

Minutes of WMOA AGM held on Monday 24th October at 7-30pm at Great Barr Hotel and also by Zoom.

Present- Richard Lewis, Peter Langmaid ,Jonathan Howell, Henry Morgan ,Ian Gamlen , Ray Collins, Barry McGowan, Rick Roberts ,James Thomas, Adrian Bailey , Carol Dredge, Barry Elkington , Robert Vickers , Kirsten Strain, Marian White, Keith Willdig, Jim Cooke, Adrian Pickles, Marian Denham, Richard Rogers, John Leeson

1. **Apologies-** Dan Findlay-Robinson, Rod Postlethwaite, Tom Lewis, Mel Elkington, Dave Ellis, Brenda Morgan
2. **Declaration of Interest** – None
3. **Acceptance of Minutes of last AGM** – proposed- Ian Gamlen, seconded- Ray Collins
4. **Matters Arising** – None
5. **Correspondence** – Carol Dredge – BOF returns requested for 21st October but due to postponement of AGM agreed with BOF any changes will be sent over after tonight's meeting.
6. **Chairman's Report-**

Well my extended time in the chair has sadly come to an end, with the pandemic issue which we all suffered it was decided that I did an extra year in office.

Having previously been a club chair for my home club, I have found the WMOA role to be easier although challenging at times. It was made so satisfying by the support I have received from both WMOA committee past and present and the clubs.

We do really have some very good Orienteering ambassadors within the region, who can be a font of knowledge when advice is needed.

During my term in office we have seen changes and additions to key personnel on the committee, these have included the retirement of Allan Williams Fixture Sec, Webmaster Andy Johnson, and in addition, after I think over 9 years of being editor Rod Postlethwaite is also retiring.

But on a positive note I am pleased we have Rick Roberts in place as Fixtures Secretary, Marian White and Richard Rogers as Webmasters and a recent addition is Dave Ellis as Coaching Coordinator.

However at the start of my journey as chair, we had a vacancy for a Secretary, I was very pleased when Carol Dredge stepped forward to do this role. On a personal note Carol has been invaluable in carrying out the role and supporting both the committee and myself. Many thanks for your support and help Carol.

A lot of our meetings have been by ZOOM and this has also helped keep costs down in travelling and meeting room charges etc. I think going forward this may be the way a lot of meetings within the sport and outside go. It still doesn't mean that every so often a face to face meeting cannot be held but something to discuss in the future.

As I close I see from the archives that WMOA will be 60 years old in 2023, if I have my fact correct could well be worth a celebration event again?

Whilst I have mentioned some members in my thanks, I will over the future months try and speak to all of you and offer my thanks for your support.

Richard Lewis

7. **Treasurer's Report** –

West Midlands Orienteering Association				
Income and Expenditure Account from 1/9/21 to 31/08/22				
	Actual	Actual		Budget
Income				
General Levy	2,140.00			0
SINS	0.00			0
	<u>2,140.00</u>	2,140.00		0
		0.00		0
		0.00		0
		0.00		0
External Support		0.00		0
Sundry		0.00		0
Bank Account Interest		0.00		0
Total Income		<u>2,140.00</u>		0
Expenditure				
West Midlander	0.00			0
Junior Squad Subsidy	1,000.00			0
Donations	0.00			0
Officer Expenses	0.00			0
Committee meeting expenses inc AGM	97.39			0
English Orienteering Council	403.00			0
Courses	0.00			0
Sundry	10.00			0
WM Website	355.00			0
JK Surplus passed onto clubs + OF	0.00			0
Total Expenditure	<u>1,865.39</u>	1,865.39		0
Surplus/(Deficit)		274.61		0.00
<u>WM Junior Squad</u>				
Income		3,469.68		
Expenditure		4,729.02		
Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>-1,259.34</u>		
TOTAL FUNDS				
	Total	WMOA	WMJS	
WMOA Treasurer Account	7,646.30	7,646.30		
WMJS Account	3,907.02		3,907.02	
Opening b/f	11,553.32	7,646.30	3,907.02	
Surplus/(Deficit) for 2021/2022	-984.73	274.61	-1,259.34	
closing c/f	<u>10,568.59</u>	<u>7,920.91</u>	<u>2,647.68</u>	
Represented by:				%
WMOA Treasurer Account	7,920.91	7,920.91		74.95
WMJS Account	2,647.68		2,647.68	25.05
Total	<u>10,568.59</u>	<u>7,920.91</u>	<u>2,647.68</u>	

West Midlands Orienteering Association

Income and Expenditure Account from 1/9/22 to 22/10/22

Income	Actual	Actual	Budget
General Levy	39.00		1100
SINS	<u>0.00</u>		<u>1400</u>
	<u>39.00</u>	39.00	<u>2500</u>
External Support		0.00	0
Sundry		0.00	0
Bank Account Interest		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Income		39.00	2,500
Expenditure			
Junior Squad Subsidy	0.00		1000
Donations	0.00		200
Officer Expenses	0.00		0
Committee meeting expenses inc AGM	0.00		200
English Orienteering Council	0.00		500
Courses	0.00		200
Sundry	0.00		0
WM Website	<u>0.00</u>		<u>150</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	<u>2250</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)		39.00	250.00

WM Junior Squad

Income	1,297.13
Expenditure	1,157.20
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>139.93</u>

TOTAL FUNDS

	Total	WMOA	WMJS
WMOA Treasurer Account	7,920.91	7,920.91	
WMJS Account	<u>2,647.68</u>		<u>2,647.68</u>
Opening b/f	10,568.59	7,920.91	2,647.68
Surplus/(Deficit) for 2022/2023	178.93	39.00	139.93
closing c/f	<u>10,747.52</u>	<u>7,959.91</u>	<u>2,787.61</u>

Represented by:

WMOA Treasurer Account	7,959.91	7,959.91		%
WMJS Account	2,787.61		2,787.61	74.06
				25.94
Total	<u>10,747.52</u>	<u>7,959.91</u>	<u>2,787.61</u>	

WMOA Treasurers Report for 2021-2022

I am pleased to be able to report that in 2021-22 the WMOA income exceeded its expenditure by £247.61.

As you are aware our only significant source of income is the WM event levy, currently £1 per adult competitor for those events with more than 40 adult participants. The Euro City Race 2022 at Coventry and Birmingham brought in £629, the Qualifying Round of the CSC/CST brought in £285, and a number of WM league events and other smaller events brought in £1226 resulting in a total income of £2140.

In terms of expenditure, we donated £1000 to the WMJS, paid £403 to the English Orienteering Council and £355 for the WMOA website. The £355 includes a 2-year licence for the SSL licence which cost £200 and £155 which included a 6-year renewal of the internet domain and 1 year hosting of the WMOA website. WMOA Committee meetings and last year's AGM cost £97.39 resulting in a total expenditure of £1865.39.

The WMJS had a total income of £3469.68 and expenditure of £4729.02 resulting in a deficit of £1259.34.

Significant items of income included the £1000 donation by WMOA and £750 from the Poundland Foundation.

Significant items of WMJS expenditure included £1540.38 for WMJS jackets and £1035.81 for flights to Northern Ireland to take part in Junior Inter Regional Championships (JIRCS).

Going forward as of 1/9/2022 the WMOA account has £7920.91 and the WMJS has £2647.68

The accounts have been inspected by Brian Laycock who has confirmed that they are an accurate and true record. Please see summary of income and expenditure attached.

Looking ahead to the next financial year 2022-23 I have proposed a budget for 2022-23 based on the income from events due to take place in 2022-23 and the anticipated expenditure for 2022-23. Please see Income and Expenditure from 1/9/22 to 22/10/22 for details.

Regarding WMOA membership fees for 2023 I suggest that these remain £0 for both Seniors and Juniors and that we continue with the current WM Event Levy which is as follows:

Juniors – no levy

For events with up to 40 Seniors – no levy

For events with more than 40 seniors, for the 41st Senior and above, an event levy of £1 per Senior participant is charged.

For example, for an event of 20 Juniors and 100 Seniors a WM event Levy of £60 is charged.

Ian Gamlen

WMOA Treasurer

Rick Roberts asked if JHI'S would provide us with any income. None as no Junior Levy.

Vote of thanks to be passed onto Brian Laycock for auditing the accounts.

RL expressed the committee's thanks to IG.

8. Fixtures Report-

2022 has been something of a learning curve for me! Despite serving as the Harlequins Fixtures Secretary a few years back, there have been plenty of new issues to consider with the regional role – not least the changes brought about by covid.

I must thank Ian Gamlen for representing the West Mids at the National Events Scheduling Group last October as this was held before I took up the role. Subsequently, I have attended a further two Zoom meetings of the ESG, in March and again last week.

The meetings of our own West Mids group of club fixtures secretaries are timed to follow a couple of weeks after the national meetings to allow for circulation of the updated fixtures spreadsheets. We have held 2 meetings, both on Zoom, since I started, and all the club fixtures secretaries have attended. The next will follow on 3rd November.

Now for the Leagues-

There have been 4 West Midlands League events so far this calendar year, with 4 more scheduled to come. As you will know from the website, before yesterday's event at Haywood Warren, OD were in the lead - followed by HOC, WCH, WRE, POTO & COBOC in that order. However, I'm not yet sure if things changed yesterday and there are potentially another 4 events - so there is still all to play for!

The Urban League has been rather underpopulated this year with several planned events cancelled leaving us with only three events, the last one taking place at Church Hill, Redditch on the 9th of this month. Scoring tables are on the West Mids Urban League webpage for those interested in the outcome.

This year the Laurie Bradley was hosted by POTO, the West Mids Compass Sport Cup & Trophy round by HOC, the Yvette Baker qualifier by OD and the West Mids Schools Championships by COBOC – who also hosted the national Peter Palmer Junior Relays. In addition, OD & HOC hosted Euro City League Races in Coventry and Birmingham over a highly successful weekend – these events also being recognised for both the UK and the West Mids Urban Leagues.

On the downside, it did not prove possible to hold the West Mids Relay championships - for the third year running unfortunately.

Now, looking forward -

For 2023, plans are in hand for WRE to host the Laurie Bradley, Walton Chasers the Relays, POTO the CSC/T Round 1, Chasers the Yvette Baker first round and COBOC the Schools Champs again. In addition, this will be a Springtime in Shropshire year for WRE & HOC, who will also host the Midlands Championships on the Sunday - and - it is the West Midlands turn to host the Junior Home Internationals. This is planned for Sutton Park in October, hosted by HOC, OD & COBOC.

James Thomas asked if any WM events had been nominated for UK Urban League 2023. Only one Urban has been registered in WMOA –WRE Woodside Urban in July so that has been nominated.

John Leeson asked if any progress had been made in discussions with EMOA about possibility of combining some league events with theirs. To be discussed at WM Fixtures meeting next week. Also to be discussed possibility of not having so many clashes of events with neighbouring regions.

RL expressed the committee's thanks to RR.

9. WMJS Report-

Squad membership is currently 13 juniors. Club contribution is: 3 x HOC, 3 x WCH, 2 x WRE, 2 x POTOC, 3 x OD. Age split is: 1 x M18, 1 x M16, 6 x M14, 3 x W14, 1 x W12. Any other juniors (M/W12-M/W18) who are successfully completing orange courses or above should get in touch if they'd like to join us.

After fielding a team of only two juniors in 2021, we were pleased to take 9 juniors to the Junior InterRegional Championships in September 2022 in Northern Ireland. Although the age distribution of the team meant a low team score was inevitable, all juniors had an enjoyable and beneficial experience.

Throughout 2021-2022, a full programme of squad trainings has been held. This has comprised 8 training days, approximately one per month, plus one training weekend, one week-long training camp and twice-monthly Zooms. The training days have been held on Shoal Hill, Hednesford Camp, Rough Close, Clent Hills, Park Hall, Burton Dassett and Hartshill Hayes and Burrough Hill (LEI).

We appreciate the support of the regional clubs in getting permission for areas, giving us map files and registering our trainings with BO. Occasionally we have benefitted from guest coaches. If any other qualified or nearly-qualified coaches wish to get involved, please get in touch.

In November 2021 a group of 6 juniors, their parents and two coaches spent the weekend in the Lake District, training on Summerhouse Knott, Tarn Hows, competing at Great Tower and staying at Ambleside Youth Hostel. This was very much enjoyed by everyone. Provisional plans to have a similar weekend trip in May for juniors and their families was postponed due to low availability on the proposed dates. We are now planning a weekend away to the Lake District in November 2022, for all squad members and their families.

Zoom trainings are continuing twice each month, to complement the in-person trainings and provide greater continuity to the squad experience. One each month is a physical training session and the other is technical training.

Together with the Welsh Junior Squad, we had a very successful tour to Morayshire, Scotland in July for 6 WM juniors and 12 Welsh juniors. At the end of this year's tour, we were invited to join the Welsh Junior Squad next summer on a tour to Finland. There has been a high level of provisional interest from squad members so we will be pursuing this opportunity.

A grant application to the Poundland Foundation "Kit for Kids" fund was successful and £750 was received towards a set of squad lightweight running jackets, designed to closely match the existing WMJS o-tops. Thanks to Julia Allinson who found out about it and prepared the application. The new jackets arrived in August and have been distributed to squad members.

WMJS funds raised for the cancelled 2020 tour were used to subsidise the costs to participants and cover the coaches' expenses. We have had successful cake sales at the Postensplain CSC heat and the Hartshill Hayes WML event in Spring 2022. To help with the costs of the upcoming Finland trip, we will be looking for as many fundraising opportunities as possible, including cake sales at regional events.

RL expressed the committee's thanks to KS

10. Election of Officers-

Chair- Adrian Bailey – HOC Proposed by Ray Collins Seconded by Henry Morgan

CD expressed the committee's thanks to RL for all he had done in his 4 years as Chair.

Vice-Chair-Ray Collins- WCH Proposed by Richard Lewis Seconded by Robert Vickers

Secretary-Carol Dredge –WCH Proposed by Rick Roberts Seconded by Ian Gamlen

Treasurer- Ian Gamlen –COBOC Proposed by Carol Dredge Seconded by Rick Roberts

Coaching Co-ordinator- Dave Ellis- HOC Proposed by Adrian Bayley Seconded by Ian Gamlen

Fixtures Secretary- Rick Roberts

Webmasters- Marian White and Richard Rogers

WM Junior Squad- Kirsten Strain

11. AOB-

Keith Willdig asked if membership numbers had changed much this year. Adrian Bailey suggested we would need to speak to clubs to find out information and would send out details when known.

Kirsten Strain asked if Coaching Co-ordinator would be giving/ sending reports to future Committee meetings and AGM's? It was agreed this would happen.

Henry Morgan flagged up Controller's Course taking place next Saturday. 6 currently attending but spaces if anyone else wanted to attend.

Richard Lewis questioned whether continuing to produce West Midlander was the best way forward. Discussion focussed around whether more should be put on WMOA website, distributed over social media or emails to all members? What are clubs doing? What audience do we want to reach? If we had a WMOA Facebook page what would be the purpose? No point duplicating club Facebook pages. Adrian Bailey suggested an email every two months but would need someone to generate the content for this. Item to be discussed further at next Committee Meeting.

Ian Gamlen asked if Bob Brandon would continue to coordinate controllers- good job with quick responses. Some felt there needed to be more of a rota for organising controllers for events as some clubs struggle. Clubs need to target planners and controllers – younger and more females?

Keith Willdig asked if we should be looking at diversity in Orienteering? Clubs are welcoming to everybody which is the best way forward.

Henry Morgan pointed out that POTO has a PA system available if anyone needs to borrow this. HOC have a megaphone, projector and screen.

12. Next year's AGM will be held on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7-30pm at The Great Barr Hotel.
Next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 12th December at 7-30pm by Zoom.

Adrian Bailey thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8-55pm.