

Minutes of Extra WMOA Committee meeting

Monday July 20th 2020 via Zoom.

Present: Richard Lewis, Ian Gamlen, Allan Williams, Barbara Ford, Henry Morgan, Marian White, Kirsten Strain, Richard Rogers, Steve Parker, Barry Elkington, Rod Postlethwaite, Carol Dredge

Apologies: Ray Collins, Brenda Morgan

RL stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss future plans to restart WM events following guidance from BOF. From August 1st small scale events using electronic punching are able to be held subject to BOF guidelines.

AW had emailed all the WM clubs fixtures secretaries. All were being cautious and didn't feel resumption of League events would be fair at the moment, maybe possible by October. All clubs planning to do what they feel they can do safely following guidelines.

AW to deal with any fixture conflicts in WM. Next National Fixtures meeting set for October but possibility may now be before that.

Each club was then invited to share their plans.

HOC- BF- WM League event on calendar for 20th September. Instead of this hope to hold a Summer Series size event to try everything out - possibly at Castle Moreton Common.

Numbers researched at WML events - approx. 170 competitors. So 2 starts over 2 hours = 160 competitors.

Would all be pre entry- maybe extend start times.

OD- BE-events to be initially pre-entry for club members only, spare slots after a time offered to other WM competitors and then other associations to control numbers. Plan to use Fabian for entries but not start times. Individual to allocate start times and publish on web / emailed out by Fabian.

Biggest concern gaining permission to stage events - councils reluctant to set a precedent with Orienteering.

Event on calendar 27th September- no venue as yet. Ideally stage colour coded event using SI with 90-120 people to make organisation worthwhile.

CSC Final planned for Sutton Park in October. Will they get permission? Sutton Park not granting permission for any events in September - BUT by October football stadiums could be holding 25,000 people!

WM League event Brandon Woods in December. See what happens.

WRE-SP- Long O on Long Mynd on 13th September still going ahead. Small numbers of competitors (40-50) and open area. Pre-entry only through SI. Maybe introduce a shorter course as well.

Next event- 29th November -WM League -Nesscliffe- planning to hold this.

POTOC-HM-Local event on calendar for beginning of September- unsure of gaining permission to hold. Plan to use PayPal for pre-entry. Open to WM clubs.

Still plan to run regular MapRun events.

WM Champs- 22nd November- going ahead with planning and permissions.

COBOC-IG-COBOC's aim is to promote Orienteering to newcomers- BOF guidance states no events for beginners/ novices.

Continue to use MapRun events once a month in different parks in Birmingham as no permission problems with these.

No other events before next year.

WCH- no committee member present to give feedback on next steps.

11TH October - Haywood Warren 13TH December -Shoal Hill

Both events left in place - considering running these?

Junior Squad- KS-highlighted problems trying to keep squad active at this time. Restrictions in place re coaching numbers and number of coaches needed.

Squad using Zoom to do online training weekly - mixture of physical and technical training sessions. Hoping to start monthly outdoor training sessions from August. No permissions or fixed areas as yet.

WRE Long O event - can anything be offered to squad? **SP** to raise with organiser.

Plea to not neglect Juniors at this time. They are losing a year in their O development. Need new Juniors coming through into squad.

BE- WM need to put on events where Juniors can take part- not street events- use small woods.

Toilets- RP- How are we going to deal with these?

Guidelines say no requirements to have them at the moment but gives guidelines re queuing, disinfecting etc if event has mobile toilets. **AW**- suggested toilet companies may now provide enhanced sanitation. Stressed need to have toilets at events as companies need to be supported at this time. Extra expense of these to be added to entry fees.

MapRuns- RL-Should we try to organise a simple WM League using MapRun over the next few months?

- would need strict finishing dates for MapRuns so points could be allocated.
- can see tracking of people who have gone round first so advantage to run later.
- depends too much on technology of phones being used - some work much better - unfair competition.

Decision - not to run a MapRun league.

Racesignup- new entry system - competitor to SI entries and Fabian. Ability to limit entries and put competitors into start blocks. Designed by Southampton OC.

pete@racesignup.co.uk

Website-RR-trying to keep website up to date. Added pages to site re MapRun - for both organisers and competitors. **RL-** asked for link to BOF Guidelines 13/07/20 to be added.

Permanent Courses- BE-BOF finally fixed problems with Permanent Course maps.

Next Meeting - Monday 14th September 7-30pm (via ZOOM ?)

Meeting closed at 8-30pm

Thanks to **AW** for facilitating ZOOM meeting.