



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Quantock Orienteers

Sunday 1st September 2013 at the Farmers Arms, Combe Florey

Present:

Mike Crockett (club president, acting as AGM chairman), Richard Sansbury (secretary), Roger Craddock (treasurer), Chris Hasler, Spencer Modica, Sarah Hasler, Bill Vigar, Andy Rimes, Rosie Wych, Mark Maynard, Jeff Pakes, Bob Lloyd, Julia Robertson, Steve Robertson, Judy Craddock.

1 Apologies for absence

Norman Harvey

2 Minutes of the 2012 AGM

Minutes of the last AGM had been available on the website since 17 September 2012. The minutes as published were accepted as correct (proposed Roger Craddock, seconded Chris Hasler).

3 Matters arising from the 2012 AGM

There were no matters arising.

4 President's report

In the absence of a chairman and hence a chairman's report, Mike Crockett presented a report as follows:

Welcome.

This has been another very challenging year for Quantock Orienteers. For the second year running we have been without a chairman. Hence I am giving this report in my capacity as Club President. To overcome the lack of chairman the committee continued for a time to rotate the role at the committee meetings and that person carrying on the responsibility until the next meeting. This approach worked well and I congratulate the committee on the amount they have achieved and thank them on your behalf. However towards the end of the year Bob Lloyd offered to chair the meetings and I am wondering if he should be sitting here now. Thank you Bob for taking on the role. Also I am sure none of them will feel aggrieved if I give a special mention of Richard and Roger who do so much to keep the club running.

Added to the nominated committee there are many others, too numerous to mention, who have given their time to enable us to enjoy our sport. Many thanks to them.

There have been two sad events during the year.

In November Dave Holmes died after a very long fight against his illness. A service was held at Taunton crematorium followed by a gathering at Kingston St Mary Village Hall. Many club members and friends of Dave were there. As you all know, Dave did an enormous amount of work for the club. On the 6th July we held an urban event as a memorial to Dave which was attended by many club members and also friends from neighbouring clubs. Virtually every club in the South West was represented, which reflects the esteem in which Dave was held in the area.

In January John Pilkington, a founder member of QO and for many years a very active member of the club died at the age of 92. John had been a resident at a nursing home at Sandford for sometime. A celebration of John's life and interment of his ashes took place at North Newton in February. Several members of the club attended along with other members of South West Orienteering. An insight into John's many varied activities was given both at the service and afterwards at the Walnut Tree in North Petherton.

Maybe it is time to reflect on the fact that we are all getting older. It is therefore good to see younger members coming forward and taking responsibilities. Long may this continue.

We have had our full quota of events this year with a galoppen, which was held despite the difficulties created by the Ash dieback. Our popular Long O was held on Exmoor. The forest league was held with a full complement of events and the "afterdark" series although not too well supported was enjoyed by those who participated.

It goes without saying that the JOG series is a very important and worthwhile part of the club's activities. Judy and Roger who, with the help of many others, give up their time sometimes in appalling weather deserve all our thanks.

Once more we participated in the South West Relay competition. We were represented at all six events finishing in third place. Chris Hasler took on the responsibilities of team captain and, despite some pretty appalling performances by those who should know better, was always cheerful.

What of the future?

Mark has produced a full fixture list which is available on the club website.

QuOnicle continues to thrive and has not missed a deadline since it was started.

Pete Akers is trying to get an initiative going in the Yeovil area.

We are slowly trying to update the Copley map and combine it with the Combe Hill permanent course map. We have a very supportive landowner which bodes well for the future providing we can get the map up together.

Watch out for more major events which are being held nearby. The Southern Nights is being staged by Wimborne, the British Nights in the South East of England and I believe there some major events in the Forest of Dean coming soon.

Richard can probably give you more information on these.

There is of course the Galoppen series where Quantock are always well represented.

Whatever you choose to do enjoy your orienteering

I have mentioned several people by name but there are many others who do a vast amount of work behind the scenes, without whom we could not exist, and so again I thank them all.

Mike Crockett Club President

5 Secretary's report

Richard Sansbury presented the following report

This is a report on what the committee has been doing over the past year. The committee meets every 2 months and by far the main items discussed are finance and upcoming events. These matters are covered by other reports to follow, so this report on some of the discussions that may not come up elsewhere on the agenda.

We have invested in some new club O-tops, i.e. running shirts. The committee agreed the new design and agreed a float to pay up front for the first batch. In view of the cost, extensive efforts were made to find a commercial sponsor for the new tops, but unfortunately we did not manage to secure one. To make the tops more affordable, the committee has agreed to subsidise the costs out of club funds, which should bring the price in line with other orienteering clubs in the region. Credits go to Judy Craddock for promoting this initiative and dealing with the suppliers, and to Chris Hasler for investigating sponsors.

This year saw some changes in our mapping team. Bill Vigar remains the club's leading mapper, providing up-to-date maps for our larger events, but many of our newer areas, such as our urban mapping and many of the smaller areas used for JOG, have been mapped using OCAD mapping software, formerly maintained by Dave Holmes. As you all know Dave passed away in November, and Jim Mallinson has taken over as our leading OCAD mapper.

The committee has recognised the importance of the website to the club. Nathan Fernandes does a great job updating and maintaining the website for us, but in order to reduce our reliance on one

individual, we have given Andy Rimes the ability to upload results directly, and we are looking for other ways to keep the website reliable and up to date.

We discussed whether the club should give active encouragement for club members to travel to events outside our local area. It was decided that although this might be a worthy aspiration, we should concentrate our limited resources on supporting our own local events and initiatives. The club did not participate in the CompassSport Cup this year, but continued to subsidise entries to the SWOA summer relay series. Credit goes to Chris Hasler for organising teams to attend all the events in the series, achieving a credible 3rd place for QO.

The committee has discussed safety issues and renewed the first aid policy and missing competitor procedures. Particular attention has been given to night events, where one unfortunate individual got caught out by a headtorch failure and had to be rescued. Lessons have been learnt and the club has agreed a policy for night events and invested in various torches for use by competitors and helpers.

After some concerns from organisers about getting enough helpers, we discussed volunteering and team system used to provide the manpower at our forest league events. After looking at alternatives, the committee agreed that the team system was the best for the club's needs so we are continuing with that arrangement with some minor improvements.

There is a possibility for QO to return to the Mendip area. We used to regularly use Copley Wood for events, but permissions difficulties on a key part of the area eventually made this impractical. However we are actively pursuing a suggestion by Mike of combining the remaining part of Copley Wood with recently mapped Combe Hill and we hope to have an event there soon. Bob Lloyd, who puts in substantial efforts to get landowner permissions for all our events and activities, will be following this up.

Richard Sansbury Club Secretary

6 Treasurer's report

a. Accounts for the year ended 31 May 2013

Roger Craddock presented the following financial report for the Period from 1st June 2012 to 31st May 2013, to be read in conjunction with the Income & Expenditure and Balance sheets in Appendix 1.

The layout of the Income & Expenditure Account shows:

- Income on the L.H.side – mainly subscriptions, events, and JOG.*
- Expenditure on the R.H.side – Both have comparison figures with 2011/12.*
- Development costs and grants are shown*
- A large amount of income is received in cash, so the I&E account shows both ledger and petty cash balances. .*

Income:

- 1. Subscriptions income is down, but more than covers QuOnicle and administration expenses. The Committee is proposing a reduction in fees in order to encourage membership.*
- 2. Income from events is mainly from the QOFL Series, but a variety of types of events is important for raising profile and commitment.*
- 3. 1/3rd of entries is from juniors. Often 50% of QOFL entries are from Juniors.*
- 4. The Junior Orienteering Group (JOG) is almost self-financing. It also helps the club because:*
 - It is a source of new members, both families and juniors – even Committee members!*
 - Source of map updates, events, clothing, and equipment.*
- 5. The Development Grant from British Orienteering 2011-14 was paid in full in April. The application for a PostCode Lottery grant for Community Orienteering in S.Somerset was turned down.*
- 6. £3,000 has recently been transferred to the deposit account. The balance now stands at approx £12,000.*

Expenditure:

- 1. Increase in access and levy fees in 2013. Further increases are anticipated next year as levies are increasing and a full year is applied.*
- 2. Large items of expenditure on equipment this year have included replacement SI items and a new set of stakes for JOG.*
- 3. To encourage JOG planners, mappers, and coaches we have offered vouchers in a similar way to the rewards offered to planners and organisers of QO events.*

The accounts show an increase in funds of approx. £1500 this year. We are building up a reserve of funds to protect the Club against a future need to pay for surveying, mapping, publicity, and replacing equipment.

The Club's thanks are due to Norman Harvey for giving freely of his time and efforts to verify our accounts.

Roger Craddock Club Treasurer

The accounts were accepted by the club, with thanks to Norman Harvey for auditing the accounts (proposed Richard Sansbury, seconded Chris Hasler)

Norman Harvey had asked that a vote of thanks be given to Roger for preparing the year's accounts (proposed in advance by Norman Harvey, seconded Mike Crockett)

b. Membership fees for 2014

Roger Craddock presented the committee's recommendation for membership fees.

Membership has reduced. Despite the reduction in British Orienteering fees and the elimination of the SWOA membership fee, the removal of family membership and local membership with British Orienteering has made the cost to a family remain quite high. The committee has agreed more needs to be done to encourage regular independent participants to become members. Therefore the recommendation was to reduce the club fees as follows:

family membership	£10 (was £12 in 2012)
senior membership	£7 (was £8 in 2012)
junior membership	£2 (was £2 in 2012)

The intention is to increase the member benefit further in entry fees. It is intended to increase the cost of JOG from £1 per map to £1 per non-member, 50p per member, and increasing the entry fee senior member discount for main events from £2 to £3, although setting entry fees was a matter for the committee rather than the AGM. There was a query as to whether this was compatible with the rules as £2 is standard, but it was thought this might only apply to the Galoppen.

The membership fee proposal was agreed unanimously (proposed Roger Craddock, seconded Steve Robinson)

7 Fixtures Secretary's report

Mark Maynard presented the fixtures report, see Appendix 2.

The programme for the coming season was coming together although some gaps remained. The night events were not scheduled as yet, but there would be a QOAD series.

Unfortunately the first QOFL of the season will clash with the Kerno Galoppen.

Chris Hasler will be gradually taking over as fixtures secretary for next season.

8 Membership Secretary's report

Judy Craddock read out the membership report

Membership this year has shown:

- a decrease in family membership 26 down to 18
- an increase in senior membership 40 up to 43
- a decrease in junior membership 7 down to 6.

This makes 67 membership units – a decrease of 6 from last year. There is NO local membership now. We noted last year that local membership had doubled in the previous 5 years, but British Orienteering removed the option.

We lost two valued members of our club this year: John Pilkington who died in January this year, had been one of the founding members of QO, and Dave Holmes in whose memory the TAUNT'O' event was dedicated. A memorial Oak tree has been planted on one of Dave's maps at Longrun Meadow and will be dedicated next Sunday.

We welcomed two new families to QO membership this year: the Hill family from Bridgwater, and the Atkinson family from Yeovil. Keiron Hopkins joined us from JOG to enable him to run at the JK. Welcome back to Brian Fletcher and Steve Elliston. We have had two more new members this summer.

Our fees are now made up of 2 component payments to:

- BOF (£5 per adult and £2 per child).
- QO (£8 per adult, £2 per junior, £12 per family)

SWOA removed their membership fee last year. Their AGM comes next w/e, when they will decide whether to continue at zero fee. If they decide to charge QO will expect a family membership to be an option.

The new Club shirts have arrived, but were not delivered in time for this meeting. A picture of them is on display at the back. Leave your name if you would like to try one on – the Committee have agreed to subsidise them.

Judy Craddock

9 Junior Orienteering Group Report

The JOG report from Judy Craddock was read out by Chris Hasler

There have been 31 events during the last 3 terms including the 6 QOFL events that have also been included in the JOG calendar. On average over this period, we have had 50 people at each event.

20 QO members planned JOG events during the year, so many thanks to everyone who gave their time to do this. We have managed to maintain about the same numbers coming to events over the last 2 years.

Some JOG families have joined QO but not as many as we would have hoped, we are unsure why people are not making this transition.

Mike Crockett ran another JOG planners' course in August, the first step needed to encourage JOG members to become more involved in orienteering. In May James Green (aged 13) planned the Wind Down event and his brother Chris (aged 11) planned the Twenty Acre Event in June. Bill Vigar acted as Controller for James and Rosie Wych was Controller for Chris. Both James and Chris planned excellent courses and managed the organisation of everything involved with planning events with great maturity, so well done to both boys.

You might have noticed too that the Club Champs have been planned by another JOG member, Tom Hasler, we're very proud of these young folk.

QO have been involved with promoting orienteering in other situations and venues and since June 2012 have put on Come and Try it events at Longrun Meadows, Millfield, Frenchweir Park, Vivary Park and Goodlands Gardens.

An interesting development has been the suggestion from Pete Akers that South Somerset start a local group to encourage orienteering in that area. The initiative started with an event at the Quedam Shopping centre, part of an SASP programme to encourage people to join sports clubs and become more active and has continued with a follow up event at Ninesprings.

The group will then be putting on a short score course at Ham Hill Country Fayre and Brian Fletcher has offered to put on a further event in the Autumn term at Montacute. Hopefully this will be the beginning of a series of small events in South Somerset and anyone living in the area who would like to be involved is most welcome.

Bill Vigar and Jim Mallinson have continued to adapt maps to suit the various courses set and Will Kromhout has mapped several new areas for us too.

JOG has now got orienteering T shirts and Sweatshirts available for sale, if you are interested please ask for more details.

Without the active support of so many QO members JOG would be unable to function, we would like to thank everyone who has given their time in: planning, coaching, drawing and printing maps, helping at registration, turning up to support and being roped in to help coach! We also appreciate that many people offer help on a very regular basis and are grateful for this.

Roger and Judy Craddock

10 Amendments to the constitution, see note 2 below.

Any proposed amendments had to be notified in writing in advance, and none had been received.

11 Elections

a. Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer

Bob Lloyd was elected Chairman (proposed Roger Craddock, seconded Andy Rimes)

Richard Sansbury was elected Secretary (proposed Chris Hasler, seconded Roger Craddock)

Roger Craddock was elected Treasurer (proposed Richard Sansbury, seconded Jeff Pakes)

b. four to six other committee members

The following were elected as committee members: Bill Vigar, Rosie Wych, Mark Maynard, Chris Hasler, Jim Mallinson, Julia Robertson (all proposed Mike Crockett, seconded Bob Lloyd)

c. President

Mike Crockett was elected President (proposed Richard Sansbury, seconded Judy Craddock)

12 Any other business

a. Parkrun

Roger Craddock suggested that QO get involved with Parkrun. This is a national scheme organising 5km runs usually in parks every Saturday morning. Roger said that Dave Bullock was starting a Parkrun based at Long Run and invited QO members to assist with the marshalling. There was a query whether this might adversely affect JOG, but possibly this would be a way of promoting orienteering. Anyone interested to contact Roger.

b. Long-O

Andy Rimes raised the matter of safety at the Long-O. This event is organised "on a shoestring" with few helpers. Andy's concern is that if there were an emergency there would be few on hand to deal with it. After a short discussion it was decided that this was a matter for the committee to discuss.

APPENDIX 1 - INCOME & EXPENDITURE AND BALANCE SHEET

[Not included in website version of the minutes - QO members may contact the Secretary for a full version]

APPENDIX 2 - FIXTURES REPORT

Review of year's Events

Since the 30th June 2012 AGM Meeting, the following events have taken place:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
30 th June 2012	Club Champs	Ham Hill	Robert Green	Robert Green	Robert Green
23 rd Sept 2012	QOFL1	Ramscombe	Roger Craddock	Mark Maynard	Jim Mallinson
29-30 Sept 2012	Long –O	Croydon Hill / Pinkery	Croydon Hill / Pinkery	Jeff Pakes & Rosie Wych	Andy Rimes & Martin Longhurst
18 th Nov 2012	QOFL2	Buckland Wood	Adrian Edwards	Bill Vigar	Sue Gard
16 th Dec 2012	QOFL3	Hart Hill / Floorey Down	Adrian Edwards	Andy Rimes	Rosie Wych
1 st Jan 2013	Xmas Novelty	Kingscliff Wood	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley
20 th Jan 2013	QOFL4	Broomfield and/or Wind Down	Roger Craddock	Rosie Wych	Andy Rimes
3 rd March 2013	QOFL5	Blackborough North	Mark Maynard	Spencer Modica	Bill Vigar
7 th April 2013	Galoppen	Rectory Wood / Ashley Combe/Great Bear / Bin Combe	Richard Sansbury	Sue Gard	Jim Mallinson
5 th May 2013	QOFL6	Ham Hill	Chris Hasler	Tony Milroy/John Trayler	Graham Hartley
6 th July 2013	Dave Holmes Taunton 'O'	Taunton (start from Kings College)	Judy and Roger Craddock	Nick Fernandes	None (Advisor: Ruth Holmes)
1 st Sept 2013	Club Champs	Lydead Hill	Chris Hasler	Tom Hasler	Chris Hasler

QOADS.

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
24 th Nov 2012*	QOAD1	Culm Davy -	Bussell Family	Bussell Family	Roger Craddock
* cancelled due to bad weather – Rescheduled 26 January 2013 – Cancelled again due to snow!					
8 th Dec 2012	QOAD2	Castle Neroche	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	Roger Craddock
12 th Jan 2013	QOAD3	Keepers Combe	Richard Sansbury	Richard Sansbury	Roger Craddock
16 th Feb 2013	QOAD4	Lydeard Hill	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson	Roger Craddock
9 th Mar 2013	QOAD5	Crowcombe Heathfield	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	Roger Craddock

Summer Urban Series

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
20 th June 2012	Urban 1	Taunton Green & Wellsprings	Judy Craddock	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout
14 th July 2012	Urban 2	Blackbrook	Judy Craddock	Jeff Pakes	Jeff Pakes
2 nd Aug 2012	Urban 3	Queens Collage & Galmington	Judy Craddock	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson

Planner and controller comments for the QOFLs are on the website so I will not repeat them here.

I have not included all of the JOG events as these are so numerous these days! JOG has put on approximately 30 events this year in a variety of locations around Taunton. A fantastic achievement.

Wonderful afternoon in the sunshine, superbly organised by Roger and Judy for the Inagral Dave Holmes Taunton event. Wonderful BBQ to finish!

Future Events

The diary (not including all future JOGs and ‘Living Well’ events) looks like this:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
1 st Sept 2013	Club Champs	Lydead Hill	Chris Hasler	Tom Hasler	Chris Hasler
28 th Sept 2013	Long-O Day 1	Quantock Forest North	Mark Maynard	Andy Rimes	Andy Rimes
29 th Sept 2013	Long-O Day 2	Dunkery and Horner woods	Roger Craddock	Rosie Wych	Bill Vigar
10 th Nov 2013	QOFL1	Culm Davy	Adrian Edwards	Richard Sansbury	Brian Pearson
15 th Dec 2013	QOFL2	Triscombe (Wills Neck area)	Richard Sansbury	Graham Hartley	
1 st Jan 2014 (Provisional)	New Year Event				
12 th Jan 2014	QOFL3	St Audries	Chris Hasler	Keith Bolling	
2 nd Feb 2014	QO Galoppen	Castle Neroche & Staple Common	Roger Craddock	Robert Green	
30 th Mar 2014	QOFL4	Priors Park	Jeff Pakes	Bill Vigar	Sue Gard
27 th April 2014	QOFL5	Crowcombe Heathfield		Andy Rimes	Rosie Wych
18 th May 2014	QOFL6	Kingscliff Wood			
TBA	Club Champs				

QOADS.

No QOADS have been arranged as yet, but these are being planned

DISCUSSION

Actions to be undertaken before next meeting:

- Locations and Organisers/Planners/Controllers for next season now coming together, but there are some gaps later in the season.
- Unfortunately the first QOFL of the season now clashes with the Kerno Galoppen. This is unfortunate but after some discussion it has been suggested that the date remains unchanged, since other clashes are likely to take away more competitors.
- Chris Hasler has agreed to take over as fixtures secretary for next season. This will be a gradual handover as the season continues.

Mark Maynard 2 September 2013