

# The West Midlander

Winter 2013-14



The Newsletter of the West Midlands Orienteering Association

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*Cover Photo : West Midland Junior Squad 2013 by Debbie Morse*

## Editorial

Firstly, may I wish everyone a Happy New Year and a Happy Orienteering Birthday if you, like me, move up an age group in 2014.

It has been almost two years since the last issue of the 'West Midlander' (February 2012) so I thought that a revival was overdue so I decided to take on the job for a second time (my previous stint was from November 1999 until August 2002). Thanks are due to my predecessor, Adrian Bailey (HOC) who did a fine job of editing between 2009 and 2012.

Communication is a vital part of any organisation and the electronic variety has moved on since my last stint as Editor to such an extent that I find I very rarely use the postal service to get in touch with people. E-mail and the internet have taken over the way we publish flyers, enter events, send out final details, publish results, etc. In this time the cost of postage has increased tremendously so the decision to distribute the 'West Midlander' as an electronic only publication seems to make economic sense. It was way back in December 2001 that I first suggested that the newsletter could be distributed in this way but, at that time, it was just an option.

One of the advantages of electronic only publishing is that it is possible to use more colour to make the newsletter more attractive. If you have any photos that you think are suitable for publication please send them to me. Portrait would be best for a front cover, any other shape for inside. Any file format will do - I'm fairly sure that I can convert anything. I'll also be looking for articles for future editions, so if you have anything to say please send it to me. Again any format will do.

2014 is going to be an exciting year in the West Midlands as the Association is hosting the British Sprint Championships at Keele University on 6 September and the British Middle Distance Championships at Brereton Spurs on 7 September - it promises to be a great weekend.

On a more personal note, I would like to see the region putting on a greater variety of events. Orienteering has changed from the original classic length format and we now have Sprint, Middle and Urban races. These have allowed us to use different areas as our major forests are made less attractive by the wholesale invasion of brambles. Sprint events can be held in forests, parks, towns on areas that were deemed too small in the past. Middle distance events can use small but technical areas and produce very good orienteering. Urban events open up lots of new terrain and, in my opinion, are perfect for Summer when the undergrowth makes orienteering both unpleasant and a bit of a lottery. I'm sure as a region we could embrace these (relatively) new formats.

Happy Orienteering, Rod

Copy Date for next issue: 17 March 2014



*The Editor*

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## WMOA Chairman's Report December 2014 Bob Brandon

A big thank you to Rod Postlethwaite for offering to edit a new series of West Midlands Orienteering Association (WMOA) newsletters.

You may ask - Why does the West Midlands Regional Association exist?

Remembering back to when I started orienteering as a 16 year old, WMOA has always existed. At the time there were the Droobers and the Halesowen Club which were linked together as the WMOA. WMOA seemed responsible for answering enquiries about orienteering and put on many Introduction to Orienteering classroom sessions followed by lead walks around a course, before being let loose to try out a Score Event before going home.

Later whilst I was away at University, Peter Palmer arrived in Stafford and set up Walton Chasers. Meanwhile Harlequins had morphed out of the Halesowen Club and a small but determined Solihull club SOLOS was in existence. It was not long before new town initiatives at Telford and Stoke-on-Trent promoted the birth of the Wrekin and Potteries Clubs. Eventually the Solihull Club invaded Birmingham to become the City of Birmingham Club (COBOC). WMOA even invaded Herefordshire, the Wye Valley Club unfortunately folding after masterminding the JK in 1994 and BOC in 2000, having developed several new areas in the county, which are still in use today.

Whilst all this was going on the British Orienteering Federation (BOF) was formed. This was where WMOA came into it's own with representation on BOF Council and numerous BOF Committees. Here the WMOA became a two-way conduit of information between the grass roots and the BOF executive.

More recently the rebranding and restructuring of BOF into British Orienteering has meant limited representation at the top level. Making good use of the internet, British Orienteering provides information to Regions and Clubs.

So why does the WMOA exist today?

In those early days the various Championships were initiated: the West Midlands Championships; the West Midlands Relay Championships; The West Midlands School's Championships; The Laurie Bradley New Year's Day Score Event and, more recently, the West Midlands Park Championships.

Then there is the 10 event West Midlands League (Captain Roy Lindsell tells me that in 2014 Wrekin intend to 'improve on their 2013 improvement!').

Every 3 years WMOA takes it's turn to put on the Midland Championships (in rotation with EAOA and EMOA).

Every other year Harlequins and Wrekin put on the successful multi-day Springtime in Shropshire weekend.

The WMOA also takes it's turn with the JK and British Championships. In 2014 Potteries are staging the British Sprint Championships at Keele University whilst on the same weekend Walton Chasers host the British Middle Distance Championships on Cannock Chase.

In 2015 it is planned to stage the Junior Inter-Regional Championships and in 2016 WMOA complete the 'British Championship' set when Brown Clee is to be the venue for the British Long Distance Championships and British Relay Championships with the event being coordinated by Harlequins Eric Brown.

The WMOA co-ordinates all of these events (and more) so co-operation needs to take place between WMOA clubs and those putting on events in neighbouring Regions.

A lot of work! Fortunately we have Allan Williams (WCH) who spends a considerable time sorting out our fixture list. Luckily our Clubs have people willing to spend time merging their events together.

The WMOA are also lucky to have Melanie Elkington (OD) looking after the West Midlands Junior Squad. You will get an idea of Mel's passion by reading her latest Squad report elsewhere in this newsletter. The Squad are successful and there is a friendly approach to Jun-

ior orienteering which ensures progression for all.

The WMOA are also fortunate to have Delia Kingsbury (WRE) as Secretary. You will notice how detailed her Committee Minutes are, whilst at the same time Delia ensures that the Chairman keeps to the agenda in hand. The WMOA are lucky to have Barry McGowan (HOC) too as Treasurer to look after the income from competition levies.

The WMOA Committee meets four times a year with representatives from each Club within the Region. It's not just a talking shop - decisions are made. Take a look at the Minutes from the December 2013 meeting which amongst other things:

- re-vamped the West Midlands Relay Classes (Sue Findlay-Robinson [WCH] kindly polled the various Club Captains for their opinions

and the Committee that decided the changes that are to take place).

- the introduction of a West Midlands Urban League in 2014 following an idea by Mark Stodgell and Jonathan Howell (both of WCH)
- the ability to include a variety of different types of events in the West Midlands League programme.
- appointed 2 grade C controllers (more to come at March 2014 meeting).

That's about it for a first Chairman's Report. If not before, I hope to see you all on New Year's Day.

Bob



## CompassSport Cup/ Trophy Draw

Organising Club & Region	Area	Cup	Trophy
CHIG (SEOA)	Broxbourne	HH, NOR, SLOW, WAOC	CHIG, DFOK, HAVOC, LOK, MV, SAX, SMOC, SOS, SUFFOC
Note: As there are 8 or more Trophy clubs then the first and second placed Trophy clubs qualify for the Final.			
MDOC (NWOA)	Irwell Valley	DEE, DVO, MDOC, NOC	POTOC, SELOC, SROC
HOC (WMOA)	Kinver Edge	HOC, LEI, OD, WCH	COBOC, LOG, SBOC, WRE
Note: If OD win then the second placed Cup club qualifies for the Final.			
DEVON (SWOA)	Hay Tor	BOK, DEVON	KERNO, QO, SARUM, SWOC
Note: If BOK win then the second placed Cup club qualifies for the Final.			
SOC (SCOA)	Ashurst & Matley Heath	BKO, NGOC, SN, SO, SOC, TVOC	BADO, GO, NWO, WIM, WSX
CLARO (NEOA, YHOA)	Guissecliff	AIRE, CLOK, EBOR, LOC, SYO	CLARO, EPOC, HALO, NATO, NN, PFO
Note: If LOC win then the second placed Cup club qualifies for the Final.			
FVO (SOA)	Achray South	GRAMP, MAROC	AYROC, BL, CLYDE, ELO, FVO, KFO, TAY
Note: If FVO win then the second placed Trophy club qualifies for the Final.			

## Minutes of WMOA meeting on 9 December 2013, Great Barr Hotel

**Present:** Delia Kingsbury, Robert Brandon, Barry Elkington, John Woodall, Ray Collins, Barry McGowan, Allan Williams, Brenda Morgan, Henry Morgan, Rod Postlethwaite, Graham Hardy

1. **Apologies:** Melanie Elkington
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Correspondence:**

From SWOA, there had been notification of an event safety workshop on 23 Feb 2014. This was to be held at Staunton after the NGOC event. Information had been circulated to WMOA clubs.

WMOA contact details held by Walsall library had been updated.

### 6. Chairman's Report

Wrekin were thanked for putting on the West Midlands Championships.

Now that we have a newsletter editor again the Chairman's report will be included in the magazine as a separate item, instead of in the meeting minutes.

### 7. Treasurers Report

Income from levies is behind budget, however the rates will increase as of 1 January 2014 which should raise an additional £30 per event. Year to date there is a loss of about £240 over 3 months. Increased income is anticipated from major events being stage in the region over coming years. There has been no real spending apart from the junior squad and meeting room costs. The current bank balance is about £2.5k, which includes approximately £1600 in relation to the Junior Squad.

### 8. Fixtures

The Regional Fixtures meeting on 04/11/13 identified 10 events for the 2014 League and will include the WMOA Park Orienteering Championships. League events can be found from the BOF web site by searching for WMOA level C events. Other WMOA events are:

Laurie Bradley Score Event – OD  
WM Schools Relays – WCH 10 May at Hednesford  
WM Relays – POTO

WM Championships – WCH - 30 November

### JIRC 2015

This event has been swapped from 2014 to 2015. Current proposals suggest OD and WCH running this event jointly. A co-ordinator is needed. There is concern about how this event can be staged as approximately 200 youngsters take part who will require accommodation. The terrain is selected in consultation with Regional Squad Managers. Cannock / Stafford area is proposed in conjunction with outdoor centres. Beaudesert Scout Camp or schools were suggested, for accommodation; nobody had any suggestions re suitable schools for the latter.

### BOC 2016 - Brown Cleve

Phil Kirk and Sue Hallett from OD have volunteered to organise and plan the Relay event. Bob Brandon to encourage Eric Brown to have a site visit with all the officials so that they could start working together on this event.

### West Midlands Urban League

Club fixtures secretaries had been happy with this idea. The following urban events were already in club fixtures:

WRE – Bridgnorth in July  
WCH – Stafford in October  
HOC – Redditch  
OD – Kenilworth evening event  
POTO to consider such an event.

It is believed that a member of WCH is willing to collate results. The events will be confirmed early spring next year. Summer time is ideal for urban when many forests are unusable due to high undergrowth.

It was confirmed that the events were covered by insurance and subject to detailed risk assessments. Permission is needed from local councils and police should be notified of the event.

### West Midlands League Events

At the AGM it was asked if there could be more variety reflected in the League events. It

was agreed there was no reason why a mixture of events could not be included. It is for clubs to propose suitable events for inclusion. It was also agreed that it was not essential to include the WM Championships in the League as this is an event that may not need the boost of League status.

## 9. West Midlands Relay Formats

Susan Findlay-Robinson had provided a range of proposals which included a significant contribution from Susan Humphries at OD. Their efforts were acknowledged. The suggested changes were duly considered with some options being rejected as too complicated, despite being interesting.

General feelings were that mixing adults and youngsters was not a good idea, competitors wanted to race their peer groups. There was a strong desire to retain the Mini-Relay and Ad-Hoc classes. There was a requirement to match the number of classes with existing trophies.

The following was agreed as a format to be used for 2014 as a pilot:

- All classes would start at the same time to increase the sense of competition.
- A reduced number of courses (with gaffles) should be able to cater for a mass start.
- The mini relay to be started about 5 minutes after the main event, the expectation being that this would finish before most first leg runners returned to changeover. This also means that juniors are not in woods / parks without adult orienteers around and so increases their safety.
- Age classes will be JK style, but not mixed sex; men's teams can include a woman (no change).
- The age classes would be as follows for men and women:
  - Open, 42- (light green equivalent), 54- (for older juniors), 130+, 165+ and 200+
- Mini Relay and Ad Hoc would remain as mixed classes.
- It is expected that all 3 courses within the same class (except Ad Hoc) would be of comparable length, and that some of the courses can be used in more than one class.

## 10. West Midlander

R. Postlethwaite had not yet received any contributions and would welcome material from anybody. A pre-Christmas copy date was proposed. RP felt he had ideas to generate enough material for the first issue and hoped this would generate contributions. Distribution will be to club secretaries or nominated distribution person / email tree caretaker.

## 11. Development

### a) Mapping training

R. Postlethwaite outlined a format for a mapping course. The map advisory group is trying to produce packages (being finalised) that can be used to standardise training. This had been delivered for EMOA by David Olivant, part 1 is surveying, and part 2 is cartography. Skills learned would be adequate for small amendments requested from planners, or to map small areas like schools/parks.

Such a course would need a venue where laptops could be used – Scout Hut at Boldmere Gate / John O'Leary Centre Cannock Chase. Suggested this course might be feasible 2015. This is to be included in West Midlander to gauge the level of interest.

There needs to be comprehensive teaching of OCAD given the high level of detail in the programme. Mappers need to be aware of new technology such as LiDAR which gives good quality base maps of land form beneath trees – these aspects would be aimed at more experienced mappers.

A. Williams asked if there was a view on the use of Open Source Mapping. This was confirmed as being a good source that will open and save in OCAD 8 format. There is also the freeware 'Open Orienteering Mapper.'

### b) Controller Ratification

Clive Richardson and John Embrey were approved as grade 3 controllers, Eric Brown to be asked for additional supporting information. Several others had attended the controllers course and clubs were requested to encourage them to submit their supporting information to WMOA.

During this discussion it became apparent that Henry Morgan did not have contact details

of all Controllers in WMOA, in particular those who had moved in from another area.

It was agreed that the current Controllers list should be included in The West Midlander, any active controllers not on the list would be requested to contact H. Morgan.

H. Morgan encouraged clubs to find their own controllers, however, he will assist if there are problems, but clubs should not leave this until the last minute.

## **12. Feedback from Club and Region Conference**

There had been a high emphasis on using youngsters from schools as they needed volunteer experience for their Duke of Edinburgh service awards. Examples were provided of using volunteers from [csv.org](http://csv.org) and [volunteering.uk](http://volunteering.uk); the latter is being used to source volunteers for the Scottish 6 days. R. Collins reported that he had tried the websites which had returned lots of contact points. Clubs could maybe consider accessing and using such volunteers for non technical roles when staging events.

The report into volunteers in orienteering had been fed back and contained some useful information and encouraged the sharing of good practice amongst clubs.

The NFU facilities had been excellent, were free and attendees were well catered for. It was believed that attendance had been up relative to previous years and all associations were represented.

## **13. Events and Competitions Committee**

Update from B. Elkington.

At a recent meeting a fixtures structure had been developed and Regional Fixtures Secretaries now had a clearer framework to work within. There had been a focus on the UK League which was to include JK, British Championships, Southern, Midland, Northern and Scottish Championships. The competition period would be February to November. There would be a focus to include weekend events i.e. those where Saturday and Sunday events were co-ordinated. The aim was then to seek a fair spread of events around the country; this may take a couple of years to become established.

Helen Errington has resigned but will conclude 'current business'. Ed Nicholas has resigned. Sally Pygott's role is to focus on Major Event organisation. The new committees can make decisions but have a lack of volunteers to undertake the tasks required. Any additional volunteers will be welcomed.

New age classes will be introduced from next year in recognition of the growing numbers of participants over 70. This will be the 'super super veteran' class.

Night events will be used for ranking points from 1 January 2014.

Feedback from the Regions was strongly in favour of retaining the award of trophies to winners at the British Orienteering Championships. It will become an administrative job for the organising club to recall the trophies, although the engraving will be done by BOF.

## **14. West Midlands Junior Squad -**

September 2013 to December 2013 report from Mel Elkington.

See Report in West Midlander

## **15. WMOA Historical Records**

A view was sought upon what to do with WMOA records going back over several decades. J. Woodall reported that BOF had archived their old records with Sheffield. He will contact them with a view to discussion following on between the archivist and WMOA (B. Elkington).

## **16. AOB**

R. Collins – again encouraged clubs to submit results from level D events for inclusion onto the BOF website. This had started, but seemed to tail off again.

H. Morgan brought the availability of British Schools Orienteering merchandise (includes mini banners) to the attention of those present. He has further information for anyone interested.

B. Morgan is hoping to make arrangements with Shugborough for the British Sprint & Middle Champs events in 2014. There was no local event co-ordinator, the role is being carried out by S. Pygott.

D. Kingsbury sought confirmation of club reps: WRE G. Hardy; POTO C B. Morgan; OD B. Elkington; COBOC/HOC B. McGowan; WCH R. Collins.

### 17. Meetings for 2014

10 March, 9 June, 8 September, 8 December.

AGM will be 13 October – clubs are requested to note this date and try to avoid clashes when planning their own AGMs.

## Gaffle and Gaffling

Having recently volunteered to be Assistant Planner for the 2014 West Midlands Relays at Park Hall Country Park, I decided to consult the BOF Rules and Guidelines. Midway through there is a sub heading 'Gaffling.' I had never come across this word, but it was self explanatory that it meant splitting of courses. Out of context of the BOF document, if I had heard this word spoken I may have guessed it was referring to a 'bad error' i.e. a gaffe.

Why did I not know this word? Surely I would have at least come across it in 2000 when I last planned the West Midlands Relays. Having looked up paper copies of the Rules and Guidelines for 1999 I found no use of this word.

Intrigued by this I decided to find out the derivation of this word. In the Oxford English Dictionary the word 'Gaffle' has three archaic definitions: it was a spur that was attached to fighting cockerels; a tool for bending longbows or a rest for musket guns. Wiktionary also lists two of these and another meaning 'to steal', and then a recently added update (2011) by a name that looked familiar ... Jonathan Howell, who defined its use in orienteering with the verb 'Gaffling'.

More recently I was presented with a draft of the new Rules for the West Midlands Relays and that word cropped up yet again.

More research was required.

On the Wikipedia Orienteering page it states that 'Gaffling' is derived from the Swedish word that means 'Forking.'

However, using internet translators, I discovered that the Swedish for Fork is a slightly different word – 'Gaffel.'

So a few days later, I try a new line of enquiry. I Google 'Gaffeling' and I find its use on a number of UK orienteering websites but many more using the alternative spelling with two 'l's 'Gaffelling.'

Still not satisfied, I wonder what other English speaking nations use. I discovered an archive of 'The Auckland Orienteer' from 1997 in which the two alternative origins and spellings of the word were discussed by three contributors with no definite conclusion!

So what word do the Swedes use? I found a reference in the O-Ringen website. On both the Swedish version and their own English translation the word used is 'Gaffling.'

### Conclusion

The most common version used of the word is 'Gaffling' and therefore must be the correct one to use. This conflicts with the most commonly thought origin – 'gaffel.' Forgetting that orienteering originated in Sweden, I think that its origin is from the old English word as all the three meanings are for forked implements. Or I may be wrong and the word has been distorted from its Swedish origin!

John Heaton (POTO C)



*This article also appeared in the January 2014 issue of 'The Potter'.*

## West Midlands Junior Squad

### Report September 2013-December 2013

The Junior Inter Regionals in SCOA took place on the weekend of September 28/29. The team of

Julie & Rachel Emmerson, Rachel Johnson, Harriet Lawson, Aimee Morse, Heather Rogers, Gemma Cairns Smith, Rhianon Cope, Heather Craig, Ellie Bales, Peter Riley, Hamish Rogers, Stephen Elkington, Nathan Lawson, Matt Hartland, Harrison McCartney, Alfie Bullus, Ewan Lloyd finished in 5th position. I was very proud of them all, both in their behaviour and the way they tackled some very challenging courses. The courses are at the top end of the range of difficulty for the colour.

Both Iain Embrey and I attended the Junior Regional Orienteering Squad's AGM on behalf of the West Midlands Junior Squad in Hathersage on the 16 November 2013.

The annual trip to Hawkshead took place on the 22nd/23rd/24th November for Stephen Elkington, Aimee Morse, Matt Hartland, Gemma Cairns Smith, Harrison McCartney, Nathan Lawson, Heather Rogers and Rhianon Cope. This was yet again an outstanding weekend of training at TDS level. Those that attended benefitted hugely - they trained on Esthwaite Intake, travelled by ferry to Great Tower then on the Sunday morning we were on Tarn Howes.

Coming up we have 'Tinsel O' at Sutton Park on the 22 December 2013 followed by three days on Sand dunes in the Gower Wales during February half term 2014, courtesy of Swansea Bay Orienteering Club.

Then those that want to are travelling to Sweden to take part in the 'O Ringen' this Summer.



*Hawkshead 2013*

I am always looking at league events to try to identify up and coming juniors who would like to join the Squad. James Howell and Alex Mitchell will be joining the squad for 2014. If anyone identifies any more that would be interested then please ask them to look at the West Midlands Junior Squad website:

<http://www.wmjs.co.uk> and then email me if they feel they would like to join.

The squad currently has four members that are part of the GB Talent Squad – Harriet Lawson, Matt Elkington, Julie Emmerson and Harrison McCartney.

Melanie Elkington (WMJS Co-ordinator)

2014 Calendar	
18-20 February	Wales
29-30 March	Interland-France
18-25 July	'O Ringen' Sweden
30-31 August	Junior Home International
27-28 September	JIRCS (YHOA)
22-23 November	Hawkshead
21 December	Tinsel O'

## Minutes of WMOA AGM on 18 October 2013, Great Barr Hotel

### 1. Present:

R. Brandon (Chair), R. Collins (Vice Chair), D. Kingsbury (WRE), B. McGowan (Treasurer), A. Williams (Fixtures), J. Bennison (WRE), M. Callow (WRE), T. Craig (WCH), D. Deakin (WRE), M. Elkington (OD), B. Elkington (OD), S. Findlay-Robinson (WCH), J. Findlay-Robinson (WCH), J. Howell (WCH), H. Morgan (POTOC), B. Morgan (POTOC), R. Postlethwaite (WRE), J. Woodall (BOF)

### 2. Apologies:

R. Fauset (HOC), G. Hardy (WRE), R. Vickers (HOC)

### 3. Declarations of interest: None

### 4. Minutes:

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by R. Collins, seconded by H. Morgan, carried by the meeting.

### 5. Matters Arising: None

### 6. Correspondence: None since last WMOA meeting.

### 7. Chairman's Report

The membership of the Region has put on many orienteering events throughout the past 12 months. Amongst these, have been events that have a particular link throughout the WMOA. For example, since the 2012 AGM we have had two WMOA Championships (both on days with grotty weather), also the WMOA Relay Championships, the WMOA Park 'O' Championships, the WMOA School's Championships and at the turn of the year, the New Year's Day Score Event.

In addition a full programme of WMOA League events has taken place – there being 11 in the schedule for this current calendar year. In addition the Region profile was raised by those attending from outside the Region, a very successful Springtime in Shropshire weekend that was put on by the Wrekin and Harlequin Clubs. All these events, together with numerous local events amounts to a tremendous number of man-hours spent organising, mapping, planning, controlling and/or helping. A big thank you to everyone. In particular to Al-

lan Williams whose role with Fixtures, as you know, is invaluable. Allan's report is later.

Some of us attended a British Orienteering Conference in Sheffield for Regions and Clubs which I think we found not so useful. This year's conference is within our region, next week at Stratford-on-Avon with a theme of 'Volunteers'. It will be interesting what news our delegates bring back to tell about at our December Committee meeting.

I mentioned the WMOA Relays, where it was thought by some as lacking as a head to head relay competition. Suggestions have been made, such as introducing some classes with age combinations (e.g. 125+) like at the JK. and/or combining some of the age classes. Following a brief discussion at the September committee meeting I have asked Sue Findlay-Robinson to see what the club captains think about the current relay classes. We will discuss what Sue finds out at our December meeting

The Region has held a couple of Development days in the year. 12 attended a Planner's Course in the Spring and 7 a Controller's Course in the Autumn. Hopefully this will assist towards finding officials in the new year.

The Junior Squad continues to be so well managed by Mel Elkington, their success at the recent Inter-Regional Championship in 5th place. Mel will be providing a brief outline of our junior successes later.

Looking to the future, we are involving ourselves in Championship events for British Orienteering. We promote the Sprint and Middle Distance Weekend in September 2014. POTOC have been steadily working towards the Sprint event at Keele University, once the original November date being a particular hurdle to overcome. Chasers have only just settled on the venue (Brereton Spurs) for the Middle event, the original choice of area having been withdrawn. The search for a substitute area, both inside and outside the Region, has taken up most of the Summer. Brereton is barely a mile from the original venue. Perhaps Autumn is not the right time of year for such events.

Meanwhile, Harlequins have been busy with plans to put on the British Long and Relay

weekend at Brown Clee Hill in 2016. Brian Hughes, John Leeson and Eric Brown in particular have been working on this. As with the Sprint and Middle next year, there is a need for much help from the whole Region.

A thank you to Hilary Simpson for continuing to look after the regional Colour-Coded Badge awards; Henry Morgan who looks after the allocation of Controllers to events; Lesley Ross for her work with the League; and to John Bennison who looks after the Committee e-mail tree.

Finally, I have a piece of good news in that Rod Postlethwaite has volunteered to take on the role of Regional Newsletter Editor. It will be good to have a structured communication that can be used to share information easily around the Region. I am looking forward to Rod's first on-line issue.

## 8. Treasurers Report

The Region had a £95 profit relative to the budgeted loss of £1000, the income for the year was higher than expected. SinS had yielded £1800 and there was around £900 from other events. There had been no West Midlander costs and the profit represented here represented the sale of excess stamps. This lack of West Midlander printing and distribution represents a considerable cost saving and in future it is intended that it will be an electronic circulation. There were increasing contributions to the EOC as this is no longer funded by BOF. The contributions are per capita for the Regions.

There is £1000 donation per annum to the Junior Squad. Donations were made to 9 juniors to attend the World School Championships. It appeared that the Region's top juniors were claiming less as they were receiving funding from other bodies. The accounts include the Junior Squad, which currently holds just under £3000.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by B. Morgan, seconded by R. Postlethwaite. The meeting accepted the accounts.

## Budget 2013/2014

The anticipated expenses for the year are similar to those for the last year. It was proposed that a loss of up to £1000 could be toler-

ated. However, this is not a SinS year, so in absence of a large levy there is a need to increase the WMOA levy. It is proposed to align the WMOA levy to that of BOF.

It is proposed that with effect from 1 January 2014 the WMOA levies, applicable to all events, will be as follows:

Participants	Levy
Juniors	Free
First 30 Adults	Free
Adults 31 to 210	50p each
Adults over 210	£1 each

For example at an event with 250 competitors the levy would be applied as 180 @50p each and 40 @£1 each, the first 30 being free.

This was proposed by D. Deakin, seconded by H. Morgan and accepted by those present.

It was clarified that this levy will be applied to events and not activities.

## 9. Fixtures

Our WMOA Fixtures Group meets twice a year and includes representatives from all clubs. We were pleased to welcome COBOC back this year. At our next meeting in November we will complete the schedule for the WMOA League and Championships.

British Orienteering's new Event Scheduling Group is functioning well and is now funded to have two meetings per year. We face a challenge fitting around 25 major events into the year, that fill about half of the available weekends. We must also fit these into the National Orienteering League and spread them through the year and around the country. When we come to schedule events in the region we face a quandary, do we avoid clashes with the larger events or do we ignore them. If we avoid them we end up with empty weekends, if we clash we get some complaints and sometimes a shortage of officials as they tend to be the orienteers who also travel to more distant events. I'd be interested to hear what the membership thinks. We also have to prevent clashes of our open events with those only open to a sub-section of the community. This year we managed to avoid a

clash between the British School Championships and our WMOA Championships but we were unable to prevent the Peter Palmer Relays & the WMOA Relays taking place on the same day. We will try to prevent this in the future although sometimes we are victims of advanced planning when our local clubs are planning further ahead than other regions.

We have finally fixed a venue for the British Middle Championships. A change in date from November to September combined with a large amount of felling forced Chasers to withdraw the offer to use Beaudesert. After a wider search and the possibility of Chasers organising on a borrowed area we have eventually compromised a little and chose to use Brereton Spurs. We look forward to a great weekend of events alongside POTOC's Sprint at Keele University.

M. Elkington asked about the timing of the British Schools Score Event and British Schools Championships and also the West Midlands Championships, given recent clashes. With respect to the latter, whilst it affected just a small number of Juniors some were known not to have attended following a busy Junior calendar in the previous weeks.

B. Elkington reported that within BOF M. Cope had outlined the process for fixing Major Events 2-3 years in advance and then fixing dates for other events, nearly half the weekends accommodate a National Event. Unforeseen circumstances will inevitably lead to some changes and a small number of clashes.

J. Findlay Robinson asked if Urban racing was included in these events. A. Williams thought not as the Nopesport League is not a BOF competition.

D. Deakin commented that local fixtures also had to contend with non-orienteeing events that would also attract runners, which left few free slots.

Sue Findlay-Robinson felt that local events were not advertised soon enough so some orienteers committed to more distant events in order to take advantage of good offers for transport and accommodation.

It was suggested that WMOA League events be nominated much sooner, for publicity and visibility of clashing events.

## 10. Other Reports

### M. Elkington – Junior Squad.

Junior training had taken place in Hawkshead and Wales. There has also been Christmas coaching and they had taken part in the JIRC in September. Next year training venues/events will include Hawkshead, 'Tinsel O,' The Gower and the 'O-Ringen.'

The Junior Squad have their own website [www.wmjs.co.uk](http://www.wmjs.co.uk)

H. Morgan made a plea for more orienteers to become Controllers and for some existing Controllers to move up a level to control more complex events. A Controller was needed for the WMOA New Year's Day event and NGOC have requested a Controller for the Veteran Home International on 13/14 June.

## 11. Election of Officers

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Robert Brandon	John Bennison	Barry Elkington
Vice Chair	Ray Collins	Robert Brandon	Barry Elkington
Secretary	Delia Kingsbury	Brenda Morgan	Mike Callow
Treasurer	Barry McGowan	Henry Morgan	Sue Findlay- Robinson
Newsletter Editor	Rod Postlethwaite	Robert Brandon	Ray Collins
Fixtures	Allan Williams	Brenda Morgan	Dave Deakin

All the above were duly elected

A call was made for a volunteer to take up the position of Coaching rep for WMOA.

## 12. West Midlander

R. Postlethwaite asked for lots of articles and for copies of club magazines. After some discussion it was agreed that the new 'West Midlander' format will be A4 sized, colour and electronic format. It will be quarterly following the WMOA meetings. It was clarified that images of Juniors could be included as long as names were not included.

The first edition will be published in December. (*Now early January - Ed.*)

### 13. West Midlands Relay Team Formats

A number of suggestions had emerged following consultation with club captains and competitors. Whilst there is a high Ad Hoc team entry there was a desire to retain this class and it had been suggested that non club based teams (including Ad Hoc) might be possible. The Event Organiser could create competitive age class teams from those unable to fill a competitive team within clubs.

One thought is to use the same age classes as the JK i.e. M/W 40 and M/W120, i.e. 3 people whose combined ages come to these totals. Some age classes of 125 and 165 had been proposed.

R. Collins suggested a mass start for all the teams entered (apart from the Mini Relay) to provide more head to head racing. He also pointed out the anomaly of sending out the mini relay into the first when there were no other orienteers around, it would be better to start them later from a safety viewpoint.

A WOC style Mixed Sprint Relay was also suggested.

A. Williams suggested there could be common first parts of course, then split them out before bringing routes closer towards the ends of different legs to give a racing feel.

### 14. Any Other Business

- **Timing of West Midlands Schools Championships.** There are plans to move this back to mid May. It is hoped this will be weekend of May 10/11 next year but this is to be confirmed. The current proposed date of 28 June clashes with school athletics, and D of E. It was pointed out that the cost of coaches to transport youngsters to such events made it very expensive for schools to participate.
- **Updated e-mail addresses** for WMOA contacts to be sent to J. Bennison so that he could update the WMOA addresses and groups.
- J. Howell asked whether a **WMOA Urban League** was possible now that this was an established aspect of the sport. It could happen if each club put on one event per year. Another suggestion was to link with the EMOA

Urban League which has 8 events. This would need someone to bring a structure together to take this forward, find free dates and persuade clubs to stage the events. A Williams to consider a possible set of dates.

- B. Morgan sought clarification on how to **classify West Midlands Championship runners**, who ran up a class. It was confirmed that they would be treated as a higher age class. e.g. W40 running Blue could be considered as W21.
- For the 2014 **BOF Sprint Event**, Shugborough Outdoor Centre is being considered as a possible camp site – information re costs are awaited by POTO.
- M. Callow had **unawarded West Midlands Championship trophies** to be distributed.
- Wrekin also required a Controller for the Yvette Baker event on The Ercall next year.
- T. Craig commented that the **WMOA League** was a series of 10 events that were all the same – could there be some variety e.g. Sprint, Middle and Classic distances. She also observed that the winners of the age groups receive nothing and asked if this could be duly considered. It was pointed out that awarding points could be difficult when events have different formats, so this would need to be resolved in the planning. The Park Championships could be included.
- R. Brandon thanked D. Kingsbury, B. McGowan and the rest of the **committee for their work** during the past year.
- R. Postlethwaite asked whether a **Mapping Course** could be run in the WMOA. He had assisted D. Olivant (Map Group Chair) with an EMOA Course. He offered to lead such a Course if there was sufficient demand and if a venue could be found. Assistance may be given by C. Spears and/or B. Bryant. This would include Surveying and Cartography.
- R. Collins stated that WCH have participated in the **Peak District Relay** which has 15-20 legs, however there were only 9 teams entered this year. R. Collins is organising this event next year and it will be held on 21 June at Ilam Hall. Competitors receive their maps in advance.

### 15. Next WMOA meeting 09/12/13

## SWOA Courses/Workshops

The SWOA are holding a number of courses which are open to all BOF members which some WMOA members might like to attend if space allows.

### SWOA (DEVON) one day Level 2 First Aid Course

**Date:** Saturday 1 February 2014  
**Time:** 09.00 to 16.00.  
**Venue:** Clyst St Mary Primary School hall, Exeter, EX5 1BG  
**Cost:** £25 (DEVON Seniors), £10 (DEVON Juniors), £55 Others  
**Tutor:** Steve Rose (DEVON)  
**Bookings:** Tess Stone (DEVON) 0129 553421 [plum.pebble@gmail.com](mailto:plum.pebble@gmail.com)

### A Workshop on 'The interpretation of LiDAR data for Orienteering Maps'

**Date:** Saturday 22 February 2014  
**Time:** 10.00-15.00 hrs  
**Venue:** Torquay Boys' Grammar School, Shiphay Manor Drive, Torquay TQ2 7EL  
**Cost:** £5.00  
**Tutor:** Erik Peckett  
**Bookings:** Send name and Club to [erik.peckett@talktalk.net](mailto:erik.peckett@talktalk.net) by 01/02/14.

### SWOA (BOK) British Orienteering Event Safety Workshop

**Date:** Sunday 23 February 2014  
**Time:** 15.00 to 18.00. After the nearby NGOC Galoppen at Knockalls Enclosure.  
**Venue:** White Horse Inn, Staunton, Forest of Dean, GL16 8PA, Grid Reference: SO 548127  
**Cost:** Free  
**Tutor:** Katy Dyer (BOK)  
**Bookings:** Katy Dyer (BOK) 0117 968 4173 [family.dyer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:family.dyer@blueyonder.co.uk) by 22/02/14

### OCAD 11 workshop (More efficient map making with OCAD 11)

**Date:** Saturday 15 March 2014  
**Time:** 10.00-17.00  
**Venue:** Conference Room, Avon Riding Centre, Bristol BS10 7QT  
**Cost:** Free - lunch included.  
**Tutor:** Thomas Gloor, Managing Director of OCAD AG (Switzerland).  
**Bookings:** Katy Dyer (BOK) 0117 968 4173 [family.dyer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:family.dyer@blueyonder.co.uk)  
**Equipment:** You need a laptop with OCAD11 Trial version installed. Details of this later.  
 Places are limited so please book early.

### SWOA (DEVON) Planners' Course (for Planners new and up to Level C)

**Date:** Saturday 17 May 2014  
**Time:** 09.00-16.00.  
**Venue:** Killerton, Exeter (venue TBC)  
**Cost:** Free (DEVON members), £10 Others.  
**Tutors:** Jill and Roger Green (DEVON)  
**Bookings:** Nicholas Maxwell 01752 739040 or Jill Green 01392 278512  
[jill-green@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jill-green@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Mapping Matters

### Mapping Course

Maps are a fundamental part of orienteering - without them competitions as we know them couldn't take place at all and none of us would be able to get our weekend (or any other day for that matter) 'fix.' It is vital, therefore, that people can learn the skills to be able to make maps so it is important that training courses are held. It is for this reason that the British Orienteering Map Advisory Group has been working on producing a formal curriculum to teach mapping on the same lines as the courses for coaching, controlling, planning.

The materials are almost finalised and I trialled the Cartography section of the 2 Day Mapping Course for the EMOA at Lincoln in October. It went very well although a few things need to be 'resolved'. I have also held courses at Builth Wells, Burnley, Colchester, Lincoln, Llandrindod Wells and Nottingham often as part of a two man team.

It is some time since there was an official Mapping Course in the West Midlands so it would seem to be an appropriate time to consider holding one as part of the Region Development strategy. As previously stated, it would be a two day course, including a Mapping Safety module. I shall be trying to find suitable dates and venues in the coming months so 'watch this space.' Places will be limited but more courses could be held if there is sufficient demand.

### LiDAR Data

One of the most exciting developments in recent times has been the acquisition of LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data by the Environment Agency. For a full explanation look at the Wikipedia entry: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LidarData> The data comes as an ASCII file in the form of xyz co-ordinates and this data can be manipulated in OCAD 10 and 11 to provide contours, hill shading, vegetation heights, etc., which can save quite a lot of survey time and produce a more positionally correct map than 'compass and pacing.' Oh, I forgot to mention that it can 'see' under the tree canopy, something which photogrammetry can't. Best of all, the Environment Agency has recognised that orienteering is a non-profit organisation and is entitled to a 100% discount on the data.

Unfortunately, the country does not have 100% coverage and data is not available for all our area - notable omissions locally are Brown Clee and The Wrekin.

Rod

## Laurie Bradley Trophy

2014 started in the traditional West Midlands way with the New Year's Day Score Event held by OD at Kingsbury Water Park. Unfortunately the day was very wet which, undoubtedly, reduced the numbers participating.

### Team Scores:

OD 6730  
WCH 5880  
HOC 4410  
WRE 2530  
POTOC 820  
COBOC 780

### Leading Scorers:

Matthew Elkington	M20	OD	380
Andrew Llewellyn	M21	NOC	380
Jason Howell	M45	HOC	360

### Lead Scoring Junior Male:

Stephen Elkington	M18	OD	320
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### Lead Scoring Junior Female:

Aimee Morse	W18	OD	300
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# The West Midlands League 2013

1. Octavian Droobers 6970				2. WRE 6970				3. HOC 6312			
A	Stephen Elkington	M16	500	A	Molly Parker	W12	404	A	Catherine Bailey	W10	389
A	Harrison McCartney	M16	496	A	Holly Lewis	W10	400	A	Alexander Mitchell	M12	350
B	Chris McCartney	M16	500	B	Clive Richardson	M45	500	B	Allan McKinley	M35	437
B	Ondrej Bajgar	M21	451	B	Thomas Lewis	M21	442	B	Ian Hopkins	M45	384
C	Barry Elkington	M55	401	C	John Brammer	M50	413	C	David Williams	M50	500
C	Mike Snell	M55	388	C	Lawrence Jones	M55	405	C	John Embrey	M55	500
D	Lesley Ross	W45	478	D	Katie Lewis	W21	500	D	Kerstin Mitchell	W45	226
D	Melanie Elkington	W50	420	D	Sharron Richardson	W40	500	D	Katherine Atkins	W21	178
E	Roger Hailey	M75	500	E	Brian Morris	M70	496	E	Alison Sloman	W75	500
E	Sheila Carey	W65	500	E	Roy Lindsell	M65	470	E	Barry Houghton	M65	498
F	Hilary Simpson	W70	476	F	Diane Jacks	W45	472	F	Geoff Trewin	M60	497
F	Robert Brandon	M60	473	F	Delia Kingsbury	W45	461	F	Colin Spears	M75	491
F	John Bowman	M70	464	F	Noreen Turner	W70	420	F	Michael Baggott	M60	475
F	Thelma Spalton	W65	463	F	Beryl Pay	W80	420	F	John Pearson	M65	472
F	Peter Carey	M65	460	F	Jeff Haycock	M70	416	F	Robert Scott	M65	417
4. WCH 6029				5. POTO 3862				6. COBOC 1703			
A	Charlotte-Cairns Smith	W12	469	A	Ewan Lloyd	M12	300	B	Ian Gamlen	M45	469
A	Adam Mardling	M12	369	A	Ellie Bates	W14	293	B	Peter Sunley	M21	160
B	Mathew Mardling	M40	247	B	Martin Pigott	M35	300	D	Yvonne Feasey	W45	160
B	Kelvin Dawson	M35	160	B	Stephen Hollamby	M21	160	D	Jenny Hunter	W55	80
C	Ray Collins	M55	472	C	Dave Bales	M55	305	E	Ruth Lockley	W60	323
C	Andrew Yeates	M50	470	C	Geoffrey Hollins	M55	296	E	Mick Sadler	M60	262
D	Claire Bushnell	W50	451	D	Elizabeth Bales	W50	286	F	Richard Beamish	M60	160
D	Alison Yeates	W45	411	D	Alison Corbett	W45	77	F	Joan Norris	W60	93
E	Hazel Waters	W60	500	E	Judy Douglas	W70	335	F	Toby Norris	M75	76
E	Jonathan Howell	M60	484	E	Peter Yoxall	M65	271				
F	Chris Boycott	M70	474	F	Emily Lloyd	W10	259				
F	Norman Hall	M75	425	F	Enys Lloyd	M10	252				
F	Ian Turner	M50	385	F	Henry Morgan	M55	248				
F	Christine Coliins	W50	360	F	Marian Denham	W65	240				
F	Douglas Craig	M50	352	F	Jean Rostron	W70	240				

## 2013 Events

February 10	Lickey Hills	HOC	September 22	Chasewater	WCH
March 3	Haywood Warren	WCH	October 13	Bucknell Woods	WRE
March 17	Bathpool Park	POTOC	November 10	Oldacre	WCH
April 28	Brandon Woods	OD	December 1	Postensplain	HOC
July 14	Sutton Park	OD	December 8	Coombe Abbey	OD

## Individual Winners

<b>M10</b>	Enys Lloyd	POTOC	252	<b>W10</b>	Pippa Smart	OD	442
<b>M12</b>	Adam Mardling	WCH	369	<b>W12</b>	Charlotte Cairns-Smith	WCH	469
<b>M14</b>	Alfie Bullus	OD	300	<b>W14</b>	Ellie Bales	POTOC	293
<b>M16</b>	Stephen Elkington	OD	500	<b>W16</b>	Gemma Cairns-Smith	WCH	272
<b>M18</b>	Daniel Kotecky	OD	311	<b>W18</b>	Beatrice Falga	OD	200
<b>M21</b>	Ondrej Bajgar	OD	451	<b>W21</b>	Katie Lewis	WRE	500
<b>M35</b>	Allan McKinley	HOC	437	<b>W35</b>	Amy Sarkies	OD	200
<b>M40</b>	Chris McCartney	OD	500	<b>W40</b>	Sharron Richardson	WRE	500
<b>M45</b>	Clive Richardson	WRE	500	<b>W45</b>	Lesley Ross	OD	478
<b>M50</b>	David Williams	HOC	500	<b>W50</b>	Claire Bushnell	WCH	451
<b>M55</b>	John Embrey	HOC	500	<b>W55</b>	Lin Page	OD	337
<b>M60</b>	Geoff Trewin	HOC	497	<b>W60</b>	Hazel Waters	WCH	500
<b>M65</b>	Barry Houghton	HOC	498	<b>W65</b>	Sheila Carey	OD	500
<b>M70</b>	Brian Morris	WRE	496	<b>W70</b>	Hilary Simpson	OD	476
<b>M75</b>	Roger Hailey	OD	500	<b>W75</b>	Alison Sloman	HOC	500
<b>M80</b>	Frank Smith	OD	500	<b>W80</b>	Beryl Pay	WRE	420

For the seventh year in a row the League was won by Octavian Droobers who showed their strength in depth by winning 14 of the 32 age groups and providing 12 second places. This year, however, they were pushed hard by Wrekin Orienteers under the guidance of new Club Captain, Roy Lindsell. WRE have finished in 4th place for the last 16 years and have only won the competition once, way back in 1981. Maybe they can win again in 2014?

Since the competition began back in 1979 OD have won the League (or Galoppen as it used to be known) 17 times. WCH have won it 13 times, HOC 3 times and WRE once.

Hopefully 2014 will prove to be another tight run affair with quite a variety of terrain being offered for the League including, for the first time, the West Midlands Park Championships in Solihull on 15 June.

## 2014 Events

January 12	Brandon Woods	OD
January 19	Sandwell Valley	HOC
February 2	Beaudesert	WCH
March 30	Chillington Hall	WCH
April 27	Breakneck Bank	HOC
May 11	Mansty Woods	WCH
June 8	Titterstone Clee	HOC
June 15	Brueton & Malvern Park (West Midlands Park Championships)	OD
October 19	Dudmaston	HOC
November 30	Stafford	WCH

# WMOA Fixtures

January - March 2014

## January

9th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Weekday Evening Event (WEE)</b> <b>Hartlebury Common</b> Stourport Organiser: Andy Hemsted ☎ 0121 382 6168 <a href="#">SO826714</a>
11th	WRE Level D	<b>Wrekin Winter Warmer (CATI No 1)</b> <b>Attingham Park</b> Shrewsbury <a href="#">SJ550100</a> Organiser: Clive Richardson ☎ 01952 771137
11th	POTOC Level D	<b>POTOC Leisure and Training Event,</b> <b>Apedale Country Park</b> Newcastle-under-Lyme <a href="#">SJ822483</a> Organiser: Brenda Morgan ☎ 07910 859932 <a href="mailto:shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk">shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk</a>
12th	OD Level C	<b>OD Colour Coded Event and WMOA League 1</b> <b>Brandon Wood &amp; Piles Coppice</b> Coventry <a href="#">SP386762</a> Organiser: Thelma Spalton ☎ 01509 880115 <a href="mailto:thelma.spalton@btinternet.com">thelma.spalton@btinternet.com</a>
16th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Night Street League (NSL)</b> <b>Tipton</b> Organiser: Adrian Bailey <a href="mailto:baileynagy@blueyonder.co.uk">baileynagy@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
19th	HOC Level C	<b>HOC Colour Coded Event &amp; WMOA League 2</b> <b>Sandwell Valley</b> Sandwell Organiser: Adrian Bailey <a href="mailto:baileynagy@blueyonder.co.uk">baileynagy@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
23rd	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Weekday Evening Event (WEE)</b> <b>Habberley Valley</b> Kidderminster <a href="#">SO884772</a> Organiser: Kerstin Mitchell ☎ 01384 347638
25th	HOC Level D	<b>Western Night League</b> <b>Hollybed Common</b> Malvern <a href="#">SO766382</a> Organiser: Colin Palmer
25th	WRE Level D	<b>Wrekin Winter Warmer (CATI No 2)</b> <b>Nesscliffe</b> Nesscliffe Shrewsbury <a href="#">SJ388188</a> Organiser: Tony Callow ☎ 01743 884219
29th	COBOC Level D	<b>COBOC Night Street Event</b> <b>Sutton Coldfield</b>

## February

1st	OD Level D	<b>OD Local Event</b> <b>Pooley Fields Country Park</b> Polesworth <a href="#">SK258031</a>
2nd	WCH Level C	<b>WCH Colour Coded &amp; WMOA League 3</b> <b>Beaudesert</b> Stafford <a href="#">SK050126</a> Organiser: Andrew Waters
6th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Weekend Evening Event (WEE)</b> <b>Worcester Woods</b> Worcester Organiser: John Leeson ☎ 01386 792828

8th	POTOC Level D	<b>POTOC Leisure and Training Event</b> <b>Brough Park &amp; Fields</b> Leek <a href="http://www.potoc.dandasparks.org.uk">SJ987568</a> Organiser: Dave Bales ☎ 07910 859932
13th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Night Street League (NSL)</b> <b>Jewellery Quarter &amp; Central Birmingham</b> Organiser: Andrew White <a href="mailto:andybwhite@aol.com">andybwhite@aol.com</a>
15th	WRE Level D	<b>Wrekin Winter Warmer (CATI No 3)</b> <b>Twemlows</b> Whitchurch <a href="http://www.sj563367">SJ563367</a> Organiser: Thomas Lewis ☎ 01952 247029
16th	HOC Level B	<b>CompassSport Cup/Trophy Heat</b> <b>Kinver Edge</b> Kinver Organiser: Andrew White <a href="mailto:andybwhite@aol.com">andybwhite@aol.com</a>
20th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Winter Evening Event (WEE)</b> <b>Highgate Common</b> Wombourne <a href="http://www.so835895">SO835895</a> Organiser: Barry Houghton
26th	COBOC Level D	<b>COBOC Night Sevens</b> <b>Sutton Coldfield</b>
<b>March</b>		
8th	POTOC Level D	<b>POTOC Leisure and Training Event</b> <b>Consall Scout Camp (New Area)</b> Cheadle <a href="http://www.sj979474">SJ979474</a> Organiser: Brenda Morgan ☎ 07910 859932 <a href="mailto:shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk">shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk</a>
9th	OD Level B	<b>OD Regional Event</b> <b>Bentley Wood</b> Atherstone <a href="http://www.sp291966">SP291966</a>
15th	HOC Level D	<b>HOC Local Event,</b> <b>Callow Hill</b> Bewdley
16th	WRE Level D	<b>Wrekin Winter Warmer (CATI No 4)</b> <b>Boreatton Park</b> Baschurch <a href="http://www.sj400243">SJ400243</a> Organiser: Diane Jacks ☎ 01948 840654
22nd	OD Level D	<b>OD Local Event</b> <b>Itchington Holt</b> Long Itchington <a href="http://www.sp366558">SP366558</a>
22nd	WRE Level D	<b>Wrekin Winter Warmer (CATI No 5)</b> <b>Quarry Park</b> Shrewsbury <a href="http://www.sj487124">SJ487124</a> Organiser: Richard Lewis ☎ 01948 840428
26th	COBOC Level D	<b>COBOC Twilight Sevens</b> <b>Sutton Coldfield</b>
30th	WCH Level C	<b>WCH Colour Coded &amp; WMOA League 4</b> <b>Chillington Hall</b>

Please note all Fixtures are correct at the time of publishing. Please check club websites for further details.

COBOC <http://www.coboc.org.uk>  
HOC <http://www.harlequins.org.uk>  
OD <http://www.octavian-droobers.org>

POTOC <http://potoc.dandasparks.org.uk>  
WCH <http://www.walton-chasers.co.uk>  
WRE <http://www.wrekinorienteers.co.uk>