

Quantock Orienteers virtual committee meeting 13 -17 March 2020

Conducted by emails due to physical meeting being cancelled due to Covid 19 outbreak

Covid-19 – league results

Decision: JOG stay best five, QOFL best three

Action: Publish JOG results in the usual manner.

Action: QOFL results to be recalculated and published in the usual manner.

Covid-19 – rescheduling events

Decision: Replacing QOFL1 at Buckland Wood on 18th October would be good.

Actions: Approach officials to check this is suitable.

Action: If suitable, look into Blackborough permissions for new date.

JK21 – QO offering

Decision unclear: Saturday seems to be slightly ahead.

Judy/Roger – Sunday, Day 3 at Penhale

Steve – Saturday as 1st choice and Sunday as 2nd

Karen – Day 2 I think would be the preferred choice with Day 3 as the next best option

Action: Confirm preferred date.

Action: Offer the club's services that day.

Club Championships – scoring system

Decision: Have separate prizes for under-16s and over-16s.

Action: Inform organiser of decision (it was his preferred option).

Action: Source new prize for under-16s.

SI Equipment – Prepping for Events

Decision: 16-day proposal not workable. Some things needed to improve current system.

Action: SI Licence details provided to all prospective SI users, subject to any licensing rules.

Action: Research cost of upgrading laptops.

Action: Research cost of new batteries for SI boxes.

Action: Ensure all SI users are aware of the backup set of equipment.

Action: Introduce SI Equipment Report sheet to be filled in after each event.

Action: Purchase two new laptops and Office software.

POC – MapRun at Longrun Meadows

Decision: Initially prepare

Decision: Initially prepare range of score courses, including urban in the longest for adults with a note to remind about road safety. The option to also create linear courses within the non-urban areas still remains and can be pursued subsequently.

Action: Alasdair to continue development of courses.

Policies – safety

Decision: Proposed policy to be adapted in light of comments.

Action: Decide if we want to make it policy that activities such as JOG have at least one official with an Event Safety Workshop.

Action: Remove reference to activities in the item about sending participant names to BOF.

Action: Keep item about keeping list of helpers for 5 years as this is in the BOF rules.

Action: Keep item about event officials and first aider wearing hi-vis as this is in the BOF rules.

Action: Decide if all events and activities up to 150 participants will need the first aid point signing. Currently we require this for 50-150 but not below 50.

Policies – safeguarding

How to obtain and store photographic consent from parents

Decision: Collect photographic consent on registration forms (both the general one for JOG and the individual event one for QOFL).

Action: Add this to the forms. Must cover two things –

1. A statement that by participating, they are aware that general photographs may be taken by our photographer and used on our website or social media. Also that they are aware that other parents or members of the public might be taking pictures, and they should themselves be careful that any photos they take are used appropriately.
2. An active opt-in for close-up shots to be taken and used on our website and social media. Also a note that if they don't want close-up shots, they should collect a lanyard/sling at registration each time.

Note that opt-outs are not acceptable under current law.

How to identify children who should not have photos taken of them

Decision: Wear some sort of lanyard/sling.

Action: Investigate options – something easy to run with, clear to see, and not causing stigma

How to identify the official photographer

Decision: Identify official photographer with hi-vis as this is in line with BOF guidance.

Action: Obtain a unique-coloured hi-vis vest with 'Photographer' and the club logo on it.

February Urban – upgrade to regional event

Decision: Upgrade the day to a regional event.

Action: Ask for the upgrade.

Event Fees – Revisiting the student fee issue

Decision: Remain as we are with under-21s being juniors (and potentially turn a blind eye to students aged 21 saying they are 20).

Action: Alasdair to communicate with uni club representative.

Event Fees – Revisiting the member remission

Decision: Remain as we are.

Action: Investigate other potential incentives of joining.

Beat The Trail – Worth the Effort?

Decision: Offer BTT at all QOFL events and potentially at selected higher events.

Action: Contact all QOFL planners for next season and ask if they want to plan a BTT. If they do, Alasdair will act as BTT Controller as an extra step between Planner and Controller. If not, Alasdair will act as BTT PLanner but will need All Controls and courses sufficiently far in advance.

Action: Investigate ways of spreading the load on marking and unmarking the course.

Beat The Trail – Booking

Decision: Include BTT booking on Fabian 4.

Action: Ensure BTT is included as an option in future events using Fabian 4. If can't have a course called BTT, then use Red.

Beat The Trail – Format

Decision: Keep the current length and individual starts. However, if a pair or group are running competitively and all want to start together to make it a head-to-head race then this should be allowed where possible.

Action: Little to change. Ensure start officials know the policy.

Covid-19 - MapRun

Extra Information: Alasdair contacted BOF about this. The core of their reply was:

“At the moment we have suspended all orienteering activities in the UK, it is a fast-moving situation at the moment and we are waiting for some stabilisation before clarifying the situation. Presently any activities or events organised by a club would not be covered under our insurance.

We recognise the potential for sensible and responsible use of Maprunner and POCs. However, at the moment we have issued guidelines which prohibit us promoting this.”

Decision: Do not roll this out to members yet.

Action: Continue preparing courses for this. Even if we can't use them for this purpose, they'll

Action: Alasdair to contact NGOC who have already advertised a similar idea to their members and ensure they are aware of this ruling.

Action:

Leaders - Places to Fill

We are still looking for suggestions for a new team leader and QOFL league scorers for next season.

Any suggestions to approach?

Karen - League Scorer - I would suggest Phil Sorrell

Event Fees – Broader Structure

There could be a broader issue on event fees that may be hampering some QO JOGGERS from moving on to QOFL's.

Should we reduce the entry fee for adults and/or juniors on White, Yellow and Orange to encourage JOGGERS, particularly families to come to QOFL's, which they may perceive as too expensive at present?

Event Planning – Getting Ahead

Perhaps we can take advantage of these troubled times and kill two birds. We are all going to be sat at home twiddling our thumbs and in need to something to occupy us (trying to avoid the cleaning in my case). If we send maps to potential planners / existing planners or anyone interested in having a go. We can do armchair planning and we can even get out and check sites as individuals or families.