

# Leicestershire Orienteering Club

Minutes of 32nd A.G.M held on Wednesday 17th October 2001 at 7.30 p.m. at the Griffin Inn, Swithland

Attending: Simon Ford, Diane Ford, Roy Denney, Roger Kelly, Chris Bosley, Andy Portsmouth, Kevin Gallagher, Maureen Webb, Sue Bicknell, Roger Phillips, Peter Leake, Chris Phillips, Ernie Williams, Robert Kerr, Jean Hall, Dave Hall, Thelma Spalton, Gerry Spalton.

## 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from John Cooke, Judith Holt, Roger Edwards, Mike H Cowley, Kevin Bradley, Peter Hornsby.

## 2 Declaration of membership numbers

The club has 101 voting member units (161 members) and 10 or 8% forms a quorum - The meeting was therefore declared quorate.

## 3 Approval and signing of minutes of last extraordinary general meeting

The minutes were approved as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.

## 4 Matters arising from those minutes

Item 10 – acceptance of accounts was proposed by Ernie Williams, not Andy Williams.

Item 18 – the deal with Panasonic fell through, but Kevin Bradley is to obtain 2 laptops for the club's use from BT.

Mike Luxton has left the area. He did some work for group orienteering before he left, but did not leave a report to go to EMOA.

We did buy a new finish clock, and also got the old one repaired.

## 5 Chairman's Views

I have to say that my first year as Chairman of LEI has been unusual; after foot and mouth wiped out our sport for the main season all we had left were Committee Meetings and the Summer League! BOF are expressing fears that some people, having found alternatives for their time on Sundays, will not return to the sport. Let's hope that this is not the case, and we must all make a point of encouraging both old and new members to take part whatever their level in orienteering. BOF have decreed that a week next June will be designated 'orienteering week' to give the sport more of a profile. Let's hope that it works.

Having said that, LEI has done remarkably well despite the difficulties. We had an almost uninterrupted Summer League magnificently pulled together by Chris Phillips. Great thanks to Chris for keeping us all going. The League was very well attended with numbers well up on any previous year. Jim Mallinson and Liz Phillips from OD were the worthy winners. Again, despite all the problems LEI put on more overall events during the past year than any of our East Midlands colleagues – congratulations to everyone involved in the organisation.

We remain very well represented on the East Midlands Committee. Your most recent ex-Chairman – Roy – is the Chair! In addition, Ernie and Pete both hold posts which ensures first, that we know what is going on, and secondly, that our voice of reason will be heard!

Your Committee continues to enthusiastically look after the sport in Leicestershire (and occasionally Northamptonshire) and has mapped out the next three years programme. This is to ensure that not only all our best areas are used, but also to determine the future mapping needs. It is vital that we have up-to-date maps when required. You will also hear from our treasurer, Chris Bosley, that we remain financially healthy. Our newsletter continues to impress. The new format is both more readable and professional. All credit and our thanks go to John Cooke for all his efforts – it is not easy getting us all to hand our contributions in on time! The new and all action web page, admirably managed by Kevin Bradley, continues to be very popular and is always up-to-date.

During the year we have crowned new club and league champions. These will be recognised and awarded at the Club Dinner on November 24th. Please give the forms and money for the dinner to Tony after this meeting. LEI has now entered the 21st Century and has a fully functioning E punching team that are able to manage the very different requirement of holding an event using the new medium. Having had a trial event at the Summer League and a C4 event at Ratby recently, we can now confidently use the technology in other areas – provided the risk of vandalism is not too great. We will need more helpers to become familiar with the new technology so that the burden does not always fall on the same few. Volunteers please!

We have a full programme of C4s, night events, Summer League and two C3s in the next few months. It is important that LEI members support and help at events. I was most disappointed to see only 25 members competing at our recent event at Tiger Woods particularly as it was the first C4 in the Midlands after the foot and mouth outbreak had died down. I am, however, encouraged to see a good representation of LEI members at recent badge and international events.

Finally, I must thank all the Members of the LEI Committee for their support and help over the past year – without them we would not exist. Special thanks must go to our President for his tireless work on behalf of the Club both at local and national levels. Many thanks to you Ernie.

I look forward to a more 'normal' year ahead. My hope for 2002 is that the LEI Committee can bring to the orienteers of Leicestershire and East Midlands an active, well-managed and thoroughly enjoyable 12 months of our sport.

Thank you.

## 6 Matters arising from Chairman's Report

The responsibility for the club's web page has now been taken over by Kevin Bradley and we have purchased a new URL ([www.leioc.co.uk](http://www.leioc.co.uk)).

### 7 Treasurers report and budget projections for coming year

The treasurers report was distributed. The financial situation has been effected by the Foot and Mouth epidemic with several events, including the Badge event being cancelled. The Autumn saw events re-starting, but we have had some low income events, perhaps due to inadequate publicity. The Summer league contributed about half the year's income. We have also had low map expenses because of not being able to survey any areas due to Foot and Mouth This showed as an overall deficit of £2,000. However we do have adequate reserves for a rainy day year such as this.

The clothing sold by the club shop has now been included on the accounts, and next year all club shop accounts will be included into the overall accounts. In 2000 we allowed for £2000 to go to EMOA towards the purchase of e- punching equipment, but this was not needed.

### Budget Projections for 2002:

Chris's estimate was to break even for 2002 if we increased the membership fee. We break even at a C4 if we have 100 competitors and make a profit with 200, not including the cost of maps. To break even we would need an increase of £1 for Senior, Group and Family memberships.

## 8 Auditors Report

The auditors report was distributed. Thanks were expressed to Lewis Sutton, who has audited the finances for the last 20 years.

### 9 Matters arising from Treasurers Report

Few maps were printed so there was very little Ordnance Survey Copyright to be paid.

## 10 Approval of Accounts

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Ernie Williams and seconded by Roy Denney. The motion was carried unanimously.

## 11 President's remarks

Colleagues - in what has been a difficult year for many, not only within our sport but also in the wider world in both this country and abroad, we are perhaps fortunate that our leisure pursuits have been able to re-commence on a national scale as soon as they have.

For instance, Wendy and I have only recently returned from a lengthy stay in the Lake District and can assure you that many lives within the farming world and the tourism industry have been affected, some very seriously, with many of the businesses likely to take years rather than months to recover, if they manage to do so at all. Knowing that many of you have visited and competed in the area close to where we stayed, the fells have been opened up to the public within the past few weeks but some footpaths east of Derwent water are still closed and to travel, for example, on the roads north of Keswick with the fells from Skiddaw northwards to Calbeck, 'Back O' Skiddaw' as it is often referred to, being virtually inaccessible to visitors and to see, for mile upon mile, fells,

fields and farms completely bare of livestock, is both a disturbing and a saddening experience and one which I never expected to see before the F&MD epidemic erupted earlier this year. Let us hope that it is nearly extinguished - the latest reported case in the north-west was on 30th September - and that it will never return for all of our sakes.

Locally, we were able to begin our amended Fixtures List with C4s in mid-Summer and, thanks to the work of Chris Phillips and his willing Summer League Event organisers, we have been able to access areas on a weekly basis from April to August. I would like to reiterate what our Chairman Simon has already said and that is that Chris and the other members involved deserve our very heartfelt thanks for their work on our behalf - we are indeed fortunate that we have such a well established Summer League series and one of which we can be justifiably proud. The onset of electronic punching is bringing new methods of organising and planning events, together with new and different problems for the enthusiasts involved, so it is hoped that many club members will become actively

involved in the use of Sport Ident and thus make it an enjoyable step forward for us all in the use of this sporting technology. I must, at this point, remind everyone in the Club that the one thing never to do is to leave a distant car park and then arrive at the assembly area some 2.5 kms away minus one's Sport Ident dibber - it can be a very long way back to the car park as one member of the LEI Committee can assure us having

undergone this heart- stopping experience at the second day of the Twin Peaks at Macclesfield Forest. It sure was one hell of a warm- up session!

Your Officers and Committee Members, so ably led by Chairman Simon Ford, have overseen the month on month Club activities and I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank them for the work they undertake for the Club membership.

Let us hope that we will be able to enjoy a problem free next twelve months save, I suspect, for the odd 180 degree or parallel error or a misreading of the competition map or missing a control out altogether - but hopefully not all on the same leg or even on the same course!

Peter Leake commented that a lesson to be learned in electronic punching is to have a clear station near the car park so people do not get to the start without their dibber.

## 12 Election of Chairman

Simon Ford was proposed by Ernie Williams and seconded by Peter Leake.

### 13 Election of other Principal Officers

Vice Chairman: Simon Ford proposed Andy Portsmouth and Roy Denney seconded. Thelma Spalton as Secretary and Chris Bosley as Treasurer were nominated by Roy Denney and seconded by Chris Philips. They were elected unanimously.

## 14 Election of Committee

The existing committee of Kevin Bradley, Andy Portsmouth, Robert Kerr, Chris Philips, Roger Kelly, Pete Leake, Tony Vance, Jean Hall, Dave Hall, Judith Holt, John Cooke were proposed by Roy Denney and seconded by Chris Philips and had all expressed a willingness to serve on the committee although not all able to attend meetings on a regular basis. Kevin Gallagher, Eric Porter and Peter Hornsby all carried out roles for the club and were proposed for the committee, by Roy Denney and seconded by Ernie Williams, although some probably only attending when relevant to their respective roles. Simon Ford proposed Maureen Webb and seconded by Thelma Spalton. Roy Denney proposed Roger Edwards and Gerry Spalton seconded. All were duly elected.

## 15 Election / adoption of Auditor

The rules have been relaxed and we are now only required to have the accounts independently examined, not necessarily by a qualified auditor. However, Lewis Sutton was willing to continue and was duly elected,

## 16 Election of President, Honorary Members

Ernie Williams was nominated to continue as President by Roy Denney, seconded by Peter Leake and was unanimously elected.

No new honorary members were proposed.

It was agreed that Lewis Sutton should have his club membership fees paid for 2002.

## 17 Club Fees for coming year:

BOF had suggested that membership fees remain unchanged because of loss of members during the Foot and Mouth epidemic. It was also suggested that members be given a discount on event fees of £1. These proposals were carried.

Fees for regular Colour Coded events (C4, N4, S4) were to be: Independent Senior £4:50 (Previously £4:00) BOF or Club Senior £3:50 (Previously £3:00) Reduced (OAP, UB40, Student) £1.50 (Unchanged) Juniors (under 21) £1.50 (Unchanged) Helpers to remain free.

Summer League to remain unchanged (£1.50 seniors / 50p juniors).

It was proposed that limited colour coded events (C5s) should be £2:00 Seniors and £1:00 juniors. N5s should be in line with the other EM N5s

This was proposed by Andy Portsmouth and seconded by Simon Ford and was carried unanimously.

The fees for the badge event in January had been set as £7:00 Seniors, £3:50 juniors with £1 extra for late entries. Colour coded courses would be £3:00 seniors, £4:00 non member seniors and £1:50 juniors, as these had been advertised before the increase in fees for 2002.

The Treasurer proposed that the club membership part of BOF fee and the club only membership fee be kept the same for the new year to be in line with BOF and EMOA. Membership fees for the coming year to be as follows:

	<b>Senior</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Group</b>
<b>BOF</b>	10:00	2:60	14:50	8:20
<b>EMOA</b>	6:00	2:00	9:00	11:00
<b>LEI</b>	4:00	1:00	4:00	4:00
<b>Total</b>	20:00	5:60	27:50	23:20
<b>LEI Club only</b>	7:00	1:00	7:00	7:00

The proposal for these fees was passed unanimously.

## 18 AOB

Having the BOF number of the cards would be a great help in producing the results. It was agreed that this should be encouraged, although the existing cards did not contain a space for it. E-punching forms did contain a space for BOF number.

A One-off CompassSport Cup event was taking place at Ecceshall Woods, Sheffield and the club had entered selected teams.

Bradgate Car Parking fees had been increased to £4. It was agreed that we should try and find alternative car parking as a protest.

Sue Bicknell reported that the Ramblers Association also reported that they were losing members and the average age was increasing.

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