

Annual General Meeting of North-East Orienteering Association

11th October 2023

Present: Allen Bannister, Joanne Field, Caroline Mackenzie, Kim Sanderson, Frank Shillitoe, Boris Spence, Paul Taylor, Debby Warren, Allie Wilson Craw, Peter Archer

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Minutes of Meeting on 11th October 2022

Accepted by the meeting

3. Matters Arising

To be discussed during the business of the meeting

4. Officers' Reports

a. **Chair/Secretary (Francis Shillitoe)** [See separate document](#)

b. **Treasurer (Joanne Field)** [See separate document](#) and [Accounts summary](#)

Joanne talked the meeting through the report and received questions.

Of the historic surplus held in the account, £521.04 remain; this provides a cushion for the next two years. NEOA needs to pay EOC Affiliations to Orienteering England each year (this is shown as 206.00 in the 2022-23 accounts).

There would hopefully be further income after we run the British Championships, as profit from these goes 2/3 to British Orienteering (BOF) and 1/3 to NEOA.

There is therefore no need for clubs to top up the NEOA account at this stage.

Caroline Mackenzie: Query as to how much will be paid out to clubs in return for using their kit during the British Championships?

> Clubs will charge 'the Championships' for the use of kit e.g. Sl.

Allen Bannister: In the past, YHOA had split the JK proceeds according to the number of volunteers each club supplied.

Caroline Mackenzie: Volunteers at the British Championships will be charged in full for entry, as per the usual rules, but get a voucher for the traders present at the event.

It was hoped that the previous £5 voucher would increase in line with inflation.

There was discussion of profit being split between the clubs.

The budget will be finalised in November so entries can open in December.

c. Fixtures (Allie Wilson Crow) [See separate document](#)

There have not been too many clashes between events in past year.

Average attendance at events is modest, perhaps 4 or 5 events have attracted over 100 people.

We hope to attract newcomers to the sport.

The British Championships are coming up in 2024, but we could offer to host another major event in 2025 (either the Junior Inter-Regional Championships or British Sprints) [See Any Other Business below].

d. NEJS (Kim Sanderson) [See separate document](#)

e. Technical (Paul Taylor) [See separate document](#)

The Controllers Course went well, and is perhaps best viewed as a workshop for sharing ideas. There had been a good response; however some attendees have yet to upgrade as a result. It was suggested that another course run before too long.

Debby Warren: Northern Navigators don't run many events as a club, but some members will now be able to apply to be the next level of Controller.

Paul Taylor is responsible for submitting changes in Controller levels (within NEOA) to BOF, then if Paul informs Allen Bannister he can add these to the list on the NEOA website.

5. Budget for 2023/24, Proposed Charges and BOF Changes to Fee Structure

Francis Shillitoe: Explained BOF's new fee structure. All clubs present were happy for NEOA not to change the way they charge – i.e. not to charge a fee to NEOA.

6. Appointment of Officers

a. Chair/Sec

It is Northern Navigators' turn in the rotation. Debby Warren proposed Boris Spence, Francis Shillitoe seconded. His duties may include welcoming attendees to the British Championships and writing a welcome for the Championships website.

b. Treasurer

Francis Shillitoe proposed Joanne Field be reappointed, Boris Spence seconded.

c. Fixtures Sec

Allie Wilson agreed to stand again for this year: Francis Shillitoe proposed and Kim Sanderson seconded.

d. NEJS Coordinators

Kim Sanderson and Francis Shillitoe were reappointed

e. Technical

Paul Taylor was reappointed

8. Club Contributions to NEJS

Proportional contributions (of overall NEOA membership) to make up the agreed £1,000 overall contribution were calculated in the Treasurer's report and were agreed at the AGM.

CLOK 125 members = 47.5% = £475.30 contribution

NATO 99 members (108 last year) = 37.6% = £376.40 contribution

NN 39 members (42 last year) = 14.8% = £148.30 contribution

9. British Championships 2024

A meeting will be needed to coordinate matters, an on-site visit was proposed.

There will be a big push for volunteers, so send 'save the date' reminder to club members – and contact them about volunteering.

There was a discussion of accommodation possibilities nearby, as possibilities very close to the event areas are limited.

Paul Taylor: Day 1 start team may need to liaise with the relay organisers about the arena.

A minibus/coach will take elite orienteers from the Day 1 Car Park to the Elite starts in the Day 2 arena. Where will their trackers be applied?

10. Any Other Business

The meeting discussed the Fixtures Secretary's suggestion that NEOA volunteer to host a major national event in 2025. NEOA had held the JIRCs in 2021 so it was not felt appropriate to hold them again so soon (2025). In terms of the British Sprints, there was no firm interest in hosting these in 2025.

It was agreed that it is important to encourage younger orienteers wherever possible, especially young juniors. It should be possible to offer Novices or improvers a 2nd, non-competitive run (whether shorter or longer), subject to map availability, so they can test themselves and/or just for fun!

It was noted that there are particular [restrictions on Junior orienteers on urban courses](#) – people under 16 in age are not permitted to cross main roads.

British orienteering has recently highlighted the importance of safeguarding. Safeguarding risks are everyone's responsibility, and should be [reported through the relevant channels](#). A British Orienteering online safeguarding course is available for £10 and the cost will be refunded by the club.