



Quantock Orienteers

Minutes of the Quantock Orienteers Committee Meeting held on Thursday 19 May 2011 at Rosie Wych's house

Club officers

Richard Sansbury (Chairman), Jeff Pakes (Secretary), Roger Craddock (Treasurer), Bob Lloyd (Permissions), Bill Vigar, (Mapping), Mark Maynard (Fixtures secretary), Adrian Edwards (QuOnicle editor), Judy Craddock* (Membership secretary), Brian Fletcher* (Schools) * *non-committee members*

1. Attendees

Richard Sansbury, Roger Craddock, Jeff Pakes, Bob Lloyd, Bill Vigar, Mark Maynard, Adrian Edwards and Rosie Wych

Some items were dealt with out of their agenda order; where this could be material, it is noted.

2. Minutes

2.1 Minutes of last meeting, 10 March

These were approved. The actions arising were dealt with as indicated in italics below.

2.2 Actions arising:

- 4.3 Provide year-on-year membership comparison. *Complete*
- 6.5 Alter wording on maps etc to say "courses close at 3pm (etc)" *Complete*
- 6.6 Rejig QOFL teams at season's close. *Action MM*
- 6.10 Discuss three-date Street-O series with Andy and Will K. *Ongoing RC*
- 6.12 Discuss dates for QOADs series with Will K. *Complete*
- 6.13 Consider Duke's Plantation for Galoppen venue. *Abandoned*
- 7.1 Forward latest version of Northtown school map to school. *Complete*
- 8.3 Put a register and map of POCs in next QuOnicle. *Ongoing RC/BL/AE*
- 9.2 Ask for a Management page tab on Website. *Complete*
- 9.3 Distribute QuOnicle at QOFL6 not Sarum Saunter. *Complete*
- 9.4 Co-ordinate or seek a co-ordinator for SWOA relay series. *Complete*
- 10.1 Approach another candidate about club captaincy. *Complete*
- 11.1 Obtain a suitable map printer. *Complete*
- 11.2 Investigate solution to event printer. *Complete*
- 11.3 Advertise the ending of the provision of free water at events. *Complete*

12.2 Attend the next SWOA meeting. *Complete*

3. Correspondence

3.1 To committee

The secretary had distributed a number of emails received from BOF, SWOA and other external parties since the last meeting and summarised these for the committee. None now require any immediate action.

3.2 Corporate challenge event

Taunton-based solicitors had enquired to Richard about putting on a corporate O challenge. It was agreed that such help could only be given if individuals were prepared to help and if a suitable commercial rate was charged. A Saturday morning event slot was considered best for such an event. *Action RS*

4. Finance

Roger read his report and presented his statement ([Appendix 1](#))

4.1 Financial year end

Roger requested that any expense claims be made by May 31, the new accounting year end.

4.2 Cheque signatories

Roger requested more authorised signatories. Jeff volunteered. *Action RC/JP*

4.3 Grants

Coaching and JOG grants have not been fully utilised yet. Richard asked Roger that any amount not spent be quantified and repaid. *Action RC*

4.4 Annual membership comparison

Roger provided a comparison of membership figures year-on-year. The gradual increase in junior membership aside, Bob queried whether the annual fluctuations were statistically significant.

4.5 Event income

Roger provided a list of income and expenditure by event for 2010/11 showing a healthy surplus, though it was noted that map printing costs are relatively cheap and the SI box loss from QOFL7 was not recorded as an expense.

5. Youth

5.1 JOG

Judy's report was circulated to the committee at the meeting ([Appendix 2](#)).

5.2 Broomfield Hill

Falling within National Family Week, this activity would be advertised in the Gazette. Potentially high numbers of cars would have to park along what was agreed to be a reasonably wide road.

5.3 Adams Avery Relay, nr Bath

Roger had earmarked this as a rare chance for junior club members and families to travel further afield and compete in a team together.

6. Fixtures

Mark's report ([Appendix 4](#)) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Recent events

6.1 QOFL6 Crowcombe Heathfield

The absence of planner's and controller's comments on the website was noted. Richard said there was no requirement as such to post these, though it was "nice to have".

6.2 QOFL7 Cockercombe/ Keeper's Combe

It was felt that the Green course in particular was too long and that the controller (Jeff) should have enforced his preference for shorter courses.

Discussions and interaction with mountain bikers, relating to sharing the forest and car parking, were reflected upon.

Jeff said Liz had volunteered to provide him with extra material for possible use within the website guidelines for organisers.

6.3 Course closing time

Bob questioned whether competitors would understand the message 'Courses close at 3pm' on maps. It was agreed to add an extra line to clarify that participants should aim to be back at the Finish for 3pm. *Action BV*

Future events

6.4 Club Championships

Mark and Will had not communicated on the subject of the score event yet.

Mendip Outdoor Pursuits will be allowed to run a small navigation course for 15 people alongside the club's score event and will be provided with an "all controls" map. *Action BV*

The post-event buffet is to be subsidised by £2 per head. Trophies for the winners will be obtained and presented at the end of the buffet. *Action RC*

Jeff to confirm whether there is a separate room booked for the AGM. *Action JP*

6.5 Urban summer series

Discussions had progressed no further since the last meeting and no fixtures determined. Richard suggested another street-based 2x2 relay on a Saturday in September instead, filling a three-month gap in the events calendar. Roger would approach Dave Holmes for his views and an idea of possible dates, then contact the planner Will Kromhaut and Bob for permissions. *Action RC*

6.6 Long-O

Rosie said she would rely on word-of-mouth advertising and early inclusion of the event on Fabian4, as a boxed ad in CompassSport would not reach her 'target market'.

Why no free ad has appeared in that publication and how Devon OC's 2012 Long O appears on the SWOA fixture planner, despite being only a level D event, are to be investigated. *Actions RS/MM*

A flier has been produced and wording and entry fees settled, though the Day 1 map scale will not be specified as it is dependent on the size of the area the planner Ted Heath decides to use.

The likely effectiveness of a late entry surcharge in generating early entries and hence certainty about the quantity of food to produce, was discussed.

6.7 QOADs 2011/12

A planner/organiser has been found for every fixture and Richard has agreed to control each. Roger expressed concern about whether all competitors are carrying whistles and spare torches. A venue change may be necessary for QOAD3 as ideas on securing controls at Holway have not developed any further.

6.8 Volunteers for QOFL series 2011/12

Mark agreed to approach a few more potential planners. *Action MM*

6.9 QOFL1 St Audries

Parking capacity is considered to be 100 and therefore enough for the ASO (Bristol area schools) event ear-marked to coincide with the QOFL. Bill requested that he is advised of

expected numbers attending before he prints maps.

6.10 Galoppen 2011/12

Anticipating the landlady's preferences, Bob ruled out Duke's Plantation as a venue. With the national motor racing calendar now established, organisers of a motor rally at Croydon Hill may now be willing to settle on a date, so we can now sensibly enquire about use of the venue on 15 April. *Action BL*

7. Mapping

7.1 Map ownership and formats

Bill confirmed to Mark that Dave Holmes had converted Cothelstone Hill to OCAD.

Mark also asked Bill how he could determine whether maps were produced by him or Dave. Richard suggested the production of a maps list. Roger will ask Dave if he can produce a list of maps produced in OCAD format. *Action RC*

7.2 Map integrity and updates

Roger argued that Bill's maps were less prone to tampering than those produced on OCAD because of the exclusivity of Bill's software and methods.

Bob and Adrian spoke of the difficulties of updating maps in OCAD, because of licence costs, version compatibility issues and the expertise required.

8. Permissions & Permanent Courses

Bob's report ([Appendix 3](#)) had been circulated prior to the meeting.

8.1 Permanent courses (POC's)

Richard reported that new members had asked about where these were. He noted both Devon OC and Living Well West Somerset had maps and POC's listed on their websites but Bill warned about the related copyright issues. A list of POC's is to be produced for the July QuOnicle.

8.2 Netherclay

The large turnout at a recent JOG showed potential for a POC at these fledgling woods, suggested Roger.

9. Membership and club media

9.1 Membership

Roger reported that a few new members had joined since the last meeting but the deadline for 2011 membership was soon to pass.

9.2 QuOnicle

There was assent to Adrian's suggestion of a regular club member profile. An equipment list would be published soon. The deadline for contributions for the July issue is 7 July. *Action AE*

10. Club Development

The six-monthly development plan from February was reviewed and actions signed off.

10.1 Club coaching

Roger noted that club coach Nick Fernandes now had a significant pool of people prepared to help or coach at JOG activities.

10.2 Controlling

Brian Pearson had expressed interest in being a controller. Richard clarified that a qualification was not required for controlling a QOFL but for Level C events (e.g. a Galoppen) a one day course and half day safety course was required.

10.3 Club SWOA relays series co-ordinator

Brian Pearson has volunteered to be the contact for the summer relay series.

10.4 Succession planning / AGM

Adrian said he will step down from the committee to try event organising instead. Richard said he will step down from the committee if new blood can be found. There were general thanks, initiated by Bill, for the job Richard had done as chair in a particularly busy three years.

No candidates for chair have emerged. Roger named potential committee members who unfortunately had other commitments.

11. Club Equipment

11.1 Security for SI control boxes

The theft at Cockercombe prompted a suggestion for cable ties to be used to secure the boxes to control stakes, as practised by Devon OC. This raised a storage issue for Rosie to get Andy to adjudicate on. *Action RW*

11.2 SI control replenishment

Following Andy's proposal, the two lost units are to be replaced to bring the total held to 50.

11.3 Event equipment

Jeff is to investigate buying a long bag to hold controls, to aid planners. *Action JP*

11.4 Banners

Roger reported quality issues with the latest banners and the need for repairs to our banners

generally. Rosie volunteered to look at them.
Action RW

12. Any other business

12.1 SWOA Ctte meeting report

Bob had circulated a report prior to the meeting ([Appendix 5](#)).

12.2 Rep for next SWOA meeting

Richard volunteered to attend the next SWOA meeting at Ilchester Town Hall on 29 June.
Action RS

12.3 Use of the Quantocks

Bill observed that some areas are not fully utilised, often due to concerns about parking capacity. He suggested that planners suggest the area they would like to use and then liaise with the organiser to ensure any parking issues are resolved.

Bob advised that some spaces lost at Dead Woman's Ditch could be replaced further along the road. He would approach Andy Harris about this. *Action BL*

12.4 AGM

Rosie gave hers and Andy's apologies.

13. Date and place of next meeting

13.1 Next meeting.

The next meeting will be the AGM at 14.30 on 2 July. Roger has agreed to be meeting chair in Richard's absence. A committee meeting, preferably pre-season (possibly early October), is to be arranged by the new committee. *Action new committee*

13.2 Meeting close

The meeting closed at 22.45.

Actions arising

From previous meeting:

2.2 Rejig QOFL teams *Action MM*
Put a register and map of POCs in next QuOnicle. *Ongoing RC/BL/AE*

From current meeting:

3.2 Respond to solicitors' enquiry *Action RS*
4.2 Become authorised cheque signatory *Action RC/JP*
4.3 Fully utilise grants or repay them *Action RC*
6.3 Amend 'course closure' note on maps *Action BV*
6.4 Club champs: provide all controls map to Mendip group. *Action BV*,
Obtain trophies for AGM *Action RC*,

Confirm room available for AGM *Action JP*
6.5 Ask Dave H about urban event *Action RC*
6.6 Investigate lack of ad in CompassSport *Action RS/MM*
6.8 Approach potential planners. *Action MM*
6.10 Enquire about Croydon Hill for Galoppen on April 15. *Action BL*
7.1 Ask Dave H for a list of maps. *Action RC*
9.2 Introduce member profile feature in QuOnicle. *Action AE*
11.1 Ask IT manager for solution on control security. *Action RW*
11.3 Investigate a bag for controls. *Action JP*
11.4 Assess and repair banners. *Action RW*
12.2 Attend the next SWOA meeting. *Action RS*
12.3 Investigate parking in Quantocks. *Action BL*
13.1 Arrange next meeting. *Action new committee*

Approved
Richard Sansbury, Chairman

Appendices: Index of club officers' report

[Appendix 1](#): Treasurer
[Appendix 2](#): JOG
[Appendix 3](#): Permissions
[Appendix 4](#): Fixtures
[Appendix 5](#): SWOA meeting

Note: All appendices are reproduced as received i.e. not edited, except for presentation, headings, house style and where indicated.

Appendix 1

Treasurer's report

Report and comments on the QO Statement to 19 May 2011

1. The Financial Year now ends in May. A full set of accounts will be presented to the auditor after that.
2. A comparison with the budget for 2010/11 will be given at the AGM.
3. A summary of the financial position is shown overleaf, together with an Events Summary for the year.
4. Income from subscriptions has risen by a further £74 to £658 since the last meeting (cf £471 in 2009/10). Includes £8 subscription from Jim Mallinson (local, non-BOF).
5. Current membership is 78 membership units (46 seniors, 9 juniors, 23 families) of which 42 are local and 36 are national. An increase of 3 membership units from last meeting.
6. The year's income from event entries: £4,766. JOG map/shirt/badge sales: £809.
7. BOF/SWOA grants: £600 for JOG, £238 for coaching (Nick Fernandes), £175 for First Aid training for five members.
8. New equipment expenses: LexMark colour laser printer £394 (with £200 cashback to come), Splits printer £92.
9. £3,000 has been transferred to deposit account (now Santander, but few changes noticed).
10. Subscriptions 2012. Suggest Committee recommends no change to AGM, and leaves charges for next season's events to incoming Committee.

PTO for statement...

QO Membership Statistics

Year	Seniors	Juniors	Families	Memb Units	Local	National	Fees	Comment
2005/6	40	0	36	76	31	45		
2006/7	41	2	24	67	20	47	£ 648.00	£249 was paid to BOF/SWOA
2007/8	48	5	22	75	23	52	£ 448.00	£43 was paid to SWOA
2008/9	43	6	21	70	30	40	£ 426.00	
2009/10	46	8	20	74	35	39	£ 452.00	
2010/11	46	9	23	78	42	36	£ 658.00	after 8 months. Increased fees.

Roger Craddock, 18 May 2011

Appendix 2

JOG report

April / May 2011

We have had only two JOG events since the last QuOnicle, Thurlbear Woods on March 12th and Netherclay Woods on 26th March, both were at new venues.

Jim Mallinson was the first person to plan courses at Thurlbear Woods and many thanks must go to Bill Vigar for mapping the area so efficiently. We were lucky to have a fair if not sunny Saturday afternoon and Nick Fernandes had arranged some training activities for a groups of junior and then older JOG members. The event was well supported and I have included some photos of the participants, some families start them young!

Netherclay Woods saw an amazing turn out. As it's a small, enclosed area it's ideal for young orienteers wanting to have a go by themselves. Nick did some more coaching which was much appreciated by some of our younger members - see the picture in the QuOnicle!

Here is the fixture list for this Summer Term:

Junior Orienteering Fixtures for Summer Term 2011

Events are from 2.00-3.00pm unless otherwise stated

All Welcome!

Sat May 14 th	Longrun/ Castle/ SCAT	TA1 1NW
Sat May 21st	Fyne Court	ST 222 319
Sat May 28th	Queen's College	ST 218 233
Sat June 4th	Broomfield Hill	ST 212 325
Sat June 11th	Kingscliff Wood	ST 270320
Sat June 18th	Cothelstone Hill	ST 201 328
Sat June 25th	Thurlbear Woods	ST 265 213
Sat July 2nd	Castle Neroche *	ST 267 158
	* morning (timing as Club Champs.)	
Sat July 9th	Lydeard Hill	ST181 338
Sun July 3rd	Adams Avery Relays	Dyrham Park

Many thanks to everyone who helps with JOG

Roger & Judy Craddock, 19 May 2011

Appendix 3

Permissions

Permissions for all the Summer Term JOG Sessions, the Club Champs and the Long 'O' Sunday (October 2nd, the Exmoor day) have been obtained.

I am now working on the Long 'O' Saturday (October 1st at St Audries) and will continue with the QOFLs.

I am assuming that if there is a Summer Series, as has been mentioned, it will be a series of street events.

Bob Lloyd 17 May 2011

Appendix 4

Fixtures Report

Review of recent events

Since the last committee meeting on 6th January the following events have taken place:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
12 th March 2011	JOG	Thurlbear Woods	Judy Craddock	Jim Mallinson	
20 th March 2011	QOFL6	Crowcombe Heathfield	Richard Sansbury	Rosie Wych	Andy Rimes
26 th March 2011	JOG	Netherclay Woods	Judy Craddock	Adrian Edwards	
8 th May 2011	QOFL7	Cockercombe	Iain Pye	Keith Bolling	Jeff Pakes
14 th May 2011	JOG	Longrun/Castle/SCAT	Judy Craddock	Mark Maynard	

QOFL6 Organiser's Comments:

I hope you enjoyed the lovely spring weather we organised. It was great to see people hanging around afterwards and enjoying the venue. Conditions were suitable for some strong performances, and well done Will Kromhout for showing us how fast it can be done!

It was only the afternoon before that I found we would be sharing the woods with the 4x4 event. Both groups had permissions from the landowner to use the area, and it is unfortunate that neither party knew the other would be there. This happened before last time we were at Crowcombe, but I'm pleased to say that again there were no incidents. The possibility of an accident was carefully considered but fortunately they were keeping to a part of the wood only used by the more senior courses and they were all finished and off to their next stage before most orienteers were in the area. I'm sorry if anyone felt inconvenienced by this. We are now well aware of their annual charity event, and will make sure this does not happen again. For those interested, the format of the 4x4 event was like a score event with orienteering kites and pin punches on various obstacles in the wood.

Thanks to all who helped. Team 2 was quite depleted, as many come from the Yeovil area and were heading east to the Sarum Saunter. So special thanks to those who stepped in at the last minute to fill the gap.

Richard Sansbury
March 2011

QOFL7

Planners Comments

The challenge in planning interesting courses within the normal code boundaries of BOF rules was always going to be a tricky affair with a valley bottom start, steep sides and limited control sites! The blue course was a touch long with the 375m hill climb being an extra test. However a winning time of 55mins seemed to put all that into perspective! The green course was also quite tough and interesting in that so many runners all finished in, or around 80mins! Having two starts helped to give the 'senior' courses that bit of extra individuality and reduce potential problems at the finish. The other courses all ran up south of the road and provided some interest and good views out over Bridgwater Bay. Overall a good day was had. Special thanks to the organisers Liz and Ian for pulling it all together (and the bacon bap) and to Bill for his excellent (as usual) map work and advice on 'tweaking' a few courses. Thanks also to Jeff for his last minute work on getting the courses finished and all the 'windscreen notes' left during our trundling around the site. Roll on next year season!

Keith Bolling

PS, Extra thanks to the mysterious club horticulturist who cut down a lot of the Rhododendrons up the narrow track leading up the south hill side.

May 2011

Controllers Comments

OK, the courses were physically tough and overlong but you know what to expect- it's the Quantocks! Though if Keeper's Coombe was not a place for faint hearts then they stayed away, judging by the lack of people retiring. Well done and thanks to all those who battled on regardless.

The clement weather we've been enjoying held up despite a blip on Friday & Saturday when thunder and lightning arrived. The accompanying rain made brashings more slippery and softened the steep slopes used in the contouring sections on the Light Green course and upwards. Control sites were also disappearing under rapidly-sprouting undergrowth fed on the warm, bright, wet conditions.

Permissions issues had deprived Keith of the best terrain and some of his early work and restrictions on his time appeared to persist right up to the last minute. Despite this, I thought Keith did an excellent job in squeezing as much interest out of an area generally lacking in control sites and runnable forest. During the (also) limited time I had available to control, I concluded that the physicality couldn't be planned out of the basic course shapes and ideas without sacrificing technical challenge.

Unfortunately Orange suffered from the loss of a control unit. Not one competitor used the back-up punching method available! For the uninitiated (and those who know but forgot), attached to each control stake is a pin-punch (as used at JOG) with which to clip your map. Being nice, we've given you all the benefit of the doubt in the results but might not be so lenient next time!

Still on results, it facilitates their processing if ALL boxes on your registration slip have been filled in. If in doubt, please ask, particularly on the often confusing issue of whether your child's run is competitive or not.

Jeff Pakes
May 2011

Organiser's Comments

Firstly we would like to thank everyone who helped Iain & I with our first event as Organisers, we were lucky to have plenty of helpers on the day including my parents. It makes you appreciate the wealth of experience within the club & what a skilled bunch of members we have. It felt a pretty relaxed & a very sociable event but good weather always helps too. We had a good turn out with over 70 entries and it is so encouraging to see so many families enjoying our events.

Keith Bolling (Planner) did a sterling job of planning the courses despite having to re-plan due to the presence of nesting birds on Aisholt common. He made best use of the area by having two starts, & judging by the gradients maximum usage of hills for the longer courses!! But we expect nothing less from the Quantocks.

Well done to Judy Craddock welcoming all at registration & kindly showing my Mum the ropes. Roger Craddock, Tony Milroy, Dave Holmes & Brian Pearson in turn efficiently manned the Starts & Finish. Thanks to Jeff as Controller and for stepping in and being in charge for a short period so I could get a run in. Thank you to those who were flexible & filled in the odd gap with jobs if runners were a bit later returning from their course, namely Graham & Jim Pearson. The downloading was as always efficiently run by Andy Rimes (in luxury campervan accommodation of course!!) with back up from Rosie Wych & Keith. Last but by no means least the car parking was organised by Norman Harvey & Dad (Tom Pyne).

Bob did a good job by charming the local farmer into allowing us to use the field for parking. One area to address for future will be where possible informing the regular downhill mountain bikers when our events are so we don't clash with them. Therefore hopefully minimising risk of injury from collisions.

Sadly we had one control stolen, which apparently wasn't even on the track.

Liz Pye
May 2011

Future Events

The diary looks like this:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
21 st May 2011	JOG	Fyne Court	Judy Craddock	Robert Green	
28 th May 2011	JOG	Queen's College	Judy Craddock	Amy Hallett	
4 th June 2011	JOG	Broomfield Hill	Judy Craddock	John Trayler	
11 th June 2011	JOG	Kingscliff Wood	Judy Craddock	Lloyd Williams	
18 th June 2011	JOG	Cothelstone Hill	Judy Craddock	Jim Mallinson	
25 th June 2011	JOG	Thurlbear Woods	Judy Craddock	Chris Philip	
2 nd July 2011	JOG	Castle Neroche	Judy Craddock	Ian Husband	
2 nd July 2011	Club Champs	Neroche	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout (note :Bill volunteered to set out on the day)	
9 th July 2011	JOG	Lydead Hill	Judy Craddock	Jim Nicholls	

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
1 st /2 nd October 2011	Long-O	Doone Valley (St audries for Saturday Score?)	Rose Wych (day 2)	Ted Heath (day 1) Martin Longhurst (day 2)	Bill Vigar?
20 th November 2011	QOFL1	St Audries		Graham Hartley	
26 th November 2011	QOAD1	Dead Women's Ditch, Quantocks	Brian Pearson	Brian Pearson	
10 th December 2011	QOAD2	St Audries	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	
18 th December 2011	QOFL2	Lydeard Hill, Middle Hill, Aisholt Common and Muchcare Wood, etc		Jim Mallinson	
1 st January 2012	Xmas Novelty	Sheldon			
14 th January 2012	QOAD3	Holway (Taunton Streets) Note: venue may change for security reasons)	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	
29 th January 2012	QOFL3	Culm Davy (Officials and helpers park at Keepers Cottage. Competitors walk to there along the quiet lane from parking in a field at top of Wrangcombe Road. 700m)			
12 th February 2012	QOFL4	Cothelstone Hill and Twenty Acre Plantation		Andy Rimes	
18 th February 2012	QOAD4	Triscombe Stone	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson	
3 rd March 2012	QOAD5	Castle Neroche	Chris Philip	Chris Philip	
25 th March 2012	QOFL5	Priors Park Wood			
15 th April 2012	Galoppen	(Galoppen) venue to be confirmed (assuming Croydon not available)			
13 th May 2012	QOFL6	Staple Hill			

Discussion

Club Championships: As far as I know, Will is progressing with the Club Championship planning and Bill will assist in the putting out of controls. Eagle Tavern to be booked for AGM. Committee to discuss any outstanding actions (e.g advertising)

Long-O: I think I / we still need to find organiser for Day 1.

QOAD series. All events populated. It seemed that the regulars were all willing to plan one event next year

QOFL series: Will need to begin/continue with process of finding volunteers. I will issue new list of 'teams' shortly.

Galoppen: Location to be determined, I think we agreed to keep the same date. Planners/Controllers/Organisers etc still to be found

Dates suggested to John Shucksmith for 2012/2013 but subject to revision following publication of other regional events. Dates still not confirmed:

QOFL 1: 28 October 2012
 QOFL 2: 18 November 2012
 QOFL 3: 16 December 2012
 QOFL 4: 20 January 2013
 QOFL 5: 24 February 2013
 QOFL 6 24 March 2013

Mark Maynard 13 May 2011

Appendix 5

Notes about SWOA committee meeting 6 April 2011, Ilchester

1. Registered organisers

A list of registered organisers is supposed to have been sent to clubs, although not all of the committee members seemed to be aware of this. It is also supposed to be possible for any individual BOF member to check their status (i.e. whether or not they are a registered organiser and other things) by logging in, using their personal login details. Again, some members weren't aware of the personal login facility. I was one of them.

I did not find out what the exact significance of being or not being a registered organiser is. Perhaps some of you already know.

2. Funding for coaching

The treasurer proposed reducing the reimbursement for coaching, as the costs under the current scheme are certain to rise and are probably unsustainable in the long term. The discussion became so complicated that I couldn't fully understand it in a verbal discussion: there are several possible different parts of the overall cost that can be reimbursed and each can be treated differently. However, I believe the outcome was that the current 50% contribution for the actual course cost will remain but the travelling reimbursement will be reduced. I lost track of what was concluded about overnight stay costs.

However, Arthur Vince is going to summarise the new rules and put them on the SWOA web site as soon as possible. He also said that he would be sending out the minutes very quickly. This was in answer to comments from some, including me, that the new rules must be fully available before anyone starts booking the next coaching course. Apparently, all courses that are under way at the moment and/or already paid for will be reimbursed at the old rates.

The Treasurer said that there was enough money in the bank to carry on funding coaching on this basis for quite a while and that if the outgoings became worrying the matter could be reconsidered and possible changes made at any meeting.

3. Fixtures

The 2014 Senior Home International will be run by BOK in the Forest of Dean.

Pre-entry for Galoppens.

Apparently there has been some grumpiness about Wessex charging £9 for their galoppen on the day but only £7 if pre-entered on their web site. After a lot discussion, it was agreed that clubs can use pre-entry or any other charging system they like but that Wessex should have made it clearer in the pre-event publicity exactly what the charging system was. Richard Arman agreed that the pre-event information needed to be made clearer next time.

John Shucksmith asked clubs to send their comments to him in answer to the question "Does the SW want to bid for the British Championships in 2015?"

4. SWOA Development Plan

Christine Vince spoke about this. The points I gathered were:

Being a "Participating Club" can involve getting support from BOF. Quite a lot of cash can be involved. "Community 'O'" was mentioned quite a lot and seems to be more or less what Judy Craddock is doing, although there is an emphasis on using the same venue every week. I mentioned that QO JOG had found that interest tended to drop off when this was done in Taunton.

Again help from BOF is said to be available. "Parachuting in trained coaches" seemed to be one of the possibilities. There is supposed to be money available to pay coaches.

Perhaps others know about all of this already.

5. AOB

John Dyson said that consultation is ongoing about what the government is going to do about the FC forests, so the possible problems have not gone away. Clubs are still advised to write to their MPs pointing out how important forests are for recreation, etc.

6. Circulars to secretaries

It was stated that a questionnaire was sent round asking something like "what % of each club's areas involved FC controlled land" and that of all the clubs in the SW only Wessex sent a return in. I would like to know what our version of this is, as it seems surprising that either Jeff did not receive the questionnaire or (even more surprising) did not pass it on or take action.

Bob Lloyd 7 April 2011