

Leicestershire Orienteering Club



Minutes of Committee Meeting held online via Zoom Monday 10th February 2025

Present: Steve Chafer, David Cladingboel, Jane Dring-Morris, Steve Edgar, Roger Edwards, Simon Ford, Alison Hardy, Derek Herd, Chris Phillips, Iain Phillips, Roger Phillips, Alastair Paterson, Ernie Williams, Ursula Williamson.

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Minutes of the last Committee Meeting on Monday 11th November 2025

These minutes were agreed to be a true record.

3. Items arising from the last MOM

- SC noted that the current plan for a Saturday series had to be shelved.
- RP noted that club kit officer is now listed as a club wide role.
- SC reported that talks about permissions for the 2028 weekend of British Nights and Midland Championships are being started.
- SE asked how many people are trained in the use of the club Defib.
- SC noted that everybody who attended the recent first aid training will be trained in use of a Defib.

4. Request for inclusion in 'Urgent and important items' on the agenda

a. Event fees & late/ non payment

- IP noted that there had been a trend of people entering via the Start Kite and not actually paying and not attending.
- IP noted that an article in LEI News had been published and mostly eliminated this trend.

5. Treasurer's Report

Please refer to the Treasurer's Report February 2025 circulated prior to the meeting.

- SF reported that £3,000 from the EMOA's share of the JK surplus had now been banked.
- SF noted that JK monies should have been available sooner, but EMOA delayed sharing the surplus.
- SF noted that club events are contributing to the club bank balance.

6. Delegates' Reports

- IP reported that EMOA would like to know about club development activities we carry out. This is to partly aid discussions at a future a EMOA officials' conference planned for later in the year.
- IP noted that the East Midland Championships will be held at Martinshaw Woods.

7. Events Committee Report

Please refer to the Event Committee Report February 2025 circulated prior to the meeting.

- IP reported that there is now a full program of events planned for 2025 with the usual mix of level C's and D's.
- IP reported that a level D planner's training along with download training is planned for the 8th March.
- IP reported that work on the 2026 level C program was likely to consist of five forest events and two urban events.
- IP noted that most of the current level C's had officials appointed.
- JDM reported the summer league still had a few gaps with regards to planners.
- SC reported that most of the current events planned, now had permission.

8. Development Team Report

Please refer to the Development Team Report February 2025 circulated prior to the meeting.

- RE reported that Ben S has stood down as POC coordinator.
- RE reported that SF had sought a view from British Orienteering regarding our MapRun levies. It was confirmed that no levies were due for the training nights.
- RE noted that the Summer League event at Castle Hill falls within World Orienteering Week.
- RE reported that the BOF development conference was about using social media.
- CP asked if anything was planned with regards to encouraging non-members.
- SC noted that we had done bring a friend as part of last year's Summer League.
- RP asked if it was worth having any paid for marketing around WO Week.
- CP noted that the Oxford City race was considered a "destination" event.

Action Points

- RP to research cost around paid marketing for World Orienteering Week promotions. – *Post meeting note marketing for social media is about £300, plus any advertising costs.*

9. Safeguarding

- AH reported that there were no updates.

10. Club Captain's Report

- DC reported that we had 56 for the Compass Sport Trophy heat at Clumber Park.
- DC reported that he was hoping to get at least one relay team for the JK.
- RE noted that the regional heat of the YBT would be on the 23rd March at Silverhill Wood (NOC).

11. Membership Secretary's Report

Please refer to the Membership Secretary's Report February 2025 circulated prior to the meeting.

- RP noted that 1 member had now renewed, taking the membership total to 102.

12. Any Other Business

- CP reported that the latest edition of the newsletter was back from the printers.
- UW noted that the Welsh Championships still had places available

13. Date of future meetings:

- RP suggested the date of the next meeting should be Monday 12th May 2025. This was agreed.

Meeting Closed at 8:30pm

TREASURER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2025

Funds have built steadily since the last meeting to £14.500 (£9.000 deposit and £5.500 current account)

Payment of the JK surplus by EMOA of £3.000 has been the most significant change, but running two category C even has added to the funds.

All payments are up to date.

Simon Ford

EVENT COMMITTEE REPORT FEBRUARY 2025

As I type this, I've just sent the maps for the East Midlands championships to the printer.

For personal reasons, the events committee missed two meetings, but we're now back on track. To streamline communication, I've introduced a monthly level C officials newsletter that collects and organises various emails related to our event program. My usual challenge is finding officials, and this has been exacerbated by my inability to attend events and recruit volunteers. Tailored emails have proven effective in this regard.

We have our level C program (five forest and two urban) in place for 2024, and I'm already considering areas for 2025. It seems we need to remap frequently, and we're short of mappers.

Over the next couple of years, our commitment will be to hosting a Compass Sport Cup heat, the British Night Championships, and the Midlands Champs. However, we still face challenges in finding suitable areas in Leicestershire for these events. We're investigating several options, but these require time to obtain permissions, map the areas, and locate facilities like parking.

Our minor leagues remain the backbone of our event provision, and I want to express my gratitude to Jane for her efforts in finding officials for these leagues. The 2024 winter league is almost over, and the 2025 summer league is well underway in preparations.

I also want to thank the newsletter editors for writing my recent report and especially to Simon Starkey for his mapping updates and work on securing SI controls. Additionally, I want to acknowledge the contributions of

our club chair and all his predecessors in obtaining the necessary permissions for our events.

Iain Phillips

DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT FEBRUARY 2025

Schools

Crown Hills we need to issue an invoice as the installation of replacement plaques has been completed. Packington Primary School we need to finish off with some support work. NW Schools Championship is on Tuesday 8th April. Melton & Belvoir and South Charnwood Partnerships are hoping for Friday 5th June at Belvoir. Uplands (Primary) School, Leicester we will deliver some training on using their new Permanent course at the end of February.

Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust June

Matt White would like to repeat in 2025.

POC

Simon Starkey is reviewing Sence Valley but he needs to update the new map first. This will need more plaques fitting. Ben Shannon has stood down from the POC role and we need to find a replacements(s). I have written to him to thank him for his services and asked him to let us know when he can resume volunteering.

VOC

I suspended most of the unused Mapruns 3 months ago and have had no requests to reactivate.

Club night

Simon Ford sought a BOF view on paying the levy for the Autumn Mapruns and Peter Brooke's decision was that they were not on the club web site nor Facebook so they were not published consequently nothing was due. We have taken this win!

We are using Markfield Community Centre again from Mid February 2025 to Easter. Derek will lead.

BOF Development Conference

There were several sessions connected with recruitment. The first (13th January) was to make more use of social media to fit with the BOF promotions and secondly to schedule our own posting using scheduling tools. Eg our half term event at Ibstock.

Reference was made to EUOC who use TicTok to communicate with 18-24 year age group. We were told to humanise stories explain the newcomer experience empathise the social aspect and why we have club member loyalty and we need to sell the volunteer aspect.

WOD is 17th to 25th May and we might want to make something of it?
We should look at incentives to come back to our events eg training and entry fee rewards

Why can Oxford get 500 at their October 2024 city race and we only get 100 at our urbans?

Coaching

Our First Aid course delivered by Jeff Baker was on 11th January (and officially the 12th). We now have 7 people with certificates including three renewals.

Roger Edwards

4th February 2025

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2025

Year	Family	Seniors	Young Adults	Juniors	Units	Total
2013	38	53	-	12	103	170
2014	38	61	-	16	115	183
2015	37	56	-	17	110	174
2016	38	60	-	12	110	180
2017	34	61	-	8	103	151
2018		108	-	37		145
2019		103	-	36		139
2020		104	-	26		130
2021		106	-	23		129
2022		105	-	18		122
2023		96	-	16		112
2024		87	5	15		107
2025		85	5	11		101

	Membership Categories:	Junior, Young Adult, Senior, Family, Group or Correspondent
Honorary Members	2	
Correspondent Members	3	
New Members	6	
Left The Club	12	