

Minutes of WMOA AGM held on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7-30pm at Great Barr Hotel

and also by Zoom.

Present- Barry Elkington, Ray Collins, Jonathan Howell, Rick Roberts, Ian Gamlen, Adrian Bailey, Tom Lewis, Richard Lewis, Henry Morgan, Barry McGowan, Carol Dredge

By Zoom- Marian White, Richard Rogers, Andy Yeates, Kirsten Strain, Jim Cooke

1. **Apologies-** Robert Vickers, Mel Elkington, Brenda Morgan
2. **Declaration of Interest** – None
3. **Acceptance of Minutes of last AGM** – 24th October 2022 -proposed- Rick Roberts, seconded-Henry Morgan
4. **Matters Arising** – Nothing had been done to mark 60 years of WMOA. IG- suggested a meal. To be discussed at next Committee Meeting.
West Midlander now sent by email co-ordinated by MW.
5. **Correspondence** – Carol Dredge – BOF returns requested for 27th October. IG to complete and send to BOF.
6. **Chairman's Report-**

To be added

7. Treasurer's Report –

West Midlands Orienteering Association

Income and Expenditure Account from 1/9/22 to 31/08/23

Income	Actual	Actual	Budget
General Levy	1,605.00		1100
SINS	<u>1,256.00</u>		<u>1400</u>
	<u>2,861.00</u>	2,861.00	<u>2500</u>
External Support		0.00	0
Sundry		0.00	0
Bank Account Interest		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Income		2,861.00	2,500
Expenditure			
Junior Squad Subsidy	1,000.00		1000
Donations	130.00		200
Officer Expenses	0.00		0
Committee meeting expenses inc AGM	70.00		200
English Orienteering Council	392.00		500
Courses	301.95		200
JHI 2023	1,495.00		0
WM Website	<u>80.00</u>		<u>150</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>3,468.95</u>	3,468.95	2250
Surplus/(Deficit)		-607.95	250.00

WM Junior Squad

Income	9,911.77
Expenditure	7,999.95
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>1,911.82</u>

TOTAL FUNDS

	Total	WMOA	WMJS
WMOA Treasurer Account	7,920.91	7,920.91	
WMJS Account	<u>2,647.68</u>		2,647.68
Opening b/f	10,568.59	7,920.91	2,647.68
Surplus/(Deficit) for 2022/2023	1,303.87	-607.95	1,911.82
closing c/f	<u>11,872.46</u>	<u>7,312.96</u>	<u>4,559.50</u>

Represented by:			%
WMOA Treasurer Account	7,312.96	7,312.96	61.60
WMJS Account	4,559.50	4,559.50	38.40
Total	<u>11,872.46</u>	<u>7,312.96</u>	<u>4,559.50</u>

I, Brian Langcock of 8 Pear Tree Close, Malvern WR144AW,
 have inspected the above accounts and can confirm that they are
 an accurate and true record. *From Langcock* 14th Sept. 2023.

Income and Expenditure Account from 1/9/23 to 31/08/24

Income	Actual	Budget
General Levy		1500
External Support		0
Sundry		0
Bank Account Interest		0
Total Income		1500
Expenditure		
Junior Squad Subsidy		1000
Donations		200
Officer Expenses		0
Committee meeting expenses inc AGM		100
English Orienteering Council Courses		400
		200
		0
WM Website		100
Total Expenditure		2000
Surplus/(Deficit)		-500
WM Junior Squad		
Income		
Expenditure		
Surplus/(Deficit)		
TOTAL FUNDS		

WMOA Treasurers Report for 2022-23

I am pleased to report that this year has been financially successful for the WMOA. In terms of income the WMOA took slightly more in terms of general levy that anticipated, but a bit less from SINS due to slightly fewer competitors than in previous years.

Although the WMOA is showing a loss of £607.95, that is due to paying the deposit of £1495 for accommodation for the Junior Home Internationals which the WM clubs HOC and OD are hosting in just a few days. This money has been paid back into the account now that the entry fees have been received.

The West Midlands Junior Squad have been active including trips to Llaganlia and Finland which explains why there has been both quite high income and expenditure in their account for the last 12 months. The WMJS has managed to create a surplus of £1911.82 over the last 12 months.

This means that as of 1/9/23 the WMOA has a balance of £7312.96 and the WMJS has a balance of £4559.50

As in previous years I have asked Brian Laycock of HOC to inspect the WMOA and WMJS accounts and he has confirmed that they are an accurate and true record.

For details please see attached income and expenditure summary.

Looking forward to 2023-2024 there will be fewer WM League events and WM Urban League events than in previous years so I am anticipating less income from these this year, although if the British Sprints and British Sprint Relays are successful this might help to boost funds.

WCH, WRE and POTO are helping the EMOA put on the JK 2024. Andy Yeates confirmed that the WMOA will benefit financially from the staging of the JK 2024, receiving half of any financial surplus although the details of this will be divided between the 3 clubs and the WMOA are still need to be agreed.

Budget for 2023-24

Please see attached a preliminary budget for 2023-24. The income for 2023 -24 cannot be determined accurately as this will depend on how many events take place and how much surplus we receive from the JK. I have estimated it might be £1500 from general event levies. The expenditure for 2023-24 is also difficult to estimate but I anticipate it will be around £2000.

Ian Gamlen

WMOA Treasurer

Matters Arising- Andy Yeates confirmed that the profit from next year's JK would be split evenly between WM and EM clubs. WMOA Committee to decide how it would be split between clubs. 3 WMOA clubs and 3 EMOA clubs involved.

KS reported that the final bill for the WMJS tour to Finland was just in.

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

8. Fixtures Report-

Since our last AGM there has only been one meeting of the national Events Scheduling Group which was held by Zoom in March. The usual autumn meeting has been set up for October 16th.

The meetings of our own West Mids group of club fixtures secretaries are generally timed to follow a couple of weeks after the national meetings to allow for circulation and consideration of updated fixtures spreadsheets. In this year, we have held 3 meeting to date and a further meeting is scheduled for November 2nd. to follow the October ESG.

Now for the Leagues.

There have been 5 West Midlands League events so far this calendar year, with 2 more scheduled to come. As you will know from the website, after 5 events Wrekin are in the lead, closely followed by OD, HOC, Chasers and POTO in that order. However, there are potentially another 2 events to come - so there is still plenty of opportunity for change!

The Urban League has again been underpopulated this year with only four events. Three have taken place and the fourth due on the 15th of this month. Scoring tables are on the West Mids Urban League webpage by following the link from the WMOA website. For those interested, the WM Urban League webpage also contains links to both the UK Urban League and all of the other regional tables for this and previous years.

This year the Laurie Bradley was hosted by Wrekin, the West Mids round of the Compass Sport Cup & Trophy by POTO, the Yvette Baker qualifier by Chasers, the West Mids Schools Championships by COBOC, the West Midlands Championships by OD and, following a three-year hiatus the West Mids Relays were hosted by Chasers. In addition, Wrekin & HOC hosted the biennial SinS over a highly successful weekend which also included the Midlands Championships.

Still to come this year, OD & HOC will be hosting the annual Junior Home Internationals at Sutton Park next weekend.

Looking forward -

For 2024, plans are in hand for OD to host the Laurie Bradley, HOC the Relays, Chasers the CSC/T Round 1, Wrekin the Yvette Baker first round, POTO the West Midlands Champs and HOC the Schools Champs.

In addition nationally, two days of JK 2024 will be based on the Chasers Beaudesert map and the annual BSC / BSRC weekend will be hosted by OD & HOC on the Birmingham & Warwick University Campuses over 22nd & 23rd June.

Matters Arising- Joint UKUL weekend planned between NGOC (Gloucester/ Cheltenham) and HOC (Worcester) in September 2024.

9.WMJS Report-

Squad membership is currently 14 juniors. Club contribution is: 3 x HOC, 3 x WCH, 3 x WRE, 2 x POTO, 3 x OD. Age split is: 1 x M18, 1x W18, 2 x M16, 1 x W16, 6 x M14, 3 x W14. We are hoping to soon take in a few new members.

The Junior Inter-Regional Championships this year were held in South Wales in September and we took a team of 14 juniors. This is a big improvement on the 9 and 2 that we took in 2022 and 2021, respectively. Overall WM finished 8th region, up from last year's 12th. Well done to all the athletes and thank you to the supporting adults. The biggest gap in scorers was in the older girls' classes, which meant we could only field one female relay team. Next year's competition will be in SW region in September 2024.

Throughout 2022-2023, a full programme of squad trainings has been held. This has comprised 6 training days, plus one training weekend, one week-long tour and twice-monthly Zooms.

The training days were held on Callow Hill (HOC), Pooley Country Park (OD), Lilleshall (WRE), Nottingham Clifton Campus (NOC), Rough Close (OD) and Downs Banks (POTO). We appreciate the support of the regional clubs in getting permission for areas, giving us map files and registering our trainings with BO.

Zoom trainings were held twice each month for most of 2022-2023, to complement the in-person trainings and provide greater continuity to the squad experience. The technical trainings have been getting good levels of engagement and have helped the juniors learn map skills and prepare for major races. As the physical trainings were getting lower levels of participation, they have been discontinued as of September 2023, while technical trainings will continue monthly.

In November 2022 we had a highly enjoyable training weekend in the Lake District. 8 juniors participated, accompanied by 8 adults. The accommodation had catering facilities and a good social space for evening activities. The training areas were organised by the JROS Hawkshead camp.

A similar weekend trip is being planned for November 2023, incorporating the Orienteering Foundation's training on Colonel's Drive and a Cumbrian Galoppen event. Accommodation has been booked at the same bunkhouse as last year and we will include juniors and coaches from EMJOS.

Later in November is the JROS Hawkshead weekend for M/W16s. We will have three athletes this year and two adults. Training will be on three different high-quality areas and the juniors will also have the full experience of staying at YHA Hawkshead and running the famous night-sprint.

August saw the squad's week-long summer tour to Finland. This was very successful and enjoyed by 10 WMJS juniors and 6 WMJS adults, together with the Welsh junior squad and one family from the East Mids, making a total of 29 young people and 12 adults. Huge thanks are offered to Mark Saunders and Alice Bedwell for organising it.

We have had successful cake sales at events at Sutton Park, Brandon Wood and Bentley Wood and at SINS. In addition, Barry's Quiz night brought in considerable funds through entries and a raffle. This fundraising has been particularly important to help with the costs of the Finland trip. We have registered through Lloyds Bank to be able to take card payments. We have been donated some orienteering equipment that we hope to be able to sell at future events.

The top results achieved by a squad member this year were by Eden Pigott, coming 3rd on W14A at BOC Long, BOC Sprint and JK Sprint. Eden has been selected to represent England at the JHIs in October this year and has achieved the qualifying standard for the JROS Lagganlia tour next summer.

Two juniors – Max Straube-Roth and Adam Landels – were awarded places on the JROS Lagganlia tour this summer. They found it an enjoyable and beneficial week.

The management of WMJS has been through a gradual change in 2022-2023. Harriet's changing personal circumstances meant she had less time to give and the high workload involved in squad management and coaching meant more support was required. An appeal for help was put out, which led to a few people offering to support squad activities: Karen Thompson (HOC) (admin, coordination and correspondence), Graham Pigott (POTOC) (organisation of trips) and Iain Stamp (WCH) (coaching). In addition, Mel Elkington, as the new regional Welfare Officer, will be able to support with any questions relating to safeguarding.

Taking a broader view of the junior squad, we believe it is in a healthy state. There are real friendships between squad members, there is a very good level of commitment to squad activities, and the recent success in major competitions and tours reflects the improvements to their orienteering that the squad members have achieved. With the new team of coaches and management volunteers, we wish to continue building on this success, to support the current juniors and any others that soon join, and give them equally good experiences including training and competition weekends and support to achieve their full potential in the sport.

To keep the squad healthy, we need a steady supply of new juniors to join, both boys and girls. We look to all the clubs in the region to bring in newcomers and support their young members up to orange or light green standard. If any new juniors are of the required age and standard, they should get in touch with us about coming to try out a training day.

Matters Arising- AB- reiterated the need to send Juniors Light Green standard and above to WMJS and thanked KS for all the work she has done with the Squad.

Andy Yeates explained as part of JK entry system there would be the option to donate to the WMJS.

10. Election of Officers-

Chair- Adrian Bailey – HOC Proposed by Ray Collins Seconded by Barry Elkington

Vice-Chair- no volunteers for this role. Tom Lewis suggested that a Job description be put on WMOA Website.

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

Treasurer- Ian Gamlen –COBOC Proposed by Adrian Bailey Seconded by Carol Dredge

Coaching Co-ordinator- Dave Ellis- HOC Proposed by Ian Gamlen Seconded by Barry Elkington

Fixtures Secretary- Rick Roberts Proposed by Richard Lewis Seconded by Ian Gamlen

Welfare Officer- Mel Elkington-OD Proposed by Richard Lewis Seconded by Kirsten Strain

Webmasters- Marian White and Richard Rogers

WM Junior Squad- Kirsten Strain

11. AOB-

Henry Morgan pointed out the need for all clubs to check that Planners and Organisers had completed the necessary courses, including the Event Safety Course. Club Fixtures Secretary, Secretary and Chair can all access the up to date BOF lists of these.

Richard Lewis reported that some clubs are nominating people to do First Aid cover at events without an up to date First Aid certificate.

WMOA has the money to put on these courses and Henry Morgan willing to run these.

Richard Lewis pointed out that coaching for clubs was not working – need for new ideas. Younger coaches needed for younger people due to ageing profile of current coaches. Committee to look at this – money available to train more coaches.

Andy Yeates- JK Update – Sprint- Loughborough – LEI

Middle – Beaudesert- WCH/WRE

Long – Beaudesert- POTO/NOC

Relays- Stanton Moor- DVO

Gaps to be filled by OD/HOC – both clubs involved in organising of Sprint Relays.

JK Website now up but updates not possible at the moment.

Ray Collins- Planner at Beaudesert- stressed need for group of volunteers to ‘wake up’ controls both days and collect in on the Sunday.

Ian Gamlen suggested each club nominated a JK co-ordinator to get in touch with Kristian Roberts the Organiser.

Henry Morgan asked if clubs could try to find Controllers for their events earlier.

12. Next year’s AGM will be held on Monday 7th October at 7-30pm at The Great Barr Hotel.

Next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 11th December at 7-30pm by Zoom.

Meeting closed at 8-45pm.

Thanks to Barry Elkington for facilitating Zoom.