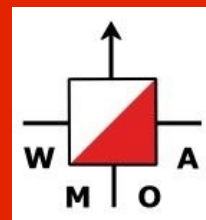


The West Midlander

Autumn 2017



The Newsletter of the
West Midlands Orienteering Association



Association Officials		
Chairman	Ray Collins (WCH)	chair@wmoa.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Richard Lewis (WRE)	vicechair@wmoa.org.uk
Secretary	Delia Kingsbury (WRE)	secretary@wmoa.org.uk
Treasurer	Ian Gamlen (COBOC)	treasurer@wmoa.org.uk
Fixtures Secretary/Rep.	Allan Williams (WCH)	fixtures@wmoa.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Rod Postlethwaite (WRE)	newsletter@wmoa.org.uk
Coaching Rep.	<Vacant>	coaching@wmoa.org.uk
Colour Badge Awards	Hilary Simpson (OD)	colourbadges@wmoa.org.uk
Controllers' Co-ordinator	Bob Brandon (OD)	controlling@wmoa.org.uk
Data Privacy Officer	<Vacant>	dataprivacy@wmoa.org.uk
E-mail Tree Co-ordinator	<Vacant>	emailnews@wmoa.org.uk
Junior Squad Co-ordinator	wmjsquad@gmail.com	juniorsquad@wmoa.org.uk
League Results Co-ordinator	Lesley Ross (OD)	league@wmoa.org.uk
Webmaster	Andrew Johnson (HOC)	webmaster@wmoa.org.uk
Club Representatives		
British Orienteering	Vacant	britorep@wmoa.org.uk
COBOC	Ian Gamlen	cobocrep@wmoa.org.uk
HOC	Marian White	hocrep@wmoa.org.uk
OD	Barry Elkington	odrep@wmoa.org.uk
POTOC	Henry Morgan	potocrep@wmoa.org.uk
WCH (rotating)	Ray Collins	wchrep@wmoa.org.uk
WRE	Richard Lewis	wrerep@wmoa.org.uk
All Committee/Officials		committee@wmoa.org.uk
Website:	http://www.wmoa.org.uk	

Cover Photo: Pippa Smart at the Junior Inter-Regional Relays at Blackheath.

Photo by Mark.Howell (SN)

Editorial

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the 'West Midlander'.

After the Summer holiday 'O' season we are back to the 'regular' season. The West Midlands Championships and Relays have taken place successfully. Thanks to OD and HOC respectively for hosting these events.

Both the West Midlands League and the West Midlands Urban League are reaching the final 'run in' though it's a forgone conclusion that Octavian Droobers will triumph in the League. The real interest now is who will finish runners up? WRE are well placed to take the spot though they will have to stave off late runs from HOC, WCH and POTOC.

Sadly, the region has lost an orienteering club Wye Ventures who have withdrawn from British Orienteering to concentrate on their child-centred developmental programmes for families. We wish them well in their venture.

Turning to 2018, the JK is progressing well and they have designed some snazzy merchandise ('O' tops and buffs) so it's worth having a look at the website for more information. Entries (via SI Entries) are now open and bear in mind that the closing date for the cheapest entry is 17 December 2017. Subsequent closing dates are 28 January 2018 and the final date is 25 February.

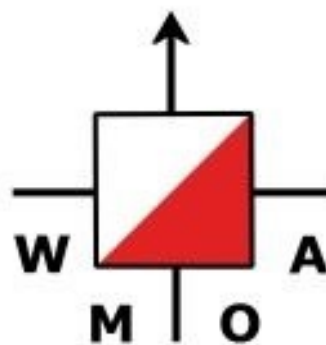
To start 2018 in style, don't forget the annual New Year's Day Score event for the Laurie Bradley Trophy. This year WCH are holding the event at Hednesford Camp on the South end of Cannock Chase.

Happy Orienteering

Rod

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WMOA Chairman's Meander

Ray Collins



*Chairman Ray in action at the Scottish 6 Days
Photo by Wendy Carlyle (AIRE)*

Welcome to Winter. As the nights draw in and the temperature falls we draw ever closer to the climax of the WMOA League. Once again it seems that OD are heading for victory so, congratulations to them but what can the rest of our clubs do to stop this domination? From a Chasers point of view, I think the answer is clear and simple in that we need to get more runners out completing the minimum five events. Next year that is our target 'more runs, more points, more pressure on OD'. Does your club have a plan to stop the OD juggernaut?

Over the Summer we went orienteering in the Pyrenees at a joint Spanish and French event, O'Cedanya. The sun shone, the terrain

was very runnable (unlike the Scottish) and the courses were good. As with all French events you had to have a medical certificate to say you are fit and well before you can compete. What a phaff. Imagine if a newcomer turned up at one of your events and needed to produce a medical certificate but did not have one, would you turn them away? Let's hope the UK does not take this bureaucratic path. A money spinner for doctors.

Last weekend we went to Venice for the annual street race. This year we had an Urban Night Sprint and a morning Middle race. The key to success was intense concentration as making a mistake became very costly, time wise, as relocation was not easy. My tactic was to talk to myself, "next left, second right, etc." this way not only did my eyes know what I intended to do but my ears were also in the know. As I ran past tourists and shoppers they probably thought I was a lunatic, but it worked. I finished without mishap or falling into a canal! A great place to go and the added bonus of orienteering.

The 2018 JK preparations are now moving ahead at quite a pace. The co-ordinator, Andy Yeates, is doing a grand job on our behalf and it is all systems go. Only about 20 weeks to the event, it is approaching rapidly, and your help will be very necessary. One final comment here, 'cheap' entries close on 17 December at SiEntries.

Have a great Winter orienteering, make a New Year resolution to attend more events, and enjoy your Christmas and New Year celebrations before attending the Laurie Bradley New Year's Day event on Cannock Chase.

Minutes of WMOA Committee Meeting 11 September 2017 Great Barr Hotel

1. **Present:** B. Elkington, I. Gamlen, D. Kingsbury, R. Lewis, H. Morgan, R. Postlethwaite, M. White, A. Williams.
2. **Apologies:** R. Collins, R. Dredge, M. Elkington, A. Johnson, K. Strain.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **Acceptance of Minutes:** I. Gamlen was thanked for producing the previous minutes which were accepted as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising:** None.
6. **Correspondence:**

ISOM 2017 had been introduced - an update to the mapping symbols to be used from 2018 from IOF. There is a rolling programme requiring maps in use to be upgraded in line with ISOM 2017 starting with Level A and B competitions from 1 January 2018, then Level C competitions from 1 September 2018 and, finally, Level D from 1 January 2019. The BOF Map Advisory Group is taking this forward. R. Postlethwaite to include information about this in the next 'West Midlander' (see page 27 Ed.)

An e-mail had been received from Kyla da Cunha of Wye Ventures Orienteers explaining that Wye Ventures had withdrawn from British Orienteering - this was read out to the meeting and subsequently circulated to WMOA clubs as requested by Kyla.

From BOF: notification of the Club and Association Conference and EGM in Leeds on 14/10/17.

Mike's e-News from August covering Staffing, Data Protection Act, EGM and Club Conference, website and next update and incentive scheme.

7. Chairman's Report:

No Report.

8. Treasurer's Report:

It was reported that the finances were looking more buoyant due to SinS and WOW weekends both of which were well attended and yielded levies above forecast levels. Expenditure had been less than predicted and there was a surplus of £1500 in the account at the end of the accounting year.

There is an entry of £863 bank account change. This related to moving from two paper accounts to internet banking. The internet bank account is fully set up and enables 'e' transactions - two people are required to authorise each transaction.

It was noted that the entry on the accounts for adverts in the 'West Midlander' is now redundant.

The WMOA and WMJS accounts have been separated which gives more transparency in both accounts. The WMJS account also looks healthy with a current balance of about £2.5k although this is now being spent to cover a large outgoing for participation at this year's JIRC.

I Gamlen noted that the accounts do not appear to have been audited for some years and that it would be good practice to present audited accounts to the WMOA AGM. An auditor will be sought.

The budget for 2017-2018 was presented and discussed. The anticipated income from levies was queried and recommended to be adjusted to £1500 to be realistic in the absence of two weekend events (WOW and SinS).

ACTION: D. Kingsbury to ask R. Dredge if he might be able to audit the WMOA accounts.

9. Fixtures:

JK Update:

There was no formal update re: **JK2018**. It was reported that a contract had been signed with the Scout Camp for two days. It was reported that some of the venues are not listed on the BOF fixtures list which still reads 'WMOA/ N Wales'. The Map Advisor had requested that Planners use OCAD 12 rather than Purple Pen. By way of comparison it was noted that the target attendance for JK2017 had been realised.

M. White asked if SIAC was to be used at JK2018 - it was believed that a dual system of ordinary SI and SIAC will be used. In light of this it was queried whether clubs needed to updated their equipment. It was reported that the equipment organiser for JK2018 would have been in touch with club equipment officers about this.

Prior to the meeting R. Collins had requested consideration of the **5 year forward plan** for WMOA Regional events. In Ray's absence it was not known what this might be for. A. Williams reported that the plan would be extended at the next WMOA fixtures meeting (24 October). POTO were unable to organise the Yvette Baker Trophy 2018 and agreement had been reached for WMOA to compete at the EMOA round.

There is one more event to run for the **WMOA Urban League** in Castle Vale at the end of the year.

For the **Forest League** WCH had asked for their Shoal Hill event on 15/10/17 to be included in the League - there had been no objections from club Fixtures Secretaries. R. Lewis advised that the WRE event in November would be largely Urban - there were no concerns about this provided it was sufficiently well advertised as such especially with regard to the Junior courses.

WMOA Relays will be at Hartlebury Common on 29 October 2017.

10. West Midlander:

R. Postlethwaite apologised for the delay in distributing the last edition. He issued his usual request for people to send him material to use in the magazine. He has an article from Ellie Bales. It was noted that it is generally expected that Juniors who receive grants from WMOA to provide a report of the events they attended for which the financial support was provided. Club magazine editors are requested to send copies of club magazines to R. Postlethwaite in 'e' format where available.

11. WMOA Website: No update.

12. Development:

H. Morgan will be delivering a Planners Course. There had been a date change and the date was now confirmed as 21 October 2017.

Details about a Coaching Course being organised by BOK had previously been circulated to all clubs.

At the March 2017 WMOA meeting there had been talk about updating the Controllers list. R. Postlethwaite had passed this list to D. Kingsbury. This is to be reviewed, in consultation with Bob Brandon (Controller Co-ordinator), with a view to establishing an updated list.

ACTIONS: DK to circulate new dates for the Planner's Course to all clubs.

DK to review and revise the Controllers list.

13. Events and Competitions Committee:

There had been no meeting so there was no update.

14. West Midlands Junior Squad:

A WMJS report was read out.

In the 'West Midlander' the report will have its own space to give the achievements of the WMJS more prominence, rather than being included within the minutes from this meeting.

15. AGM Planning:

There was a check of officers prepared to continue in post.

There will be a motion to include safeguarding requirements within the WMOA Constitution.

There will also be a motion for event levies to remain unchanged.

ACTIONS: DK to notify clubs of the AGM date and circulate proposed updates to the Constitution.

16. Club Round up:

COBOC: had just hosted the Peter Palmer Relays and would like to thank other local clubs for their support in staging the event and handling results. A. Bailey has plans for Saturday afternoon events once a month - similar to the South Yorkshire Orienteers model. It is hoped that this will generate some interest.

HOC: nothing to report.

OD: had entered 2 teams for the Peter Palmer Relays, but noted that there were no entries from any other WMOA clubs. For the record, clubs can put in a joint team if they cannot raise a full team themselves and this gives youngsters the opportunity to take part.

POTOC: had completed the BOF questionnaire expressing concerns about the lack of a Participation Manager for WMOA. This has resulted in Natalie Weir attending one of their events and advertising requirements had been discussed.

The club are trying a series of Urban events followed by a social at a pub.

WCH: nothing to report.

WRE: have just finished a successful Summer season. There is much interest in the Tuesday evenings with many people trying the sport, but it is difficult to translate this into attendance on Sunday League events. WRE are also considering holding Saturday events.

17. AOB:

Those present were asked if anyone was able to or is planning to attend the Club and Association Conference in Leeds on 14 October. None of those present were able to do so. D. Kingsbury to see whether R. Collins required registering for this event. Club representatives were unaware of any likely attendance from their clubs.

18. Next Meeting:

16 October (AGM)

11 December

West Midlands Junior Squad

Mel Elkington & Kirsten Strain

This Summer saw Ellie Bales (POTOC) selected for the JROS Stockholm tour and Felix & Ollie Lunn selected for Deeside. Hopefully all three will have had great fun while learning a lot.

On 2 September a few members of the Squad trained at Dudmaston with the East Midlands Junior Squad. This included some important practice exercises for JIRCS. Many thanks to HOC for allowing us to use their map and have access to the area.

On the weekend of the 23/24 September 2017 the Junior Inter Regional Championships are taking place near Guildford. The team will travel by minibus and car on the Saturday and back on the Sunday. The final team is as follows:

M18	(Brown)	Alfie Bullus, Sam Leadley, Felix Lunn
M16	(Blue)	Oliver Flippance, Oliver Lunn, Alex Mitchell, Alfie Spencer
M14	(Light Green)	Nathan Chapple, Alex Evans, Cameron Williams-Stein
W18	(Blue)	Ellie Bales
W16	(Green)	Holly Craig
W14	(Light Green)	Florence Lunn, Tabitha Lunn, Pippa Smart

Accompanying them will be Kirsten Strain, Tracy Craig and Phil Lunn.

We are still looking for clubs to offer training sessions for the Squad. Please could committee members ask their clubs to put on a session for the Squad in order to keep it going?

If any club has children (second year 12s and above) that regularly run Orange in the West Midlands League and who would be interested in joining the Squad please ask their parents to look at the WMJS website to check that they qualify then e-mail us.

Any offers of training, or names of juniors who are eligible for the Squad, please contact us by e-mail at:

wmjsquad@gmail.com

Junior Inter-Regional Championships

The Junior Inter-Regional Championships were held in the South East on the weekend of 23-24 September. The Individual was held at Winterfold and the best positions were Alfie Bullus who was 17th on M18 and Ellie Bales who was 9th in W18. In the Relays held at Blackheath the Boys teams finished 17th, 18th and 21st and the Girls team finished 16th.

Overall Team Scores					
1	SOA	245	7	SCOA	112
2	NWOA	226	8	SEOA	105
3	YHOA	222	9	WOA	100
4	SWOA	199	10	WMOA	88
5	EMOA	167	11	NEOA	71
6	EAOA	133	12	NIOA	60

Stockholm Tour 2017



I had been excited about Stockholm as soon as I received the e-mail in May as I had heard that it was a really good experience. I was also nervous as we got e-mailed that it

would be the most intense training that we would ever have done and I hadn't done much training in advance. On 8 August I travelled to Stockholm from Heathrow with Sarah Duckworth of DVO who was also on my flight and we managed to find the OK Ravinen hut without too much trouble. The hut was nice with a shower room and sauna which made up for the fact that we were sleeping in the basement. After we arrived we joined the others (9 boys and 9 girls in total) in a 5km run around our lake.

On our first day we went to Mortsjon which was a tough and complex area with lots of crags. Then we had lunch and travelled to a track in Stockholm and ran a 3km time trial, girls then the boys. I came 4th in 12 minutes which I was pleased with. For a 'cool down' we took part in the Stockholm Hash which was new to me, where you run around finding arrows pointing you closer to the finish. It lasted over an hour and we all ran around 10km so it wasn't much of a cool down really!

The next day we set off to Orminge for morning training then the girls went to CrossFit weight training with Peter Norgren where we did reps of squatting weights. Everyone was very tired afterwards but we still had to run a race for OK Ravinen which was around 5km so by the end of that day we were all exhausted. On the Saturday we all took part in the Haga Park Run in the morning. Staying in the same park we did some sprint training for the rest of the morning. In the afternoon we travelled back to our hut and all the juniors went to our lake for a swim and ice cream which I found very

Ellie Bales (POTOC)



Me in my OK Ravinen Top

enjoyable. The micro pair relay was next after the swim, the scale was very large at 1:1000 and I was partnered with Joe Wright. This was one of my favourite activities that we did as it was fast and fun.

The next day was more of a rest day as we only did one main training exercise in the morning and into lunch. After that we went to the shop and bought some Swedish food and had a swim in the lake. We had a game that one of the coaches told us about where we would all stand on one side of the pontoon in the lake so it tipped up and then someone would jump off whilst the rest of us tried to stay on. David Bunn tried this and we all fell off with the pontoon almost crushing David.

We had more training over the next few days but on Wednesday we competed in the Melkes Relay. I was with Lucy Tonge and we ran two legs each. I was doing the 1st and 3rd legs which was good as I could keep up with the pack at the start. When Lucy came back from leg 2, we were in 3rd position, but on leg 3 I caught up with a Swedish woman and Tara

so I was in the lead for most of the course until the last control when the Swede overtook me going into the finish but it meant that I had caught up with them. Overall we came in 3rd and I won some injury tape which I was very pleased about.



Winning relay team:

Niamh and Tara in the middle, with 3rd placed team Lucy and I either side

On Thursday we had some training in the morning at Brunn with only one exercise, a 7.6km corridor course. For this you only had 1cm width corridor of map to make you go straight and focus on bearings. I found this exercise easy as I went slower than usual to keep the bearings extremely accurate. Friday was the day we went to Gröna Lund theme park in the afternoon so everyone was excited during the day. Beforehand there was a Mixed Sprint Relay, each leg being around 800m long, with the girls doing 4 legs and the boys doing 5. I was paired with Angus who is a fast runner also so we did really well together and came second, but I think everyone ran faster than normal so we could finish and go to the theme park!

We took a ferry to get across to Gröna Lund and once we were there we tried to go on

every ride. I was a bit too scared to face some as they had vertical drops many metres up in the air. Overall it was so much fun and we got a chance to talk about things other than orienteering, and bond together.



Me with some of the girls at Gröna Lund

The next 2 days were race days at Hemfosa, a Long and a Middle event. The Long distance was on the Saturday and I had to run 5.2km on a 1:15000 scale map. The first four controls were all fine but I made a 13 minute mistake on my control 5. I was on the correct hill but I couldn't see my control or tell whereabouts on the hill I was as there was so much detail on the map. This meant I was doubtful of myself, so I ran onto the next hill along and started looking there until I realised that I was right in the first place, so I went back and punched a control. Unfortunately, it wasn't my control and mine was on the re-entrant about 5 metres to the left. I was really annoyed with myself because I hadn't got that bad a time.

We had the rest of the day off to do what we liked so of course we went to the lake and then had a sauna to prepare for our date night that we had prepared over the last few days.

The tables were set out for two people and we had made little name labels for everyone. Instead of the coaches picking who we went with, the boys picked for the starter and the



Cooling off in a lake

girls picked for the main and dessert making sure we kept it a secret from each other. I was with Ben Breeze for main, Joe for pudding and saw that I was with Joe for the starter too. It was a really fun night! After we had eaten, the coaches handed out medals and prizes for everyone. I got the 'Prima Donna' award for how I run in the forest with my arms up! I got an OK Ravinen T-shirt which was pretty good compared to Joe's Spiderman stickers!

We had to get up early on Sunday to make sure we had everything packed ready to leave after the event. We said goodbye to the OK Ravinen hut and made our way to the event on the bus and train. Today was the Middle Distance which is my preferred event. I made a mistake going to my number 1 as I ran in completely the wrong direction for around 10

metres and got very confused when I looked at my compass and realised that from the start I had to go back on myself. This luckily only cost me a minute and made me more determined to go faster the rest of the way round when I could. This must have worked because I only made one more mistake at my number 5, as it was quite vague in that area, but eventually I relocated and found my control. The rest of my course went well and I got a time of 48 minutes which was OK but I thought that everyone else had done well as I didn't see anyone on the course until the very end. When I looked at the results I realised that I was in 3rd place and was first out of the British girls - a great way to end the tour!

I was on one of the earlier flights so I had to get the train at 1pm. All of the girls had a photograph with our OK Ravinen tops on (see below) and then we had a group picture with all of the boys too. I said goodbye to everyone and gave them all a hug.

I had an amazing time there and now miss it lots! I'm extremely glad and thankful that Nick Barrable organised the tour and picked me to go. Also thank you to his supporting team of Carol Young (chef), and coaches Jonny Malley, Tom Fellbaum, Julie Emmerson and Alison O'Neil.

Finally, thank you to POTO, the WMOA and Biddulph High School for donating money allowing me to go, I really enjoyed it!



The girls in their OK Ravinen 'O' tops

George Chambers - An Obituary

Andy White (HOC)

(from details provided by Sam Chambers)



George was born in Smethwick on 21 August 1953, one of four brothers. He was a keen Geography and Science enthusiast. He had always been interested in the outdoors and, being a leader with the outward bound scheme, he helped many achieve the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. He was particularly pleased when he got to meet the Duke himself.

He left school to be an apprentice for Accles and Pollock in the laboratories. He also worked for Commercial X-rays and H. F. Shaws in his latter career where he preferred to be a driver and would never take the same route twice.

Susan and George married in 1983 and Sam was born in 1986.

As a family, the Chambers first took up orienteering after seeing a newspaper article. George had found all the details and they turned up to the event. Thankfully all enjoyed it and they started to be more active orienteers. They were thankful for the Peter and Ruth Bylett's SMILE events and for a family training event organised by Andy Hemsted at Lickey Hills, which helped them develop the skills needed to turn up and participate competitively.

George contributed to the West Midlands committee and was involved in fixture planning for many years. He was a strong believer of the String course and spent many hours working how best to put out the string and collect it in.

After events, George would always recall his adventures in the forest and how long he had spent trying to find a control. When he had been on the same course, he was always very pleased when he had managed to get to a control quicker than his daughter Sam.

George wore hearing-aids and there was a particularly memorable event in the lakes when the event campsite had flooded and the Chambers joined many others camped inside Coniston village hall. Unfortunately George had lost his hearing aid and Sam had to translate as her dad was struggling to hear accents. Sam remembers that it was quite funny trying to work out what he and others thought they had heard.

George's funeral was held at Rowley Crematorium on 27 April and was attended by a number of Harlequins.

Remembering George:

Adrian Bailey:

George was one of a kind really, and I don't mean that because he had his distinctive, positive personality, but because when I was putting on events for beginners he was the one who came forward to help. He helped me, for example, with the first event at Queslett, back in the days when the controls were heavy boxes on heavy metal stakes, and he helped me when, in conjunction with the first event at West Park, I invited the local primary school to have an

afternoon orienteering session. I was sad when he retired but I thought he deserved a rest and I was happy when he started appearing at events again. He was there at my Red House Park event a few months ago, interested more in taking some newcomers round a course and in helping to collect controls rather than going for a run himself.

George was also very knowledgeable and honest, which has been a continuing help to me in planning events, especially White and Yellow courses. He was right when he said that there shouldn't be more controls than competitors! Wise words.....

Steve Nightingale:

My over-riding impression of George was of a cheerful soul who always had time for everyone. During his active time in Harlequins he was a tireless worker for the club who would try his hand at anything. In the forest I can remember him on more than one occasion helping youngsters who were lost and upset to get back on their way.

Brian Hughes:

Of course, George was the key member of the Chambers family - a genuine 'Black Country' family - who were, perhaps, not mainstream orienteering demographic, but fitted in perfectly with the best traditions of the sport. With George, you also got Sue (who fulfilled the role of Social Secretary) and Sam who knew her own mind and made such an impression on the high worthies of BOF at a meeting a good few years back. He has to be remembered for his commitment to the Club and for his ever-generosity of spirit when it came to helping out. He was the guy whom you knew would 'always be there' doing his bit.

Robert Vickers:

Angle Tarn Pikes, Lakes 5 days 2006: I met George clambering over the rocks behind Angle Tarn itself having gashed his hand on a particularly vicious out crop. Not to worry - he was, of course, carrying a full first aid kit. I was only required to provide knots! Under close instruction, I helped him to bandage the hand and duly tied the final knot. Not quite as George would have done himself, but good enough, and off we both went to finish our courses. George firmly believed that the future of orienteering lay with youngsters, and was always happy to put a lot of effort into catering for them.

Marian White:

From a personal perspective, George probably never realised how influential he and his family were in our family's orienteering journey. Like others in the club, we were involved in the SMILE series, originally being organised by Peter and Ruth Bylett but always with George, Sue and Sam in attendance. They were great events, not huge attendances but extremely supportive and friendly. I vividly remember our first winter orienteering at the tail end of 1999.

At one particular event, Ribbesford I think, Carol and Liz were 12 and 11 and getting stropky, and could not be persuaded out of the car. I could hardly blame them, I wasn't that keen myself. It looked like our orienteering journey was failing at its first real test. However, George clearly saw our plight and he, Sue and Sam presented themselves at the steamed up car window to tease our two out of the car like reluctant cockles from a shell. Off they went, Sam providing the necessary technical coaching and comradeship, while George and Sue supplied the encouragement and a good deal of humour which made everyone forget the weather and come back full of stories of mini-triumphs and disasters and, of course, a good layer of mud. That day really was a turning point for us Whites and I shall be forever grateful to George for his timely input then and again so often over the following years.

(Edited from an article which first appeared in the June edition of 'AD HOC')

WMOA AGM**Great Barr Hotel****16 October 2017**

1. **Present:** R. Collins (Chair), R. Lewis (Vice chairman), D. Kingsbury (Secretary), I. Gamlen (Treasurer), A. Johnson (Webmaster), R. Postlethwaite (West Midlander), A. Williams (Fixtures); J. Cooke (POTOC), B. Elkington (OD), J. Howells (WCH), B. McGowan (HOC), B. Morgan (POTOC), H. Morgan (POTOC), R. Vickers (HOC), A. White (HOC), M. White (HOC), A. Yeates (WCH).
2. **Apologies:** M. Elkington (WMJS), K. Strain (WMJS).
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **Minutes:** There was one correction. C. White listed in those present should read M. White. There were no other amendments. The minutes of the 2016 AGM were proposed as a true record by H. Morgan, seconded by R. Lewis, and accepted.
5. **Matters Arising:** None.
6. **Correspondence:**

None that related to AGM business. The forthcoming Club and Association Conference and BOF EGM being held in Birmingham on 29 October.

7. **Chairman's report:** Ray Collins.

A big thank to the committee for all their hard work over the past year and into the future.

OD dominated most championships and events in the region. Well done to them - again. The forthcoming JK2018 will be based around Stafford and led by Andy Yeates, I hope all WMOA members will give him their full support. Entries are now open on SI and so far there are 26 entries.

WMOA Champions over the last year:

BOC Sprints: Barry Elkington, Bob Dredge, Sheila Carey and Alison Sloman.

BOC Middle: Anne Straube, Lesley Ross and Alison Sloman.

BOC Long: Hilary Simpson and Alison Sloman.

JK Sprint: Sheila Carey and Alison Sloman.

JK Relay: Odd Ones: Mike Hampton/ Sheila Carey/ Barry Elkington (Mixed 201+).

Successful Juniors :

JWOC Selection: Harrison McCartney and Nathan Lawson.

Congratulations also to the Midland and WMOA Champions who are too numerous to name.

Mike Hamilton is now approaching retirement and this will be the end of an era for BOF. I wish him well and good fortune in the years to come.

Barry Elkington thanked Ray Collins for his efforts as chair of WMOA.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Ian Gamlen.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me in my first year as West Midlands Orienteering Association Treasurer particularly Barry McGowan, my predecessor, in this role for over 10 years who enabled a smooth transition.

12 months ago there were concerns about the state of the WMOA finances. The income from the BOC held in 2016 was less than had been anticipated and there were significant concerns regarding the financial arrangements regarding JK 2018 due to take place in West Midlands.

Thankfully these now seem to have been resolved and there are now satisfactory financial arrangements in place between BOF and the JK organising committee.

In order to address the 2015-16 financial deficit it was agreed at last year's AGM (2016) that the West Midlands event levies would be increased from 01/01/2017 as follows:

Juniors - free

First-20 Senior competitors - free

Next 80 Senior competitors - 50p per competitor

All additional competitors are £1 per competitor

The increased event levies and a number of successful events such as SinS 2017 and the OD WOW event have helped to improve the overall WMOA financial position, resulting in a surplus of £1,466.23 at year end (31/08/2017) for the WMOA and a surplus of £1,428.52 for the WMJS.

For further details of the income and expenditure and the financial position at year ending 31/08/2017 please see attached statement. These accounts have been audited by Brian Laycock, a former HOC Treasurer, who has confirmed that they are a true and accurate record.

I have updated the WMOA bank accounts so that we now have 2 separate internet based bank accounts for the WMOA and WMJS and I have delegated responsibility for managing the West Midlands Junior Squad finances to Mel Elkington our WMJS Rep. I am grateful to Mel for agreeing to take this on. I hope that these changes will make the WMOA/WMJS finances clearer to all concerned.

Going forward, given the healthier state of the WMOA finances and the anticipated income from the JK2018 I have suggested that we maintain the WM event levies at the current level for the next financial year.

H. Morgan proposed a vote of thanks to Brian Laycock for auditing the accounts.

B. McGowan asked if the budget prepared by him the previous year had been retained - it was confirmed that there had been no change. It was noted that income was close to that predicted. It is hoped that there would be a surplus in the coming year if the JK is the success that is hoped for. A. Yeates clarified that any profit share would be a percentage rather than a fixed sum basis. It was confirmed that for JK finance there is a partnership agreement in place with BOF, who are underwriting the event.

The Compass Sport Cup Final will be hosted in 2018, but in the latter half of the year, so a different financial year for WMOA.

Motion 1: It is proposed that WMOA event levies for the forthcoming year remain unchanged.

Proposed by I. Gamlen. Seconded by R. Collins. Carried.

9. **Fixtures:** Allan Williams

The last 12 months have seen another full programme of events in the West Midlands. All the clubs have continued to provide events for the leagues and championships. Our Urban League is now firmly established and providing challenges in some areas new to orienteering. OD put on a very successful weekend of events in Warwickshire and Springtime in Shropshire attracted runners from across the country to HOC's and WRE's events. This shows that it is worthwhile putting on big events to attract people from outside the region. It can also help their success if they are added early to the national fixtures list and included in the UK League. Next year's JK is looking on track and should give us 4 days of challenging competition.

Due to personal circumstances I have taken a break from the role and I appreciate the help given by the committee and fixtures secretaries to support the meetings this Autumn. I hope to resume the role in the new year.

Ray Collins thanked A. Williams for his work over the last year.

JK Update: Andy Yeates

There are regular meetings with Dan Riley representing BOF. The organising team are currently working on the detail getting everything in place. On the Saturday, WMJS will be organising an evening event and meal - the profits of this will pass to WMJS.

The web site is up and running with 26 entries to date. An advert has been placed for the December edition of CompassSport. Merchandising is being developed and Andy presented a first draft design for a top.

In response to questions it was confirmed that the reserve Sprint area was Birmingham University. It was confirmed that permissions were in place for this venue and other areas.

The first closing date for the lowest prices is 17/12/17. It was noted that SI Entries are being used and that perhaps they could be used to advertise the event directly to orienteers who have an account with SI Entries.

SinS 2019 update: Marion White

The Sunday event will also incorporate the Midland Championship and this will be held on Brown Clee. The Monday event will be a Middle distance on The Wrekin and the Saturday event has not yet been decided.

10. West Midlands Junior Squad:

Mel Elkington & Kirsten Strain:

AGM Report: June 2016 - September 2013.

Saturday 3 September 2016 saw the WMJS training on Hartshill Country Park with the East Midlands and South Central Juniors. Many thanks to all involved in land access/permissions, planning the coaching, etc.

On the weekend of the 26 /27 September the Junior Inter Regional Championships took place in Aberdeen. The team flew up on the Saturday and back on the Sunday. Coaches were booked by the organiser for transporting the teams for the weekend.

The final team was as follows:

M18 (Brown)	Harrison McCartney
M16 (Blue)	Alfie Bullus, Sam Leadley, Ewan Lloyd, Alex Mitchell
M14 (Light Green)	Oliver Flippance, Felix Lunn, Oliver Lunn, Alfie Spencer
W18 (Blue)	Heather Craig, Holly Hughes, Heather Rogers
W16 (Green)	Ellie Bales, Megan Colclough
W14 (Light Green)	Holly Craig, Pippa Smart, Holly Stodgell.

Accompanying them were Kirsten Strain, Tracy Craig and Gareth Lloyd.

We were delighted by the result as the team was 4th.

In October, Felix Lunn (OD) and Ellie Bales (POTOC) made their orienteering debut for England at the Junior Home Internationals. Harrison McCartney was also selected.

Kirsten Strain & Iain Embrey attended the Junior Regional Orienteering Squads AGM on behalf of the West Midlands Junior Squad in Hathersage on the 19 November.

The annual trip to Hawkshead took place on the 2/3/4 December 2016 for Ellie Bales, Alex Mitchell, Ollie Flippance, Felix Lunn and Ollie Lunn. The M14 boys all had Championship

standard and, as there were spaces, were able to go. The coaches were Iain Embrey, Kirsten Strain, Mel Elkington, with extra help from Julie Emmerson and Peter Bray. This was yet again an outstanding weekend of training at TD5.

In January 12 of the squad trained on Birchen Edge, near Baslow. Coaching was led by Kirsten and the EMOA and YHOA squads joined us. She was helped by parents and ex-squad member Nathan Lawson.

18 February saw a return to Hartshill Hayes and six members of the squad trained with the East Midlands Juniors. Kirsten was again assisted by parents. On the same weekend SHUOC held a training Sprint weekend for over 16 year olds which Ellie Bales attended and had great fun as well as improving her Sprint tactics.

On 11 March 11 members of the Squad went to Burton Dassett to practice reading the contours there.

The next session was held April 1st on the Lickey Hills. Ten members took part helped out by parents.

This year's Summer selections were:

GBR selections: Will Gardner, Nathan Lawson, Harrison McCartney

Junior Regional Orienteering Squad Tours:

Stockholm: Ellie Bales

Deeside: Felix Lunn, Oliver Lunn

Congratulations to them all.

Fundraising has been organised by Tracy Craig. Thank you to all who supplied cakes, helped with the stall and those who bought them. Other fundraising has gone well with £81.91 from Easyfundraising.

Please support the Squad by using Easyfundraising if you can.

We have also opened our own Bank Account which has made life for us far easier.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Squad in all sorts of ways.

Mel, Kirsten and all those who help to run the WMJS were thanked for their hard work.

ACTION:

R. Postlethwaite to include details about Easyfundraising in the 'West Midlander'.(Not available Ed.)

11. Election of Officers:

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Ray Collins	B. Elkington	R.Vickers
Vice Chairman	Richard Lewis	A. Johnson	A. Williams
Secretary	Delia Kingsbury	B. Morgan	I. Gamlen
Treasurer	Ian Gamlen	H. Morgan	R. Postlethwaite
Newsletter Editor	Rod Postlethwaite	R. Collins	M. White
Fixtures	Allan Williams	D. Kingsbury	A. White

The above were duly elected 'en bloc'.

12. Updates to the Constitution:

Motion 2: The WMOA committee recommends that the following clauses are adopted into its constitution:

- The West Midlands Orienteering Association agrees to adopt the up to date British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.
- All individuals involved in orienteering through the West Midlands Orienteering Association, in any capacity, are deemed to have assented to and abide by and adhere to the British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.
- Both the West Midlands Orienteering Association and its members agree to abide by the final outcome of any disciplinary and appeal proceedings.

Proposed by R. Collins. Seconded by A White. Carried.

Motion 3: The WMOA committee recommends that further amendments to update the constitution are accepted. These include:

- Amending references from BOF to British Orienteering
- Clarifying senior and junior ages
- Updating reference to payments to allow for internet banking
- Updating the reference to WMOA levy (final paragraph)

There was also significant discussion about how to define a member of WMOA in the absence of a membership fee and how to address this in the Constitution. A form of wording was agreed (see revised Constitution). The requirement to state the membership fee (or absences of a fee) at each AGM to have traceability is included in the Constitution. Similarly there is a requirement for each AGM to record any decisions to leave the event levy the same, or to reflect any agreed changes.

Proposed by D. Kingsbury. Seconded by R. Collins. Carried.

13. Any Other Business:

H. Morgan expressed his concern about Planners and Organisers not having been on courses and questioned the purpose of running courses if those who hadn't been on one were then allowed to be officials at WMOA League events. He also noted instances of League events where the Controller was not external to the organising club.

An explanation was given by representatives from a recent event where officials had not been on courses.

The issue of late requests to find Controllers was also raised again and clubs were asked to ensure they approach Controllers in good time. The lack of cControllers coming through was also commented upon again - a reflection of the demographics of the sport.

It was commented that the requirement for an external Controller is not included in the WMOA Rules on the website, despite this having been raised a number of times through the WMOA committee meetings over the last few years.

ACTIONS:

WMOA event rules to be updated to include the requirements that Controllers for League events shall be external to the organising club. **D. Kingsbury.**

The Controllers list is to be updated. **D. Kingsbury.**

Clubs to be reminded of the need to get Controllers in place early on in the event planning and organisation - they can be from a neighbouring region. **Clubs.**

B. McGowan proposed a realignment of courses and age classes for WMOA events. He had carried out an analysis of age classes and BOF courses aligned with those ages v those used by WMOA for League and Championship events. There were several differences noted where the colour of the course to be run was one lower than the BOF colour class. Barry proposed that WMOA aligned their classes and course colours with BOF's.

B. Elkington, who had drawn up both the National and WMOA matrices, explained that the difference was due to National Events being for top orienteers and WMOA events for average orienteers who did not want to do the longer courses. It was accepted that a small minority of runners do want the longer courses and do 'run up', but for the majority the lesser distances were more to their abilities and enjoyment.

In discussion there was no appetite for change. However, it was accepted that those present could not represent the views of others and wider consideration of the proposal is needed.

ACTION: Clubs to consider Barry McGowan's proposal more widely amongst members to inform a discussion at the next ordinary meeting.

A. Johnson thanked all the clubs for their support for the Military League during the past year.

A. Williams. In response to a query about WyeVentures and areas they used confirmed that WyeVentures had not taken over the WYE maps. They were all believed to be pre-OCAD and there had been no change in ownership.

Next WMOA Meeting: 11/12/17.

A Letter from Wye Ventures Orienteering Club

.....who have withdrawn from BOF

We want people to understand that we are leaving on a positive note and continue to support the sport of orienteering.

Wye Ventures Orienteering Club would like to thank the WMOA for their support and to understand that we continue to support the sport of orienteering.

Wye Ventures CIC are moving forward with their child-centred developmental programmes for families, leaving little or no time to develop the club. Our focus and expertise continues to be in the development of programmes for parents with children under the age of thirteen (as it has been since the year 2000) designed to give children the skills and confidence pre-thirteen, so they can be confident and skilled enough to continue being active in any sport or physical activity after that age. Society has much changed over the past two decades and we are meeting the much changed needs within the modern family.

If any clubs would like to form a partnership with Wye Ventures - the programmes attract families who could be encouraged to join an orienteering club.

Best wishes,

Kyla (Da Cunha)

West Midlands Orienteering Association

Income and Expenditure Account for year ending 31/08/2017

Income	Actual	Actual	Budget 2016/17	Budget 2017/18
General Levy	2,319.00		2200	1500
SINS 2017/JK2018	1,400.00		1320	3000
	<u>3,719.00</u>	3,719.00	<u>3520</u>	
BOC Money not included in 2016 accounts		2.86	0	
Bank Account change		0.00	0	
Adverts in West Midlander		0.00	0	
External Support		0.00	0	
Sundry		32.25	0	
Bank Account Interest		3.82	0	
Total Income		<u>3,757.93</u>	<u>3,520</u>	4500

Expenditure

West Midlander	0.00		0	0
Junior Squad Subsidy	1,000.00		1000	1000
Donations	165.00		500	500
Officer Expenses	0.00		75	75
Committee meeting expenses inc AGM	639.70		600	650
English Orienteering Council	421.00		400	400
Courses	0.00		100	100
Sundry	66.00		150	150
Coaching Course Subsidy	0.00		0	
University Levy Rebates	0.00		0	
Total Expenditure	<u>2,291.70</u>	2,291.70	<u>2825</u>	2875

Surplus/(Deficit)		1,466.23	695.00	1625
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WM Junior Squad

Income	1,854.81
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Expenditure	426.29
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Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>1,428.52</u>
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TOTAL FUNDS

	Total	WMOA	WMJS
TSB Classic Account	1,662.07	1,662.07	
Debtor - BOC	700.00	700.00	
Savings Account	859.76	859.76	
Opening b/f	3,221.83	1,262.02	1959.81
Surplus/(Deficit) for 2017	2,894.75	1,466.23	1,428.52
closing c/f	<u>6,116.58</u>	<u>2,728.25</u>	<u>3,388.33</u>

Represented by:				%
TSB Classic Account	373.17	373.17		6.10
Debtor - BOC	0.00	0.00		0.00
Savings Account	0.00	0.00		0.00
WMOA Treasurer Account	2,355.08	2,355.08		38.50
WMJS Account	3,388.33		3,388.33	55.40

Total	<u>6,116.58</u>	<u>2,728.25</u>	<u>3,388.33</u>
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The West Midlands Orienteering Association Constitution

Accepted by the WMOA at the AGM, 22 February 1982; amended 20 October 2003, amended 16 October 2017.

Objective:

The Association shall be called The West Midlands Orienteering Association. The objectives of the Association shall be to encourage, promote and co-ordinate the sport of Orienteering in the area of the West Midlands as defined by British Orienteering. Adjustments may be made to this geographical area if approved by British Orienteering.

Adoption of British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations.

- a) The West Midlands Orienteering Association agrees to adopt the up to date British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.
- b) All individuals involved in orienteering through The West Midlands Orienteering Association, in any capacity, are deemed to have assented to and abide by and adhere to the British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.
- c) Both the West Midlands Orienteering Association and its members agree to abide by the final outcome of any disciplinary and appeal proceedings.

Membership and Subscriptions:

Membership of the WMOA is defined by payment of the WMOA membership fee (if one is charged) and membership of both a West Midlands orienteering club and British Orienteering. Membership fees shall be determined at each Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Any subscriptions shall be due on 1 January. If a membership fee is charged it will be applied to the following types of membership unit (ages are those on 31 December of the subscription year):

- a) Individual Senior - M/W21 and over.
- b) Individual Junior – M/W 20 and under.
- c) Family – up to two seniors and all juniors at the same address.
- d) Orienteering club
- e) Group - e.g. school, youth club, scout group etc.
- f) Honorary Life Member shall be accorded to members who have given outstanding service to the sport in the region.

WMOA Event Levy:

This will be reviewed and agreed at the AGM and recorded in the minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

Annual General Meeting:

The affairs of the Association shall be governed by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of members, which shall be held before 31 October each year. The Secretary shall give members at least 2 weeks notice in writing of the date of the meeting.

Executive Meeting:

The officers shall be elected at the AGM and shall be vested with the authority to carry on the affairs of the Association until the next AGM. The committee shall consist of:

- a) Honorary Officers - a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Newsletter Editor, a Fixtures Secretary. No more than 3 of these officers shall come from any one club. No person shall be elected chairman at more than 3 consecutive AGMs.
- b) One representative from each member orienteering club.

The committee shall have the power to co-opt additional voting members and to fill vacancies amongst the officers. Nominations for officers shall be submitted to the Secretary, their consent having first been obtained. All nominations shall be seconded. A quorum shall consist of not less than one third of the current voting strength of the committee. Not more than 5 members from any one club may vote on any issue.

Extraordinary General Meeting:

An EGM of members may be called by the committee or at the request of ten per cent of the membership in writing. The secretary shall give members at least 4 weeks notice in writing of the date and purpose of the meeting.

Voting Rights:

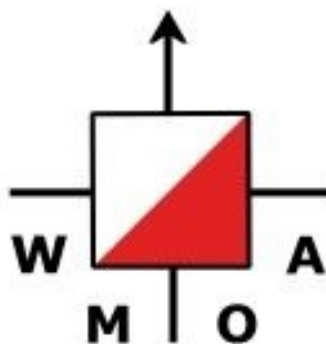
Each membership unit of the WMOA represented at an AGM or an EGM shall have one vote on any resolution put to the meeting. No proxy votes or postal votes shall be allowed.

Finance:

The accounts of the Association shall be balanced on 31 August each year and submitted, after independent audit, to the AGM. All payments made against the Association's funds shall be authorised by any two of the Honorary Officers.

Amendments to the Constitution:

of the Association shall require a majority vote of the membership units present at an AGM or an EGM. A resolution calling for such an amendment shall be submitted to the Secretary at least 6 weeks before the meeting at which it is to be voted on. The Secretary shall give members notice of such a resolution of at least 2 weeks in the case of an AGM and of at least 4 weeks in the case of an EGM.



West Midlands Championships 2017

The West Midland Championships were held by OD at Sutton Park on 8 October. The car park was at the North West end of the park which gave a different aspect to the courses for many and the complex vegetation near the start caught out the unwary.

There was a much better attendance at this year's championships in comparison to last year's at Dymock. This isn't really surprising, though, given the fact that last year's event was in the far South West of the region.

The home side, as expected given their strength in depth, had the most winners with 14. Second place with 4 wins was shared between HOC, POTO and WRE: WCH had 3 winners and COBOC had 1.

Thanks to OD for hosting the event and congratulations to all the winners.

Winners

M10	Oscar Barnby	WCH	W10	Tilly Flippance	OD
M12	Finley Flippance	OD	W12	Josie Smart	OD
M14	Jacob Oxtoby	OD	W14	Pippa Smart	OD
M16	Felix Lunn	OD	W16	Not Awarded	
M18	Sam Leadley	OD	W18	Ellie Bales	POTO
M20	Not Awarded		W20	Not Awarded	
M21	Emils Vainovskis	COBOC	W21	Sophie Kirk	OD
M35	Iain Stamp	WCH	W35	Not Awarded	
M40	Martin Pigott	POTO	W40	Anne Straube	OD
M45	Tom Jeffries	OD	W45	Juliette Soulard	OD
M50	Tony Callow	WRE	W50	Liz Phillips	OD
M55	Andrew Yeates	WCH	W55	Elizabeth Bales	POTO
M60	Adrian Pickles	WRE	W60	Carol Farrington	HOC
M65	John Pearson	HOC	W65	Lesley Brown	HOC
M70	Peter Carey	OD	W70	Karin Kirk	OD
M75	Mike Callow	WRE	W75	Jean Rostron	POTO
M80	John Riley	WRE	W80	Alison Sloman	HOC

West Midlands Relays 2017

The 2017 West Midland Relays were held on 29 October by HOC at Hartlebury Common.

It was a beautiful day, if a little cold, despite the weather forecast not being very good. Hartlebury Common had been used for the relays in 2010 and, although only a small area, proved to be quite a challenge. Consisting of a couple of flattish sandy areas separated by a steep scarp

slope, a myriad of paths (the area is very popular with the general public) and lots of gorse bushes and brambles, the area caught a lot of people out with its complexity.

Thanks to HOC for the event and congratulations to all the winners.



Photo by Andy Johnson (HOC)

A	Mini Relay	M/W 12	WRE	Lucy Chadwick, Grace Allinson, Harriet Allinson
B	Junior Women	W42-		No Entries
C	Intermediate Women	W54-	WRE	Jessica Parker, Catherine Block, Molly Parker
D	Open Women		OD	Kirsten Strain, Juliette Soulard, Liz Phillips
E	Senior Women	W130+		No Finishers
F	Veteran Women	W165+	HOC	Lesley Brown, Susan Howarth, Judith Taylor
G	Super Veteran Women	W200+	OD	Sheila Carey, Sue Hallett, Karin Kirk
H	Junior Men	M42-	HOC	Alexander Mitchell, Sebastian Mitchell, Arthur Mitchell
I	Intermediate Men	M54-	OD	Oliver Lunn, Oliver Flippance, Felix Lunn
J	Open Men		WCH	Dan Findlay-Robinson, Tom O'Boyle, Alistair Ross
K	Senior Men	M130+	WRE	Paul Hill, Richard Pay, Ian Hopkins
L	Veteran Men	M165+	HOC	Andy Hemsted, David Williams, Alex Morgan
M	Super Veteran Men	M200+	HOC	Barry Houghton, Geoff Trewin, Brian Hughes
N	Mixed Ad Hoc		POTOC	Adam Bushnell, Samuel Naylor, Catherine Bushnell

CompassSport Cup/Trophy 2017 Final



The Final of the CompassSport Cup/Trophy took place on 22 October at Virtuous Lady near Yelverton in Devon. The two Midlands clubs, OD and new 'small club' WCH, made the long trip down to the South West but were unable to challenge the eventual winners, BOK and INT respectively, the latter retaining the Trophy.

Next year the West Midlands heat will be held by WRE at Nesscliffe Hill on 11 March. The Final will take place on 21 October in the West Midlands so the heat winners won't have so far to travel!

Cup		Trophy	
BOK	2363	INT	1260
FVO	2323	WIM	1219
SYO	2296	SBOC	1212
DVO	2154	SARUM	1208
DEVON	2134	WCH	1196
NGOC	1997	SAX	1181
SN	1951	LOG	1099
OD	1835	CLARO	1072
CLOK	1439	SUFFOC	1071
SO	1266	SROC	914
LOC	376	KERNO	861
		BASOC	489

UK Orienteering League 2017



The UK Orienteering League aims to: Encourage greater participation at a national level and thus increase the quality of competition; Provide competition in a variety of terrain types, across the United Kingdom; Promote new and alternative event formats; Provide an excellent sporting experience. The League consists of 16-20 events from February to November spread across the country offering a range of competition formats and terrain types.

In the Individual competition, Alison Sloman (W80 HOC) was the joint winner, with a maximum 500 pts., along with Christine Kiddier (W65 GO), Peter Gorvett (M70 SYO) and Quentin Harding (M55 SROC). Close behind, in 6th position, was Sheila Carey (W70 OD) with 498 pts.

In the team competition Octavian Droobers narrowly missed 2nd position by just 3 pts.

Team Competition

1	BOK	6844	
2	SYO	6418	
3	OD	6415	Anne Straube (W40), Hilary Simpson (W75), Lesley Ross (W50), Liz Phillips (W50), Chris McCartney (M45), Oliver Lunn (M16), Felix Lunn (M16), Nathan Lawson (M20), Alistair Landels (M45), Mike Hampton (M70), Sue Hallett (W70), Jill Emmerson (W50), Barry Elington (M60), Sheila Carey (W70), Sue Bicknell (W70)

British Sprint and Middle Championships



Barry Elkington (OD) M60 Sprint champion in action in the heats at Milton Keynes

Photo: Stu Levene (HH)

The British Sprint and Middle Championships for 2017 were held jointly by EAOA and SCOA on 30 September and 1 October. Originally the Middle Distance was also to be held in East Anglia but their areas were deemed unsuitable. Fortunately TVOC were able to step in and offer an area that was very close to the boundary between the two regions.

The Sprints were held in Milton Keynes at Campbell Park with the heats being held in a nearby housing estate with very little traffic and the finals being held in the park itself. The superb race arena and sunny weather made for a very enjoyable day.

The following day the Middle Distance was held at Wendover Woods on the Chiltern Hills. The weather forecast was not good but the early morning mist and drizzle soon faded away and most people managed a dry(ish) run. Although the area was typical for The Chilterns, steep and lacking in complex contour features, good planning made for interesting courses.

The West Midlands had a number of winners over the weekend - congratulations to them all.

WMOA British Sprint Championship Winners

M60	Barry Elkington	OD	W18	Ellie Bales	POTOC
M65	Bob Dredge	WCH	W70	Sheila Carey	OD
			W80	Alison Sloman	HOC

WMOA British Middle Championship Winners

W40	Anne Straube	OD
W50	Lesley Ross	OD
W80	Alison Sloman	HOC

Mapping Matters

Further to the release of the International Specification for Orienteering Maps 2017 described in the Spring issue of this newsletter, a statement has been released by the BOF Map Advisory Group about the timetable of implementation:

In April 2017, the IOF Council approved the publication of ISOM 2017 to replace the mapping specification we have used since 2000. British Orienteering's Map Advisory Group have proposed a schedule to implement the change and produced resources to help mappers produce and convert existing maps to the new specification.

Maps produced to the ISSOM (International Specification for Sprint Maps) specification are unaffected by this change.

Until 1 January 2019, maps for BOF events should show the ISOM version used (ISOM 2000 or ISOM 2017) to inform competitors. This may be done either within the map file or as an overprint with Course Planning software. The ISOM version should also be included in the event final details.

Timeline:

Until 31 December 2017, either version of ISOM is acceptable at all event levels.

Maps should be updated or drawn to ISOM 2017 for competitive use:

- from 1 January 2018 for Level A and B events, unless there are contractual limitations which would prevent this.
- from 1 September 2018 for Level C events.
- from 1 January 2019 for Level D events.

It is recognised that there may be some challenges during this change process as mapping and course planning software is updated to meet the new specification. Earlier versions of software, (especially OCAD 8 and earlier) may provide more of a challenge to meet ISOM 2017 because of relatively limited functionality. Map Advisory Group recommend that you refer to the software supplier for specific guidance.

More detailed information, including updated symbol sets, are available on the Mapping Resources page of the BOF website. Log in to the BOF website and from the main menu select 'Get involved' then 'Mapping Resources'. Mappers may find the ISOM 2017 Symbol Transition Guide useful when updating existing maps. The ISOM 2017 Changes document provides some background and the reasoning behind the changes made in ISOM 2017, which may be of value to both mappers and competitors.

Please direct any questions to:

mapchair@britishorienteering.org.uk

Terry Smith (Map Advisory Group Chairman)

OCAD have released an update to OCAD 12 which facilitates the symbol conversion - for further information please check this link:

https://www.ocad.com/wiki/ocad12/en/index.php?title=Symbol_Set_Conversion

The West Midlands League 2017 Positions after 11 Events

1. OD 7389				2. WRE 6793				3. HOC 6456			
A	Finlay Flippance	M12	500	A	Harriet Allinson	W10	412	A	Arthur Mitchell	M12	413
A	Jacob Oxtoby	M14	500	A	Grace Allinson	W10	394	A	Sebastian Mitchell	M14	237
B	Tom Jeffries	M45	500	B	Adrian Griffiths	M45	434	B	David Aldridge	M35	462
B	Chris McCartney	M45	498	B	Jeremy Lewis	M45	406	B	Tim Kieniewicz	M21	189
C	David Leadley	M50	491	C	Clive Richardson	M50	500	C	David Williams	M55	494
C	Kevin Ross	M50	415	C	Tony Callow	M50	465	C	Alex Morgan	M50	480
D	Lesley Ross	W50	500	D	Delia Kingsbury	W50	464	D	Marian White	W55	412
D	Liz Phillips	W50	488	D	Diane Jacks	W45	459	D	Heather Kieniewicz	W21	367
E	Peter Carey	M70	500	E	Brian Morris	M75	500	E	Alison Sloman	W80	500
E	Sheila Carey	W70	500	E	Adrian Pickles	M60	500	E	Barry Houghton	M70	498
F	Sam Leadley	M18	500	F	John Riley	M80	500	F	Geoff Trewin	M65	492
F	Josie Smart	W12	500	F	Lesley Norton	W75	452	F	Russ Fauset	M70	487
F	Florence Lunn	W14	500	F	Ian Hopkins	M50	450	F	Lesley Brown	W65	482
F	Felix Lunn	M16	499	F	Mike Callow	M75	438	F	Andrew White	M60	474
F	Barry Elkington	M60	498	F	Rod Postlethwaite	M60	419	F	John Pearson	M65	469
4. WCH 6012				5. PTOC 6001				6. COBOC 2145			
A	Holly Hughes	W18	452	A	Ellie Bales	W18	480	B	Benjamin Rauffet	M21	457
A	Alfie Spencer	M16	208	A	Enys Lloyd	M12	242	B	Emils Vainovskis	M21	200
B	Iain Stamp	M35	398	B	Robert Holdway	M21	496	C	Ian Gamlen	M50	443
B	David Brown	M40	375	B	Martin Pigott	M40	484	D	David Arnott	M70	456
C	Neil Adams	M55	352	C	Jim Cooke	M55	378	E	Mick Sadler	M65	343
C	Andrew Yeates	M50	253	C	Gerry Riley	M55	335	E	Richard Burnett	M60	246
D	Sally Hughes	W45	477	D	Elizabeth Bales	W50	475				
D	Mary Adams	W55	443	D	Ianka Petrova-Evans	W50	100				
E	Hazel Waters	W65	500	E	Marian Denham	W70	500				
E	Jonathan Howell	M65	499	E	Jean Rostron	W75	500				
F	Ray Collins	M60	454	F	Graham Pigott	M35	478				
F	John Robinson	M65	443	F	Dave Bales	M60	419				
F	Alison Yeates	W50	420	F	Judy Douglas	W70	404				
F	Ian Jones	M65	395	F	Dora Deaville	W60	363				
F	Christine Collins	W55	343	F	Peter Yoxall	M70	347				

2017 West Midlands League Events

Jan 15	Postensplain	HOC	Oct 8	Sutton Park	OD
Jan 22	Brandon Wood	OD	Oct 15	Shoal Hill	WCH
Feb 5	Badgerslade	WCH	Nov 12	Dudmaston	HOC
Feb 19	Nash Woods	WRE	Nov 19	Wombridge, Telford	WRE
Mar 5	Chillington Hall	WCH	Nov 26	Sherbrook South	WCH
Sep 24	Oldacre	WCH	Dec 3	Hay Wood	OD

Individual Class Leaders

M10	Max StraubeRoth	OD	414	W10	Harriet Allinson	WRE	412
M12	Finley Flippance	OD	500	W12	Josie Smart	OD	500
M14	Jacob Oxtoby	OD	500	W14	Florence Lunn	OD	500
M16	Felix Lunn	OD	499	W16	Molly Parker	WRE	80
M18	Sam Leadley	OD	480	W18	Ellie Bales	POTOC	480
M20				W20			
M21	Robert Holdway	POTOC	496	W21	Heather Kieniewicz	HOC	367
M35	Graham Pigott	POTOC	478	W35	Claire Stamp	WCH	160
M40	Martin Pigott	POTOC	484	W40	Anne Straube	OD	388
M45	Tom Jeffries	OD	500	W45	Sally Hughes	WCH	477
M50	Clive Richardson	WRE	500	W50	Lesley Ross	OD	500
M55	David Williams	HOC	494	W55	Elizabeth Bales	POTOC	475
M60	Adrian Pickles	WRE	500	W60	Elizabeth Urquhart	OD	426
M65	Jonathan Howell	WCH	499	W65	Hazel Waters	WCH	500
M70	Peter Carey	OD	500	W70	Sheila Carey Marian Denham	OD POTOC	500 500
M75	Brian Morris	WRE	500	W75	Jean Rostron	POTOC	500
M80	John Riley	WRE	500	W80	Alison Sloman	HOC	500
				W85	Beryl Pay	WRE	320

WMOA Fixtures

September December 2017 to March 2018

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

2017

December

3	OD Regional	WMOA League Event 12 & OD Club Champs Hay Wood	Baddesley Clinton	
7	HOC Local	HOC Winter Evening Event Baggeridge	Wombourne	SO898931
10	HOC Regional	HOC WMOA Urban League Castle Vale	Birmingham	
16	OD Local	OD Local After Dark Event War Memorial Park	Coventry	SP322772
16	OD Local	OD Local Event Elmdon Country Park	Solihull	SP161828
17	WRE Local	WRE Club Champs Not Yet Decided	Shrewsbury	
17	HOC Local	HOC Club Champs Burlish Top	Stourport	
26	OD Local	OD Christmas Relays Rough Close Scout Camp	Coventry	SP264780

2018

January

1	WCH Local	Laurie Bradley Trophy Hednesford Camp, Cannock Chase	Hednesford	
6	HOC Local	Western Night League British Camp	Malvern	SO763403
11	HOC Local	HOC Night Street League Malvern	Malvern	SO777458
13	OD Local	OD Local Event Daventry Country Park	Daventry	SP575629
13	POTOC Local	POTOC Local Event Tunstall Park (TBC)	Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent	SJ865514
18	HOC Local	HOC Winter Evening Event Habberley Valley	Bewdley	SO802774
21	HOC Local	HOC West Midlands League 1 Kinver (TBC)	Kinver	SO836826
24	OD Local	OD Local After Dark Event Burton Dassett Country Park	Southam	SP394520

25	HOC Local	HOC Night Street League Bromsgrove	Bromsgrove	
27	COBOC Local	North Birmingham & Sutton Coldfield Schools League & Newcomer Event Aston Hall	Birmingham	SP079899
February				
1	HOC Local	HOC Winter Evening Event Pitcher Oak Wood	Redditch	
4	WCH Local	WCH West Midlands League 2 Brindley Heath	Stafford	
8	HOC Local	HOC Night Street League Halesowen/ Rowley Regis	Halesowen	SO967856
10	OD Local	OD Local Event Everdon Stubbs	Daventry	SP606563
10	HOC Local	Western Night League Wyche Ridge	Malvern	
15	HOC Local	HOC Winter Evening Event Malvern Common	Great Malvern	
17	OD Local	OD Local After Dark Event Hartshill Hayes Country Park	Nuneaton	SP317942
17	COBOC Local	North Birmingham & Sutton Coldfield Schools League & Newcomer Event Banners Gate, Sutton Park	Sutton Coldfield	SP090955
17	POTOC Local	POTOC Local Event Bathpool Park	Kids Grove	SJ838537
18	WRE Local	WRE West Midlands League 3 Lizard Hill	Telford	SJ779094
March				
1	HOC Local	HOC Winter Evening Event Highgate Common	Wombourne	SO836895
8	POTOC Local	Staffordshire Schools Championships Central Forest Park (CLOSED EVENT)	Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	SJ886487
10	OD Local	OD Local Event & Schools Championships War Memorial Park	Coventry	SP322772
11	WRE National	CompassSport Cup/Trophy Heat Nesscliffe	Shrewsbury	SJ389198
24	COBOC Local	North Birmingham & Sutton Coldfield Schools League & Newcomer Event Handsworth Park	Birmingham	SP049899



JK2018
WEST MIDLANDS

28th March to 2nd April 2018
WWW.THEJK.ORG.UK

We look forward to
welcoming you
to the West Midlands to enjoy
four days of **fantastic orienteering.**



JK 2018 will be a compact event, with
all events within 15 miles of each other.

Day 1

Ministry of Defence (MoD) Stafford

Day 2 - 4

Cannock Chase

For more information please visit:

www.thejk.org.uk

