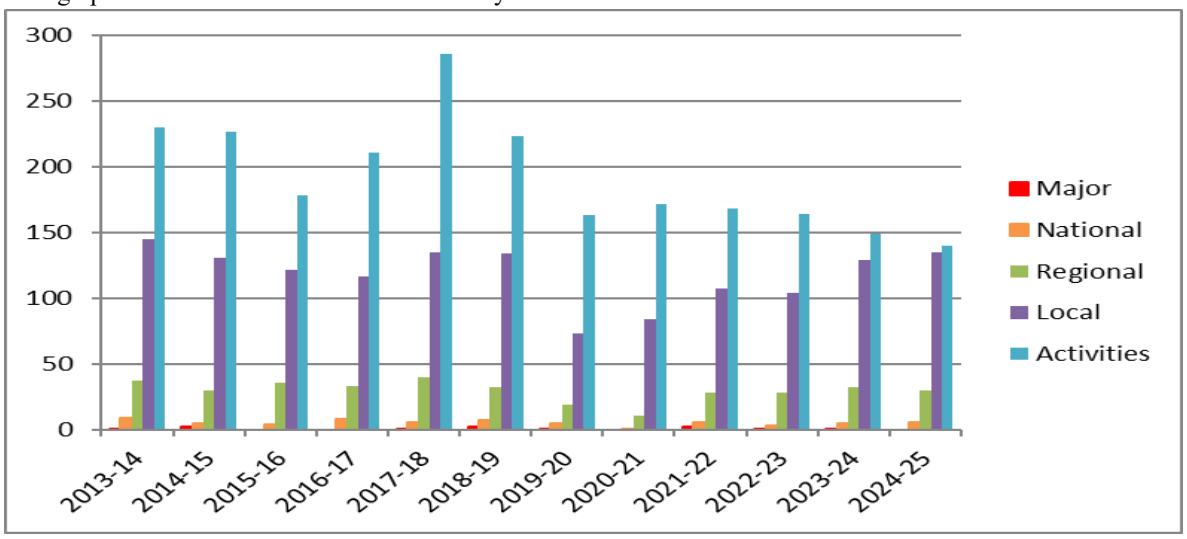
(1) I work with club fixtures secretaries to produce an orderly programme of orienteering across the region,
(2) I assign major competitions that come to our region,
(3) I represent SWOA on the national Event Scheduling Group.

Numbers of events and activities

Here are the numbers of events and activities for the year from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025,

Club	Number of events and activities					
	Major	National	Regional	Local	Activities	Total
BOK	0	1	2	24	62	89
DEVON	0	1	6	10	9	26
KERNO	0	0	5	2	0	7
NGOC	0	1	1	36	0	38
NWO	0	0	2	17	3	22
QO	0	1	4	22	5	32
SARUM	0	2	2	2	7	13
WIM	0	0	4	13	4	21
WSX	0	0	4	9	50	63
TOTAL	0	6	30	135	140	311

Here's a graphic to show the trend over the last 12 years:



In the last two year's AGM reports, it was reported the total number of events and activities to be about 75% of pre-pandemic levels, and this year has again confirmed that pattern with the overall total number of events & activities this year remaining in line with that of last year. Land access/permissions remains a challenge as does securing adequate & suitable car parking and increasing, sourcing of event officials. As has been noted previously, there is a recent shift from activities to local events, this is due to some sessions being classified as events rather than activities. We haven't changed what we do, but we have changed how we label our sessions.

As previously commented by my predecessor, having over 300 events and activities per year reflects a phenomenal effort by large

numbers of mappers, planners, organisers and controllers. My thanks to all those giving up their time to support events and activities at all levels.

Large events

As one of the better resourced Associations we carry slightly more than a fair share of major events although this is becoming increasingly challenging due to access/permissions and associated constraints. In the last 12 months at National level, SARUM hosted the Salisbury City Race as part of the UK Orienteering League (UKOL) and the Sarum Saunter which was also the Southern Championships. DEVON hosted Caddihoe Chase at Braunton Burrows and QO hosted the SW CompassSport Cup qualifier at Croydon Hill. In addition, NGOC & BOK hosted the 2024 JIRCs.

In the next 12 months, after the recent Caddihoe Chase event, WIM will host the SW CompassSport qualifier in February, SARUM is holding the Sarum Saunter in March and BOK is organising the British Sprints and Sprint Relays in June. Further out, the Caddihoe returns in October 2026 with both days likely to be UKOL events, WSX will hold the Southern Night Champs in December 2026 and QO will host the Southern Championships in January 2027.

Unfortunately, SWOA has had to revert to BO to decline JK 2028 after finding, following significant internal discussions, that there were no viable options for hosting the event in the region.

... and finally

I would just like to pass on my thanks to all the club fixture secretaries for all their time, effort and support to myself – it is very much appreciated!

Rob Mills

October 2025

Appendix 3

SWJOS Review of 2024-25

The South-West Junior Squad provides a focus and a series of training activities for developing junior talent within the South-West. Athletes from all nine SW clubs made up the 2024-25 squad, for the first time in many years. SWJOS has had another good year, with 30 active and several more prospective members. We are one of the four largest regional squads and currently have four 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, including a residential camp on Dartmoor.

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
SWJOS finished 3rd behind Scotland and Yorkshire at the 2024 Junior Inter-Regional Champs in the South-West, winning the Boys relay in front of a home crowd. We were third again a few weeks ago in the Lake District, where our team of 24 beat the North-West on their home terrain.

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

Lagganlia 14s:	Ceci Knight KERNO, Alice French WIM, Daniel Wareing BOK
Deeside 15s:	Finley Goddard QO
Czech 16s:	Marcus Perry BOK
Stockholm 17s:	Vince Nagy-Kovacs, James Agombar NGOC
Gothenburg 18s:	Lyra Medlock WSX, Grace French WIM, Harry Bratcher-Howard WIM, Jack Knight KERNO, Ben Perry DEVON

Marcus and Lyra were selected for the European Youth Champs GB team. Esk and Lyra Medlock, Daniel Wareing, Alice French and Harry Bratcher-Howard were selected for the England team for Interland, with Lyra, Alice and Marcus also selected for the Junior Home Internationals.

The Talent South 2024/25 squad contained 8 South West athletes in the squad of 17 and we have 7 representatives in the 2025-26 squad just announced.

However, SWJOS is not just about achievements at a national level and we welcome anyone who wants to travel widely to train and race, improve their skills and have fun as part of a close-knit team of orienteers. It is especially pleasing to see some Kerno and North Wilts juniors joining SWJOS for the first time in many years.

Thanks are owed to all the parents who help and support SWJOS at each training day and to Dave Hanstock, Jim Hayward and Jeff Butt 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 or contact any of the SWJOS families, Dave Hanstock (BOK) or me.

Peter Maliphant
BOK & SWJOS Coach

Appendix 4 **SWOA AGM 2025**

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 since the 2024 AGM. Those wanting a Grade C or B course should contact me.

CONTROLLERS in the SW
SWOA clubs have 62 currently licenced controllers: 3 at Grade A, 18 at Grade B and 41 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. The current one must always be consulted when clubs want to find a controller.

CHANGES Since the 2024 AGM.

GRADE C New appointment: Scott Collier of KERNO
Retired: Katy Dyer, BOK

CLUB	Number of licenced controllers in club			
	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Total
BOK	3	4**	3*	10
DEVON	None	1	7	8
KERNO	None	3	9	12
NGOC	None	3	7	10
NWO	None	None	3	3
QO	None	2	4	6
RAFO	None	None	1	1
SARUM	None	1*	2*	3
WIM	None	1	4***	5
WSX	None	3	1	4
Total	3	18	41	62

Two licensed by **WOA; * One licensed by SCOA; *** 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 mandatory training course and fulfilling the other BOF requirements it is necessary to be approved by both their club and the SWOA committee. Application forms are available from me. Grade A controllers are appointed by the BOF Events and Competitions Committee.

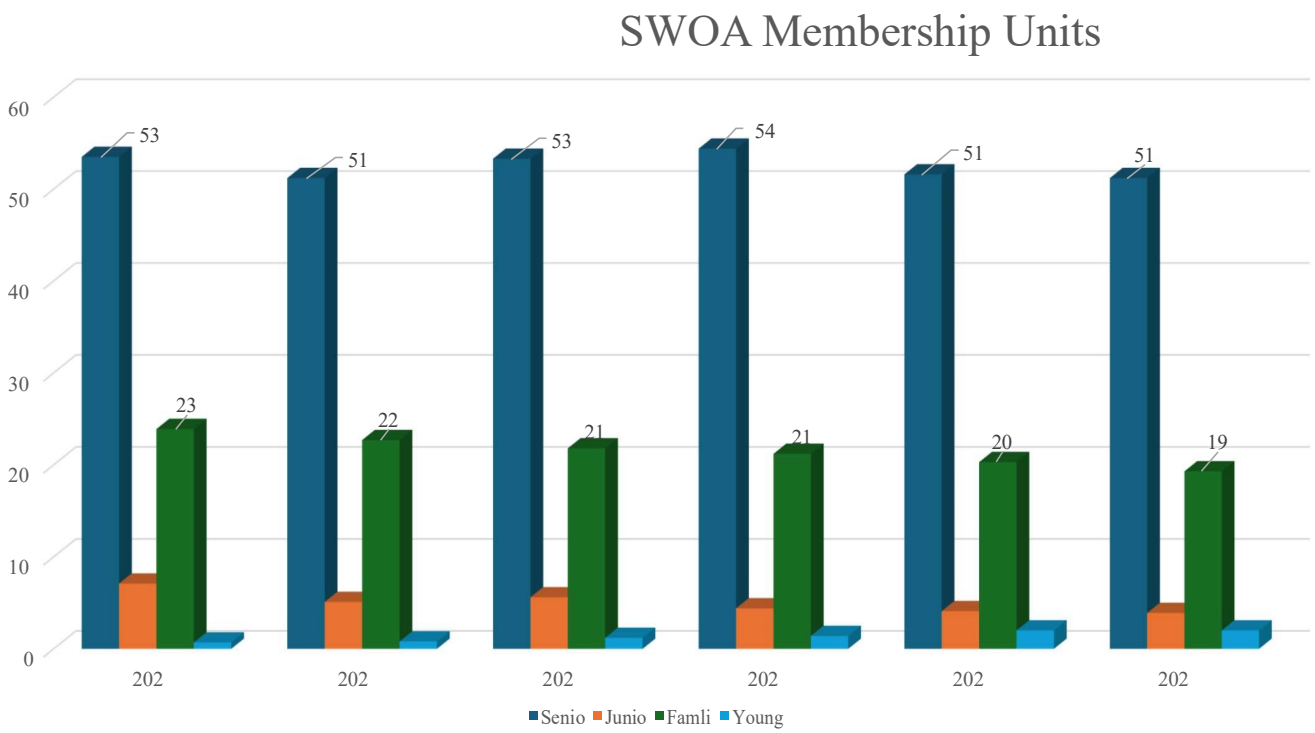
Those retiring from controlling, for whatever reason, need to tell me as well as BOF Office, so that I can keep the SWOA list up-to-date.

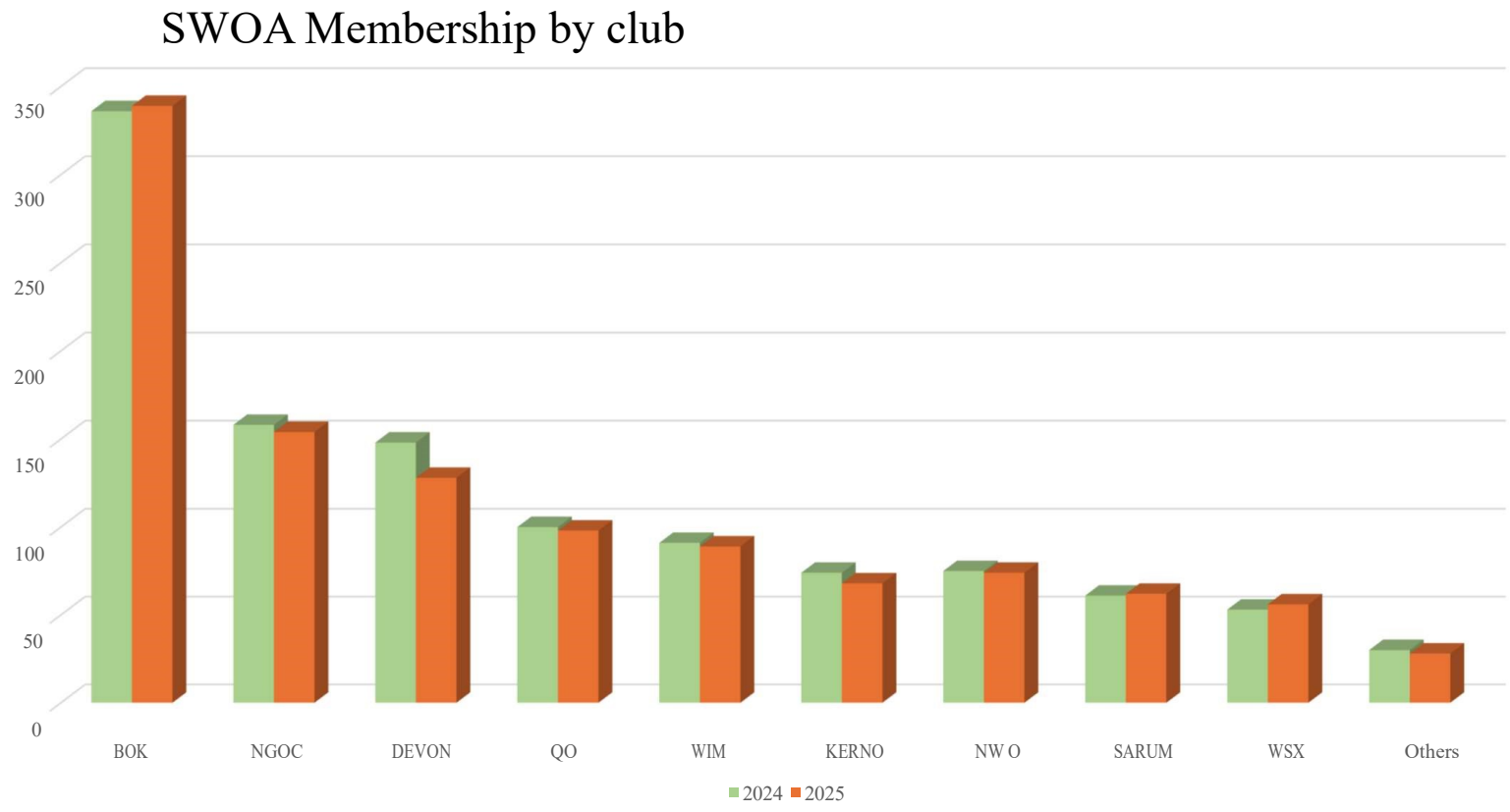
Arthur Vince, KERN O 13th October 2025

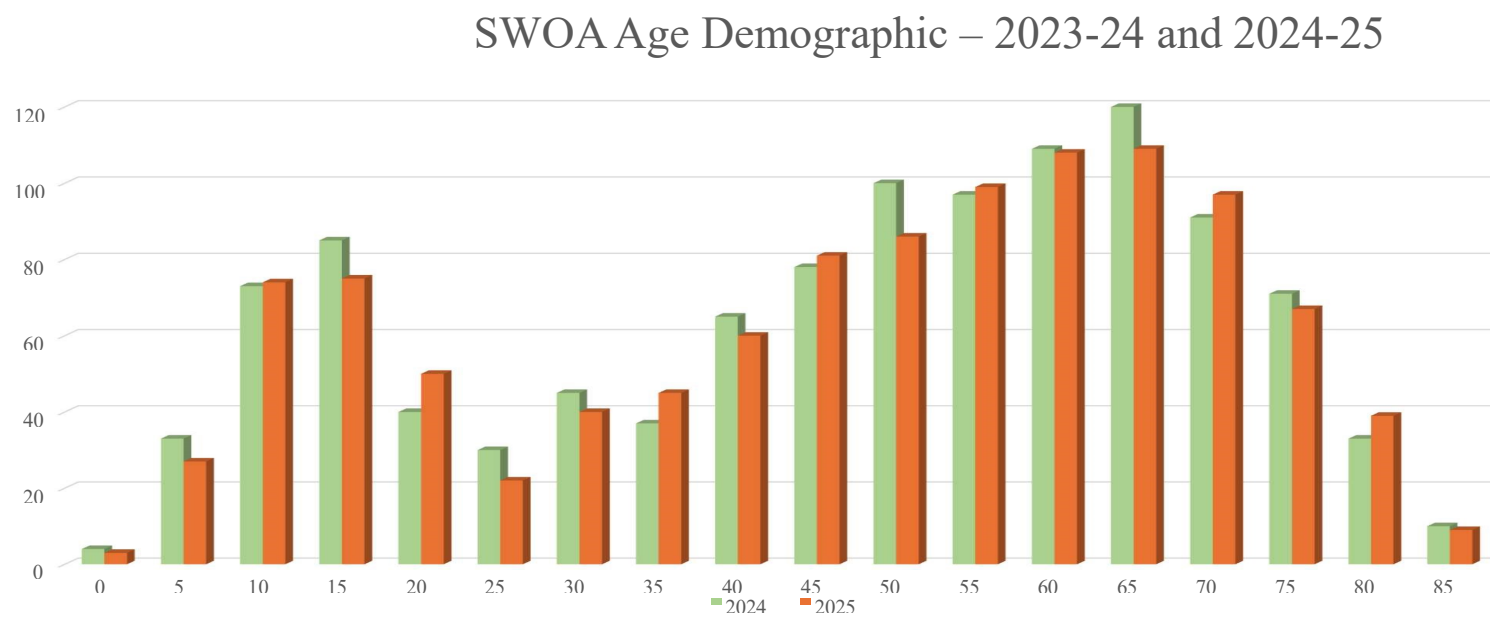
Appendix 5

Treasurer and Membership Secretary's Report

Appendix 5a Membership




SWOA Membership by club
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
BOK
NGOC
DEVON
QO
WIM
KERNO
NW O
SARUM
WSX
Others
2024
2025


SWOA Age Demographic – 2023-24 and 2024-25
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45
50
55
60
65
70
75
80
85
2024
2025

Appendix 5b

Financial report.

SWOA Financial Status -- Full Year 2024-25

2024-25 Financial Year

		Full year 2024-25		Full year 2023-24	Better/(Worse) than 2023-24
Levies	£	8,070	£	7,919	151
Grants		(5,897)		(3,098)	(2,799)
Courses		(1,325)		(144)	(1,181)
English OC		0		(777)	777
VHI - Entry Fee Payments		0		3102	(3,102)
Other Income/Expense		(485)		(407)	(78)
Total	£	363	£	6,595	(6,232)
Total Funds	£	10,448	£	10,089	

Explanation of Change versus 2023-24

Levies

Levy income has continued at a steady level, generating about £8,000 per year.

Grants

A combination of early Junior grant applications in 2023 and payments falling in the 2022-23 financial year (£1,000) plus later applications and payments in 2024 that fell into 2024 -25 financial year (£1,400) has resulted in a significant year over year calendarisation effect when the underlying level of junior grant applications is relatively stable and has shown some decline in 2025.

Courses

SWOA supported a Regional Coching Course organised by BOK and First Aid training for Coaches organised by SARUM.

English Orienteering Council

The timing of the EOC AGM and request to the Regions for Interland and Home International support resulted in the 2025 payment falling into financial year 2025-26.

VHI

SWOA supported the VHI team with the cash flow management for the event - expediture was mainly in 2022-23 financial year and remaining expenses and the entry fee income was received in 2023-24.

Summary

SWOA made a small surplus £363, total funds are broadly unchanged at £10,450.

Outlook

At this point assuming similar levels of club activity, no change in event levies and ongoing success of the Junior Squad -- SWOA should achieve a modest surplus in 2025-26.

SWOA Summary by Account 2024-2025 — Full Year 2024-25

ACCOUNT DETAIL					Income/Expenditure Detail	Summary Level
INCOME						
	Levies	BOK		£	2,019.43	
		DEVON			1,155.12	
		KERNO			214.82	
		NGOC			1,477.98	
		N WO			491.28	
		QO			789.59	
		SARUM			664.51	
		WIM			672.75	
		WSX			585.13	
		Other			0.00	
				£	8,070.61	8,070.61
	Other Income	Interest		£	52.16	52.16
	Total			£	8,122.77	8,122.77
EXPENSE						
	Grants	Junior Squad		£	(1,000.00)	
		Representation	Junior		(562.00)	
			Senior		(175.00)	
		Tours/Training	Junior		(4,160.00)	
			Senior		0.00	(5,897.00)
	Courses	Individuals			(185.00)	
		Clubs			(1,140.00)	
		Other			0.00	(1,325.00)
	English OC				0.00	0.00
	Website				(450.00)	
	Expenses	Committee			(87.49)	
		Competition			0.00	(537.49)
	Misc.				0.00	0.00
	Total			£	(7,759.49)	(7,759.49)

SUMMARY		Income/Expenditure
	Levies	£ 8,070.61
	Grants	(5,897.00)
	Courses	(1,325.00)
	English OC	0.00
	Other Income / Misc.	(485.33)
	Total	£ 363.28

CASH BALANCES

		Current Account	Deposit Account		Total
Opening Balances		5,024.36	5,059.65	£	10,084.01
Transfers	Deposit	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Current	0.00	0.00		0.00
Transacts	Credit	8,070.61	52.16		8,122.77
	Debit	(7,759.49)	n/a		(7,759.49)
Closing Balances		5,335.48	5,111.81	£	10,447.29
Period Change		311.12	52.16	£	363.28

October 7, 2025