

Leicestershire Orienteering Club



Minutes of Committee Meeting held online via Zoom Monday 19th August 2024

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

1. Apologies for absence: Alison Hardy, Derek Herd

2. Minutes of the last Committee Meeting on Monday 13th May 2024

These minutes were agreed to be a true record.

3. Items arising from the last MOM

- IP still to action the clubs Trans Policy on the website.
- RP confirmed that Glenfield Parish Rooms had been booked for the AGM.
- CP noted that he is unable to confirm which mapping software will be used at the EMOA training day.
- IP reported that he will be shortly sharing the thank you voucher code for JK volunteers.
- RP reported that AH is now able to access the BOF qualifications database.
- DC reported that the club fielded 3 teams at the British Sprint Relays in Birmingham.
- CP reported that a possible venue for the 2025 club presentation dinner had been found.
- RP reported that a note had been added to Junior fees on the club website with regards to age.

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

- No items were requested for inclusion.

5. Treasurer's Report

Please refer to the Treasurer's Report August 2024 circulated prior to the meeting.

- SF reported that the 2023/2024 accounts are now ready to submit to the auditor.
- SF thanked RE for his help in preparing the accounts.
- SF reported that events have made a surplus of around £4,000.
- SF noted that the JK day 1 has made the club a loss of £1,000. This hopefully will change once the JK accounts are closed and the club receive a share of the profits.
- SF noted that access fees for Forest England areas are significantly higher than other areas we use.
- IP noted that the club has a limited number of areas and it's inevitable that we will use Forest England areas.

a. Membership Fees 2026

- SF proposed the membership fees for 2026 are maintained at £0.00 for all membership categories. This was agreed.

Action Points

- SF to ensure accounts are audited ready for the AGM

6. Delegates' Reports

- CP reported that EMOA will host a regional training day on Saturday 12th October at Groby. The training day will have sessions for Organisers, Planners, Controllers and Mappers.
- CP noted that the EMOA training day is free and will include lunch.
- IP reported that LEI hope to run a club training day for new Level D planners along with an Si Timing training later in 2024. It is likely that both will be on the same day.
- CP reported that the EMOA AGM will be on the 16th September at Clifton Village Hall.
- CP noted that EMOA will have a vacancy for the Vice-Chair.
- SE asked if other regions are struggling for officers.
- CP suggested that most regions only meet for the AGM and that only the regional fixtures officers have meetings.

7. Events Committee Report

Please refer to the Event Committee Report August 2024 circulated prior to the meeting.

- IP reported that the Summer League had now finished and that events were an overall success. A few issues were identified and hopefully the same issues won't be a problem in the future.
- IP reported that 2024 Club Championships will be held on the 9th November.
- IP noted that club championships will have a new course for W75+ of Very Short Green.
- IP reported that the planned Level C events for 2025 had been submitted to the Regional Fixtures Officer.

8. Development Team Report

Please refer to the Development Team Report August 2024 circulated prior to the meeting.

- RE asked if club night fees should remain at £3.00, especially for those nights using the MapRun app. It was agreed to keep club night fees the same.
- IP noted that the MapRuns are currently registered as activities with BOF and should be changed to events.
- RE suggested that the club need to recruit new members, as based on the membership numbers we are a club in decline.
- RE reported that Matt W ran an orienteering style event with the Belvoir CC Trust. The event was also supported with a grant from the Orienteering Foundation.
- RE noted that if this event did attract new members to the sport, it was more likely to benefit LOG due to the proximity to their events.
- CP reported that both DVO and NOC have been hosting events with the aim of recruiting new members. Both clubs have yet to see a significant increase in club members.

- SE suggested that the club may be able to use BCCT to get a more favorable deal for land access.
- CP noted that Belvoir Castle and estate are a commercial operation these days and access fees are likely to be very expensive and probably should be an officer's decision if the club was to host an event on the estate.

9. Safeguarding

- SC reported on behalf of AH that there was nothing to report regarding Safeguarding.

10. Club Captain's Report

- DC reported that the club had three teams entered in the British Sprint Relays in June.
- SC suggested that the club should promote the sprint relays in 2025 to ensure we have more teams.
- UW noted that 2025 sprint relays are to be held in East Anglia.
- DC noted that the Peter Palmer relays are on the 8th September and unfortunately there are not enough juniors available to form a team.
- DC reported Cara is now part of EMJOS.
- RE suggested that our juniors should be made aware of club grants for tours, such as Lagganlia.

11. Membership Secretary's Report

Please refer to the Membership Secretary's Report August 2024 circulated prior to the meeting.

- RP reported that that no new members joined the club.

12. Any Other Business

- CP reported that Keith W will be standing for the BOF board at the AGM in October.
- CP noted that Peter Brooke is acting as the BOF Chief Executive.
- JDM reported that the Winter League is missing two planners for Cademan and Oakam Tops events.
- SC noted that OCAD have a new app called OCAD Sketch. This should help with planning and mapping as it uses your phones GPS.

13. Date of future meetings:

- RP suggested the date of the next meeting should be the 11th November 2024. This was agreed.

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm

TREASURER'S REPORT AUGUST 2024

Current account £3,044

Deposit Account £9,000

TOTAL £12.044

Close to year end (31st July) with only a few items to register.

All events as of 22nd JULY contained in above status.

Nothing outstanding, all bills paid.

Simon Ford

EVENT COMMITTEE REPORT AUGUST 2024

Since the last committee we have completed the summer league. Thanks to all the organisers and we look forward to applauding the winners at the club dinner next Spring and especially to Jane for bringing it all together. The next events committee will go through a lessons-learned process and update the documentation we give to officials and introduce a buddying scheme for new and experienced organisers.

We have run Level C events at Ibstock and Coalville using new maps in each case. Thanks to our organisers: Jane and Oliver, planners: Peter H and Mark and controllers: Bob and Simon. Special additional thanks to absolutely everyone for picking up things I've dropped and being patient with me since the death of my sister in May.

We provisionally plan 2 more level C forest events next year, Cademan and Outwoods (previous attempts at finding a new area have failed, but we still look).

We continue to use thestartkite.uk for entries and now can use this to provide credits when we cancel an event. This will be done for JK helpers, when I get a moment to sit and work things out.

Next things being considered are:

- The EM Champs in February at Martinshaw/Ratby Feb 25. Jane will organise, Steve C (assisted by me) will plan.
- a further 4 level C forest and 2 urban events for 2025.
- Looking to developing new areas for 2026 and considering our contribution to major events in 2026 and beyond.
- Updating our guidance for organisers, planners and controllers in the light of our increased numbers.
- The EMOA development day, which I hope will provide a crop of new officials.

Iain Phillips

Development Committee progress report August 2024

Schools

The POC at Uplands junior, Leicester City completed. Pete is remapping Crown Hills and we will sell some replacement plaques. Packington Primary School we need to finish off support before getting paid.

Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust Sunday 16th June

Matt White arranged with equipment support from the club and a club helper. See Orienteering Foundation site we financial support for this project. Attached is the report to the OF.

<https://www.orienteeringfoundation.org.uk/projects-funded>

POC

Ben has written about repairing the Outwoods POC. We have a hybrid arrangement the Council might do and we could too.

Simon is reviewing Sence Valley he needs to update the new map first. This will need more plaques fitting.

Feedback on Melton is that this is in a poor state. Ben is finding it hard to do much.

VOC

We may have a few new ones to add during the autumn copied from the Club night sessions.

Simon offered to do some Maprun training on providing Map runs. He had interest from one club member, one from DV0 and one from HOC. The training material has been written but we haven't actually delivered anything. The main newish feature is the ability to copy courses from purple pen straight into Map run. This makes it even faster to deliver usable courses. However they still need testing for on the ground issues eg Safety aspects.

Find your way (FYW) we have a presence on the national site, with some of our Leicester City VOC maps. We are awaiting further instructions from BOF, who might be able to help us explore a link with Leicester City. Web site

<https://www.findyourwayvo.org.uk/>

Coaching

Andy Simpson is intending to complete his qualification during the Autumn so he can support EMJOS.

Club night

We are starting on August 27th and intend continue weekly to December, but avoiding the weeks with Winter league events. There are quite a lot of gaps in the programme, so we may not be meeting every week.

We are now treating each session as an event, as there are published results, so we need to pay a levy. So that's £1.65 each The additional costs are map printing, 50p

donation to Maprun and 50p donation to David Dixon. So these are around the break even point.

Confirm the £3 senior & £5 family rates are still acceptable.

Recruitment

DVO and NOC are using programmes to recruit and DVO has OF funding support. I am doubtful that we have the energy to undertake a programme.

Roger

13^h August 2024

Draft Report for Orienteering Foundation

The Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust (BCCT) Orienteering Festival and Family Fun Day was held on Sunday 16 June, with the support of the Orienteering Foundation.

The event was planned as a one-hour score course around the private grounds of the Belvoir Castle Estate. As this was the first orienteering festival held by the BCCT, and we had limited resources to help with the orienteering, we felt that this format would appeal to the widest possible cross-section of potential participants. We did not focus on one particular demographic, such as families, runners or orienteers, but tried to cater for all with one course. This seemed to work well, as described below.

Although the western part of the area had been used for orienteering before, the eastern part had never been used. Therefore, a new map was drawn to ISOM 2017-2 standard by experienced orienteers¹. The map covers an area of approximately 6km² (3km x 2km) (Picture 1).

No simple entry system was available to the BCCT, so entries were made on the day. A Facebook event was set-up, which had ~80 responses. Owing to the uncertainty in numbers, we decided to have 200 maps printed. We charged £10 per map.

Owing to the broad and inclusive approach taken in planning, the score course was designed to include a "short route" of approximately 3km, with 14 controls numbered 1-14. Prior to starting, it was "suggested" that families could use this route as a way to see some of the best parts of the estate grounds. Controls were hung so they were highly visible. Many of these controls could be seen from the previous control, especially at the start of the course. Many of these controls were also hung on interesting features, such as statues (Picture 2). In addition, the remaining 16 controls were randomly numbered. The planning measured one route for all 30 controls to be ~10km, which would provide a route planning and running challenge for more experienced orienteers.

The festival was augmented by other activities, including tri-golf, archery, kwik-cricket and croquet, which were provided for free. The registration was at the cricket pavilion, which was also the location of a BBQ and a bar, which was open all day (also serving teas and coffees).

On the day, between 50 and 60 people came and participated in the orienteering. This number included one group with a child in a wheelchair. 50-60 is a great number for this event, but most were families of three-four, so we only "sold" 16 maps - without the Orienteering Foundation's

¹ Although experienced orienteers, these individuals were less experienced at mapping. This experience contributed to the development of their mapping skills.

support, this number would have meant that the event would have made a loss. Nonetheless, the orienteering was enjoyed immensely by all those that took part (Picture 3).

The DVO club chairperson also came to observe on the day and help where needed.

Once registered, each participant group was walked to the start by one of six orienteering helpers that were present. The start was located on the edge of the cricket ground, so this short walk allowed each group to be briefed on the event and provided an opportunity to ask additional questions following registration. Further information was provided at the start to reinforce key messages. No-one struggled with the navigation. Most families found 10-16 controls in the hour available. Two runners, one of whom orienteers, found all 30 controls. Both were over the time limit, one by two minutes and one by 15.

Everyone stayed after the orienteering and enjoyed socialising and discussing various aspects of orienteering. Great feedback was received.

Examples include:

- One lady, the wife of an ex-NOC orienteer stated that she had no idea how much fun orienteering was, and would have encouraged all her friends to come if she had known.
- The person who manned the bar stated how much fun it was, and promised to bring a lady's cricket team to the next event.
- One quote received was: "Such a fabulous set up and so well organised. Thank you to all who made this possible".
- One lady asked about further orienteering opportunities and was referred to LEI. She attended the next LEI summer league event with five children and their parents.
- Another family who enquired about orienteering have subsequently used Open Orienteering Map to make a map of their village for use at a children's birthday party in the summer.

The BCCT are currently discussing how to use the experience of the event to offer more orienteering opportunities. The following are being considered or discussed internally:

- Re-running the event with the unused maps. A re-run event would consider a revised marketing and publicity strategy to increase numbers. We would also look to schedule this event better as we think that clashes with Father's Day and the National Urban event in Sheffield may have had an effect on numbers.

- Building additional links with the Melton and Belvoir School Sport Physical Activity Network (SSPAN). Discussion has been held regarding using the Belvoir Castle Estate for the Melton and Belvoir Schools Orienteering Championships. This event has been held in a country park in Melton Mowbray for the last two years with >350 children taking part. However, one school has raised safeguarding concerns regarding the country park, and use of the private estate might alleviate these concerns. The SSPAN School Development Manager was shadowed around an orienteering event after the BCCT orienteering festival and is highly-interested in more development of the sport in the area.
- Building more orienteering into the programme of sport and countryside education to children provided by the BCCT. A specific plan for this is to be discussed.
- Developing greater links with the orienteering community. Again, specific plans for this are to be discussed but the estate offers excellent opportunities to act as a hub for orienteering, (i.e. a regional location where training could be undertaken on an area with permissions and available maps, alongside facilities available through the BCCT pavilion), or acting as a host for events that can be challenging to put on elsewhere, such as MTBO or the Harvester Relays.



BELVOIR CRICKET & COUNTRYSIDE TRUST



ORIENTEERING FOUNDATION

BCCT Orienteering Festival

Choose your own route

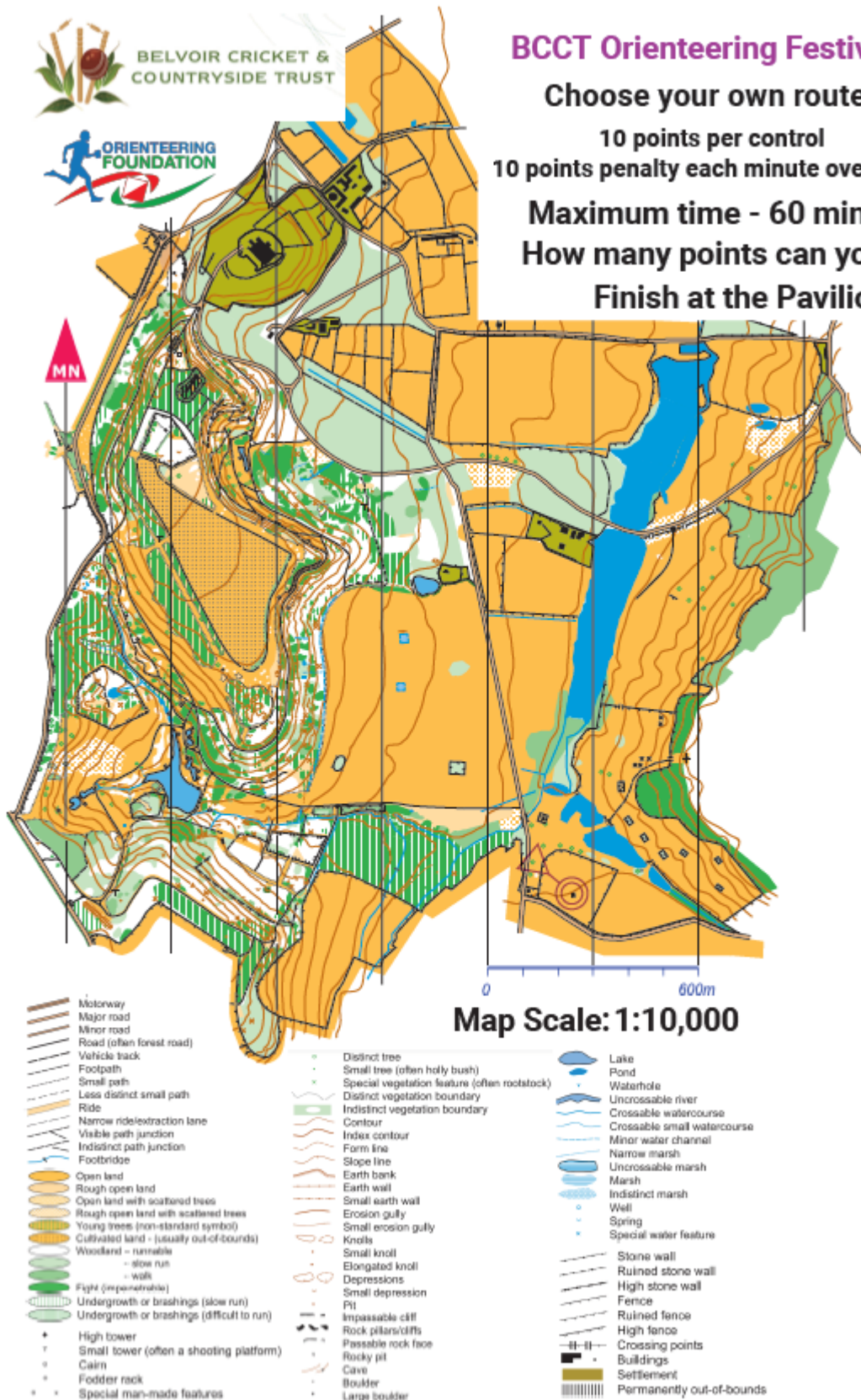
10 points per control

10 points penalty each minute over one hour

Maximum time - 60 minutes

How many points can you get?

Finish at the Pavilion



Picture 1: New map produced for the BCCT Orienteering Festival and Family Fun Day.



Picture 2: Example of control hanging.



Picture 3: Great fun was had by the families that came to the festival.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT AUGUST 2024

Year	Family	Seniors	Young Adults	Juniors	Units
2013	38	53	-	12	103
2014	38	61	-	16	115
2015	37	56	-	17	110
2016	38	60	-	12	110
2017	34	61	-	8	103
2018		108	-	37	
2019		103	-	36	
2020		104	-	26	
2021		106	-	23	
2022		105	-	18	
2023		96	-	16	
2024		87		5	15

	Membership Categories:	Junior, Young Adult, Senior, Family, Group or Correspondent
Honorary Members	2	
Correspondent Members	5	
New Members	7	
Left The Club	12	