

Report on EMOA meeting on 20th January 2020

Actions from previous meeting:

There is still no club volunteering for the EMOA Sprint Champs 2021.

LEI stated they had reviewed the club qualification database and it was now up to date.

EMOA 2019 prize giving is at 10am at Bramcote on Saturday 8th February 2020.

Treasurer's Report:

Funds are ok. Renewal numbers are ok for the time of year. Clubs are requested to follow up lapsed members/late rejoiners.

UltraSport has closed down, so no more sponsorship from them. Advert will be removed from EMEWs.

Jake O'Donnell has been selected for the England Interland match to be held in Buckinghamshire against Belgium, France and Netherlands. Also Hannah Mather and Rachel Duckworth as travelling reserve. Financial support requested.

Event funds from Strawberry Hill event are to go towards the EM Junior Squad trip to Sweden and it was agreed to waive the EM levy for this event.

Development:

Ranald has received a number of requests for a Planners (9) and Controllers (1) course. He is considering a traditional day approach or an evening session then practical at a Sunday event. Likely to take place in the Spring. DVO are having an event officials' evening on Tuesday, 24th March 2020 at Whatstandwell - See DVO website for details. Other event officials are welcome to take part.

Ranald is looking to organise an EMOA Development Conference in the Autumn and possibly a Development Day. The conference might cover recent rule changes.

3 LEI, 3 DVO and 1 LOG members attended the recent BO Development Conference and it was reported to be excellent - see BO website for details.

Coaching:

There are no plans for coach training this year. Is there anyone else in LEI who might be interested? Hilary is running a half day coaching safety workshop for coaches using remote terrain.

Hilary ran a club coaching day in Sherwood Forest attended by 2 LOG, 1 LEI, 2 DVO and 12 NOC. It was suggested that if clubs run any sort of training/coaching that they open it up to other clubs in the region. We should also encourage people to train to improve, not just compete.

Are we taking enough care of the safety of mappers, controllers and planners who may be out alone? At present the pro forma risk assessment does not mention them. This may change - keep an eye out for a new RA form.

Hazards and their severity would be a good topic for the development conference.

Junior Squad:

Have done 5 training events.

JIRCs was in SYO land - weather was appalling and the children's waterproofs were not adequate. Accommodation was wanting - the food was inadequate and of poor quality. A small refund had been obtained. The ceilidh was enjoyed by all. There were outstanding performances by Jake O'Donnell and Ben Squire.

Events

It was noted that the EM Champions 2020 would only hold their trophies for 3 months - probably less than that if you take into account getting them engraved. It was suggested the juniors might get a chocolate trophy or a mini trophy to keep.

Officials approved for the event are: Organiser CP, Planner SE and Jeff B for Controller.

Sharing Best Practice:

Smart phone orienteering has been trialled in DVO. There will be 4 more events at Easter. Download Maprun onto your Smart phone. Go to DVO website and download the course. Phone will beep when you get to the control site. Take care not to go to start or finish on your way round. Needs GPS coverage at the event site.

Use Black and Yellow tape for hazards-not red and white as it could be mistaken for a taped route.

EMEWs copy date 3rd March 2020. Articles to Mike Gardner.

Next meeting is 27th April 2020. at The Pace Rooms, St Mary's Church, Clifton 7.30pm.

Report from the EM Committee meeting on 18th November 2019.

Paul Young (DVO) is the new EMOA Treasurer. (Taken over from Mark Webster)

Ranald McDonald (DVO) is the new development officer and was asking what the Region wanted.

There will be a Regional Conference day for Organisers, Planners and Controllers in 2020. Club reps to find out how many Planners and Controllers would like to go to the conference day. Possibility of a Guest Speaker.

Also it was suggested we need, on a separate occasion, a Coaching Safety half day and remote terrain workshop leading on to training on remote terrain. Also, mappers development day/ new mappers training day - sprint specifications are changing.

Ranald would like more feedback from Clubs themselves, rather than just carrying on what we've done before if it doesn't meet need.

There was a reminder that Level B controllers must be out of **Region** from January 2020 and Level C should (not must - no change to rule) be out of Club. There are 21 rule changes in January.

Five more coaches have been trained to Level 2 since 2017 and more are expected to complete very soon.

Junior Squad had two podium places at the JIRCs - Rachel Duckworth in the individual and The Boys relay team also made the podium. Overall though the numbers of juniors are dropping and they would welcome new members of the right age/ level of orienteering ability - but willing to train keen newcomers. They are trying to raise funds to go to Sweden in the summer starting with running the NOC Strawberry Hill event on Sunday January 5th 2020 and including a cake sale. Help welcomed to assist the small group of parents/ youngsters involved - contact Ann-Marie Duckworth.

Midland Championships has been cancelled. DVO have had permission withdrawn for the rescheduled area. The NOC supporting event at Bramcote Hills on 8th February has been added to the EM League (where there will be presentations for the 2019 EM League champions), as has a replacement DVO event at Lindop on 9th February 2020. The full 2020 league has now been added to the BOF and EMOA website.

LEI are due to do the CompassSport Cup Heat on 14th March 2021.

(This was likely to be Wakerley, but if we move the EM Champs/ Midland Championships in November 2020, then we will have to find a new area (embargo?)) (my notes to self)

Future EM Events:

EM Champs 2021 DVO Stanton Moor 28/2/21

Midland Championships 2022 NOC Sherwood Forest 30/1/2022
EM Score Champs DVO Carsington Pastures 13/6/2020
Requiring hosts:
EM Sprint Championships 2021 (Not DVO) - any other club interested?

There was a reminder that new members can join in November of each year and get 14 months membership for the price of 12.

There will be (maybe, have been by the time you read this) some new appointments at BOF Head Office:
Operations Manager, Access and Environment Officer, Administrator for International Teams.

The Forestry Commission have brought in a new regime in some areas of the country and it may spread to all their areas, being that they will only allow orienteering in October, November and December. This would be a very worrying situation for the sport.

The Board at BOF are considering a Day Membership scheme to cover non members for insurance to be proposed at the JK AGM meeting. (*paperwork! - my thoughts only*)

Clubs should also be recommending their mappers for awards for their 2019 maps. Awards presented at next year's JK.

Sad news to report of the death of Andy Clayton aged 66, former EM Secretary from 1978 - 81, who was a DVO member. He had emigrated to New Zealand.

Next meeting 20th January 2020 at The Pace Room, St Mary's Church Clifton, 7.30pm. All welcome.