

Reports April 2024

Name: Ian Jones
Role: Chair
Report: April 2024

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Chair's Challenge – Visited the site, with many thanks to Greg. Assessed assembly and walked the competition areas. Met the landowner for assembly and car parking areas, who has tentatively given permission, but car parking and exact location of assembly will need to wait until closer to the event as it is dependent on rotation of his beef herd.
- Liaison with BOK on the Event Officials course BOK are delivering on 27th April. They are up to 18 attendees with three from NGOC, which is close to the target of 20 attendees.

Tasks Progressing

- Planning underway for Chair's Challenge – need to agree exact format of event; ultra-sprint or micro-sprint?

Tasks Planned

- Contact CompassSport editor about a survey in the newsletter to gauge whether there is enough demand for the Harvester as an event – we met at the JK but I forgot to talk about it then.
- Collect / assemble trophies – for presentation at Chair's Challenge Social:
 - Chair's challenge trophy – presumed lost so a new one is required
 - Most Improved Junior – presumed lost so a new one is required
 - One hazy memory of a long service award – new trophy required
 - Decision needed on a Most Improved Senior award

FOLLOW UP ON LAST MEETING'S DISCUSSION ON CLUB ASPIRATIONS:

We should review how we are progressing with the four aspirations we set ourselves:

1. Help club members improve their orienteering skills
2. Increase the numbers of members qualified as coach, controller, organiser, planner, and first aid responder.
3. Welcome emails to be sent to first-time league competitors
4. Introduce a range of trophies e.g. most improved senior/junior.

Update from SWOA – March committee meeting:

- Any grade C controllers in the club should contact Arthur Vince if they are interested in upgrading to grade B. SWOA needs more grade B and C controllers.
- Open orienteering is free open-source software for mapping which DEVON is currently using to encourage new inexperienced mappers to have a go at mapping see <https://www.openorienteering.org/apps/mapper/>
- Jason Falconer (WSX) is working for Enrich to produce free orienteering maps and resources for schools across the south of England, see <https://enricheducationuk.com/outdoor-learning-and-orienteering/>
- BOK is running a course for new organisers (morning) and planners (afternoon) on 27th April in Bristol. Free to all SWOA members, can attend one or both sessions, see: <https://www.bristolorienteering.org.uk/index.php/events/bok-event-officials-course-organising-planning-events>
- The International Orienteering Federation has revised their standards for orienteering maps since ISOM 2017, which includes about 30 changes. These should be used from now, but will become mandatory in January 2025, so all mappers and planners need to be aware. *See document attached.* The changes are listed on the last two pages.

Name: Vanessa Lawson
Role: Captain
Report: April 2024

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- CompassSport Cup Heat has taken place, sadly due to depleted team we did not advance to the Final.
- JK Relays we had three teams (one 210+, one Ad Hoc and a W48-).
- British Relays today, we did not enter any teams for this event. The distance to travel meant only 9 NGOC members travelled for the individual event yesterday but they were not available today.
- Communicating with parents of juniors to develop junior competence with a view to them being able to run in teams. BOC in 2025 will be in South Wales so it would be good to have a lot of teams then. It has been suggested that a NGOC Juniors Parents WhatsApp group would be useful.
- Liaison with BOK junior coordinator to continue to build links between the juniors in team competitions, where possible, and to take advantage of any local coaching opportunities.

Tasks Progressing

- Communicating with the members regarding the British Mixed Sprint relays on 22 June. So far we have two full junior teams and three partial senior teams, and need more runners.

Tasks Planned

- Further emails to be sent re the Yvette Baker heat (9 June, BOK event), British Mixed Sprints on 22 June and Cotswold Way relay on 6 July. The Peter Palmer relays are also on in September.

NOT IN ROLE:

Other Tasks Completed

- Planning the Tutshill Maprun in May is almost complete.
- Contacted Heather Bovill about her taking on the SWOA badges for juniors, she is happy to do this.
- British Orienteering posted on social media a couple of weeks ago https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/?pg=news_archive&item=6393 about coaching development, so I emailed to ask how one becomes a coach. They are in the process of rolling out a level 2 coach programme and by the end of 2024 hope to have a level 1 coach programme available. To look out for more information as it becomes available.
- Planning for Flaxley league in October – to include some re-mapping. In progress.

Other Matters

- Is there scope for arranging some sprint champs specific coaching/training?

Name: Alan Pucill
Role: Treasurer
Report: April 2024

- Current balances (at 16/04/2024)
 - Current Account £9,501.90 (Prev. report £8,763.00)
 - Deposit Account £15,786.27 (Prev. report £15,710.28)
 - **Total** **£25,288.17** (**£24,473.28**)

- Summary of larger items since last report on **14/02/2024** (rounded figures):

- **Income**

▪ Income from Fabian4 for November and December	
• League	£2260
• Maprun	£352
• WNL*	£804
• Total	£3,416
▪ EOD net income	£293
▪ CSC & JK Relay Entries	£89
▪ Schools (Cleeve School)	£145
▪ Sale of O-tops and t-shirts	£195
▪ Café/shop	£45
▪ Interest	£76
▪ Membership	£74
▪ SW Juniors (Bixslade)	£0
▪ Misc. Income	£18
Total	£4,351

- **Expenditure**

▪ BOF/SWOA/WNL levies	£876
▪ Landowners (PSSC for Leckhampton + NT + Cleeve Trust)	£280
▪ Café Supplies	£90
▪ Sundries (Bank Charges)	£10
▪ Printerbase (including Imaging Unit)	£108
▪ Printer Paper (BML)	£435
▪ Cotswold Way Association Membership	£50
▪ Planners/Organisers/Controllers/Mappers expenses	£157
▪ Equipment (SI station repair + SumUp reader + Tent + sundries)	£505
▪ Golf Club Food	£250
▪ Entries (JK Relay and CSC)	£735
▪ Committee Expenses (Quedgeley Hall)	£31
Total	£3,527

- Income from Fabian4 lags a month behind.

○ Expected income at end of April (from entries made in March)	
▪ League (Sheepscombe + Cranham + Huntley)	£869
▪ Mapruns	£122
○ Expected income at end of May (from entries made in April, so far)	
▪ League (Cranham + Huntley + Leckhampton)	£670

Notes:

- * Includes £250 for meals at the Golf Club.
- Our finances remain stable. I await a decision on a new printer but feel that we could go beyond our original budget if it means getting a printer of high enough quality.

Name: Greg Best
Role: Fixtures/Permissions Officer
Report: April 2024

No report but committee decision needed on NWO request:

Request from North Wiltshire Orienteers (NWO) to borrow an NGOC orienteering area for their SW League event on Sunday 19 January 2025. Greg recommends that we agree.

We have previously loaned them Minchinhampton and Cranham; other options could be Painswick or Woodchester. Greg recommends offering Woodchester Park as it is an area we don't often use.

Name: Pat MacLeod
Role: Equipment Officer
Report: April 2024

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Purchased a small (approx 6 person) tent for use at smaller team events – cost about £100. Reported by Club Captain to be 'perfect' for the job, though very white and clean, so maybe needs a tarp for the floor, which I will look into
- 10 controls returned by SportIdent, 2 beyond repair, including 1 of our 2 Master stations. These are convenient for synchronising controls in a standalone mode – i.e. without a laptop – but the new BSF9 controls are reluctant to be synchronised using them, due to the new design of the control, so I now normally sync the controls using laptop + SI Config+. It's therefore questionable whether we need to replace the failed Master station; these cost significantly more than standard ones.
- Purchased 2 new 3l flasks to replace the failing ones. These flasks are not particularly robust, not being designed for 'field' use such as that to which ours are put, but they have lasted well, and the replacements, seemingly of a similar standard, were cheaper than the originals.

Tasks Progressing

- Considering purchase of a personal ECG machine. See attached notes.

Tasks Planned

- Work with Gary on requirements for Croeso 2024.

NOT IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Helped at lots of events
- With Paul Taunton's help, replaced two posts on the Highmeadow POC, and the signage on a second, the latter having been eaten by, presumably, deer
- Finally added a volunteering page to the club website. It can be found either under "About NGOC", or via a link on the "Beginners" page.

Tasks Progressing

- Ongoing MapRun UK coordination and support, typically 2-3 requests a week from Peter Effenev to respond to new inquiries from UK people
- Ongoing submission of entry details to Fabian for our events, and website maintenance. Fabian are taking quite a long time to publish our events, for various reasons, so we need to submit the events to them earlier than we have been doing.

- Ongoing discussions with a small, informal, coaching/development sub-group on what we can do to improve both
- Mentoring various planner/organisers for upcoming League events, and Croeso 2024
- New map of the Dowards, Now progressing quite well, though still behind the planned schedule. Should be finished by the end of April and looking quite promising.
- Discussions with Caroline Craig and signage suppliers regarding new signage for Crickley Hill POC, and possible replacements for Highmeadow ones, given damage by wildlife.

Tasks Planned

- None

Other Matters

ECG Machine

While the club is not pursuing the purchase of a defibrillator, an alternative might be having a personal ECG machine in the First Aid kit. They are relatively cheap – can be purchased for about £100 – and require minimal training to use. The simplest machines just provide two finger pads, so no setting up of measurement pads etc, and talk to a mobile phone. I don't know if that needs a signal, probably not, in which case I have a spare one we could use.

Club Trophies and Awards

Andy Creber makes bespoke trophies and awards and can do ones to match our requirements. He has a website which shows a variety of examples - <https://trophies-bespoketrophiesawards.godaddysites.com>

Advisers for Novice Planners, and Event Feedback

Feedback from the last two club events, Sheepscombe and Cranham, highlighted some oversights in club procedures. As a result, we will ensure that all planners are assigned an advisor/mentor when they take on an NGOC event.

We should seek regular feedback as part of continuous improvement. We could consider establishing an informal process by which nominated experienced orienteers who attend an event are invited to feed back comments, not just about errors but in general about the courses, what was done well, what less well, and so on – in other words some form of informal continuous professional development. I mentioned this to one or two experienced non-club members at Sheepscombe, and they were supportive of the idea. This would provide both a channel for lessons to be learnt in a constructive manner, and something we can use to demonstrate that we do listen to problems and try to learn from them.

Name: Ian Phillips
Role: Mapping Officer
Report: April 2024

Maps printed since 11th February 2024.

Gloucester South Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £14.10.

WNL Cleeve Hill - 71 x A4 maps and 16 sheets of Control Descriptions (CDs) = £31.60.

***Y toner replaced 24/02/24**

Barnwood Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £14.10.

Sheepscombe League - 193 x A4 maps and 41 sheets of CDs = £92.35.

Yellow Imaging Unit replaced = £86.45.

BOK Army - 50 x A4 maps Great Barnet's Wood & 15 sheets of CDs = £24.10

Stonehouse Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £14.10.

Colwall Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £14.10.

Leckhampton Maprun - 30 x A4 maps = £14.10.

Witcombe and Cranham League - 190 x A4 maps. & 48 sheets of CDs = £91.22.

4 x A4 label trials for Pat = £0.16.

In Stock – In the order of 3000 sheets of A4 and 250 sheets of A3 Pretex. (Additional 2000 x A4 purchased since last report at a cost of £362.50)

Printing Cost – Since last Committee Meeting report = £758.88

Current prices:

Paper is: A3 - 27p, A4 - 19p

Ink is: No longer under contract but was - Colour 14.088p, Black 1.524p. Estimate cost to double! So 47p per A4 map and 4p per CD sheet on reused paper.

Usually CDs are printed on reused maps so no cost for paper.

Name: Ginny Hudson
Role: Membership Secretary
Report: April 2024

1. Membership Figures

As at 29.11.23

Category	Current	Other
Senior	138	3
Junior	30	
Total	168	3

Recent additions:

Heather & David Bovill; Daniel - 8, Ben - 6
Roger & Lisa Hardiman; niece Hannah - 10

As at 17.4.24

Category	Current	Other
Senior	127	4
Junior	30	
Total	157	4

Recent additions:

Russel Hoy, Matt Sanderson, Henri du Toit,
Martin May, Ted Cripps,
(Bob Larcombe rejoined)
(Colin Palmer rejoined as 2nd club)

2. Recent correspondence

Leckhampton High School contacted us regarding help with organising an orienteering activity in their grounds for local primary school children attending this term's Hub Day. Unfortunately, we were unable to help but "The Outdoor Classroom" may be able to assist (this not being a recommendation).