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## Minutes of the September Committee Meeting

Here is a link to the [Minutes of the Zoom meeting held 11th September 2023](#)  
(subject to ratification at the 11th of December meeting)

These minutes, and those from earlier meetings, can be found on the [Minutes page of the WMOA website.](#)

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## Annual General Meeting reminder

This will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 7.30pm at [The Great Barr Hotel, B43 6HS.](#)

If you would like to join the meeting via Zoom please let Carol Dredge know via [secretary@wmoa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wmoa.org.uk) by Friday 29th September so that you can be forwarded the log in details.

For anyone attending the meeting at the hotel can you make sure that you register your car details on arrival at the reception.

Here is [the Agenda for this year](#) and the [Minutes of last year's meeting](#).

**This year we will need a new Vice Chairman, as Ray Collins is stepping down after many years in the post and we are still in need of a West Midlander Editor.** Please consider whether you could take on one of these key roles in the running of the WMOA.

If you would like to be nominated for a position on the committee please let Carol know beforehand. Likewise any matters to be raised under AOB should be submitted at least 7 days prior to the meeting, again via [secretary@wmoa.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wmoa.org.uk).

## Safeguarding - we have a Welfare Officer!



Many thanks to Mel Elkington (Octavian Droobers) who has offered to be the Welfare Officer for the West Midlands Orienteering Association.

More information about this very important role, and about Safeguarding at within the WMOA in general, can be found on the [Safeguarding page of the website](#).

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## Junior Home Internationals

On 7-8 October 2023 HOC and OD are hosting the Junior Home Internationals. Up to 96 Juniors take part, 24 from each of the 4 home nations, England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. The event is taking part in Sutton Park Sutton Coldfield with individual races on 7/10/23 organised by HOC and the relays on 8/10/23 organised by OD. If anyone is free to help on 7/10/23 please contact Event Co-ordinator Ian Gamlen email [ian.gamlen@gmail.com](mailto:ian.gamlen@gmail.com) or 07941730771. If anyone is free to help on 8/10/23 please contact Alistair Powell email [powell\\_alistair@hotmail.com](mailto:powell_alistair@hotmail.com)

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## West Midlands Junior Squad news

### Finland 2023



In August 2023, ten members of the WMJS squad joined members of the Welsh squad on tour in Finland.

Five full day's high quality training in beautiful Finnish forests including competing in an event hosted by a local club, plus a day exploring the sites of Helsinki including

the UNESCO World Heritage island fortress of Suomenlinna.

The week ended with the squads entering the 156-team 7-leg Nuorten Jukola, the world's largest youth orienteering relay. A huge set-up, with high quality live TV coverage. A fantastic experience.

You can read more about the [WMJS on their website here](#) or through their reports in the [WMOA committee minutes](#).

## West Midlands Relays, 25<sup>th</sup> September



Thanks to Walton Chasers for hosting this event.

Victories were shared between clubs:

- OD – Super Veteran Men
- HOC – Ad Hoc
- POTO – Senior Men (pictured)
- WRE – Veteran Men
- WCH – Senior Women

[The Relay results are here](#) and [Individual course results are here](#).

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## West Midlands Urban League update

The points for the [West Midlands Urban league](#) have been [updated here](#) following the first three events at [Tamworth](#), [Rugby](#) and [Malvern](#).

Most of the categories are still wide open with one event to go and the best three to count. Congratulations to Eloise Lee (Women's Open) and Chris McCartney (Veteran Men), both Harlequins and both guaranteed an overall win if my arithmetic is correct!

The final event will be held at [Woodside on the 15th October](#), hosted by Wrekin Orienteers.

## Tamworth Urban results



[Results available here](#)

[Routegadget GPS route Analysis and splitsbrowser here](#)

[Winsplits analysis here](#)

## Rugby Urban results



Click [HERE](#) for a PDF of the results.

Link to  
Route gadget: <https://www.od.routegadget.co.uk/rq2/#106>

Results are also on [British Orienteering results](#)

Link to index for course results and splits [here](#)



## Malvern urban report



Many thanks to the event officials Ian Gamlen (Organiser), James Thomas (Planner) and Richard Coronin (Controller) – and of course all the other volunteers without whom these things just wouldn't happen!.

### Ian reports:

When I organised the Compass Sport Cup and Trophy Qualifiers in 2022 at Postenplain, it rained making it a bit tricky to park and Lesley Brown teased me saying, " You didn't organise the weather very well did you, Ian ! " When it rained at Malvern I was happy to take the credit for organising it as I think most people didn't mind getting wet! Thank you to everyone who came along today either as a participant or a helper or both. I am very grateful to everyone who helped ensure that the event went well. Particular thanks to James Thomas the planner who spent a great deal of time planning interesting courses with as much route choice as possible and Richard who controlled the event very efficiently. Unfortunately, due to a footpath being closed it was necessary to cut out control no 53 for courses 1 and 7 but fortunately Richard spotted this when checking controls and we were able to amend those courses accordingly. Congratulations to all participants in particular Jonathan Brough from NGOC who attempted the Men's Open whilst being in a wheelchair. That's what I call determined!

Comments from all officials are [here as a pdf file](#). Links to [Results](#), [Splits](#), and [Splits by course](#), [Routegadget](#) and [Splitsbrowser](#).

## West Midlands League update

The [League points](#) have been updated after event five at Burton Dassett and the three way fight continues:

Club	Points
WRE	5050
OD	4992
HOC	4916
WCH	3870
POTOC	3236

Wrekin are still in the lead with Octavian Droobers using their home advantage to move into second place just 58 points behind. Harlequins have slipped to third but will host the next event at Burlish Top on the 19th November.

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## Burton Dassett Hills report



### Organiser Viv Lawson reports:

“This was a lovely event in a great location and with amazing weather! For a few runners it was too warm and I hope that all got home safely and are now fully rehydrated.

Feedback on the courses was universally positive. Stan did a great job ensuring challenge for competitors at all levels.

Thanks to Ben for controlling and supporting us both leading up to the event. Thanks also to Warwickshire CC Country Parks staff, Simon Millward for prompt and clear communication and Phil Sayer for access to parking on the day.

Finally, none of this could have happened without the brilliant OD members who helped on the day. Everyone did their jobs magnificently and made it run incredibly smoothly. I wasn't quite able to sit back and sunbathe...but certainly enjoyed my first experience of organising an event. Thank you all very much. “

Results, RouteGadget etc are all available [here on the Octavian Droobers website.](#)

## Future events in the West Midlands:

30/09/2023	Beginners & Families - Banners Gate, Sutton Park	Local HOC
07/10/2023	Junior Home Internationals Individual	National
08/10/2023	Junior Home Internationals Relays	National
15/10/2023	Woodside Urban - UKUL, WMUL	Regional WRE
28/10/2023	Downs Banks	Local POTO
28/10/2023	Beginners & Families - Red House Park	Local HOC
16/11/2023	WEE League - Rd.1 - Arrow Valley	Local HOC
19/11/2023	WML Event - Burlish Top	Regional HOC
25/11/2023	Beginners & Families - Ley Hill Park	Local HOC
30/11/2023	WEE League - Rd.2 - Dudmaston	Local HOC
02/12/2023	Cheddleton Heath	Local POTO
10/12/2023	Sutton Park South - WM League	Regional OD
14/12/2023	WEE League - Rd.3 - Eymore	Local HOC