

Rules Group Meeting

30th July 2024

Apologies:

Graham Louth, Alan Leakey

Attendees:

Alan Willis, Freya Askham, Barry Elkington, Terry Smith, David May & Graham Nilsen

Introduction	ACTIONS
<p>TS introduced Alan Wallis as the new chair of BOF Rules Group. Alan outlined his experience and expressed his wish to help the group in their aim to simplify the rules and remove ambiguity.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the group.</p> <p>TS mentioned to the group that PH has handed in his resignation as BOF CEO. No date has been publicised for his departure.</p>	<p>FA to send minutes of last meeting to BOF (Peter Brooke)</p>
<h3>Review of actions from previous meeting:</h3>	
<p>a. <i>TS & DM to familiarise themselves with map scale typo and draft correction</i></p> <p>TS Needs to ensure that the correction is applied to the Table in Appendix D of the Rules at the next update.</p> <p>b. <i>DM to remove wording added regarding course lengths and revert to previous version.</i></p> <p>These changes do not appear to be in the current version of the Rules post web upgrade. Need to repeat request to Peter Hart / Brooke to complete the amendment.</p>	<p>TS Carried forward.</p> <p>DM/TS. Carried forward</p>
<p>c. <i>TS to chase on getting original documents for updating, adding year to hyperlink and uploading of updated versions.</i></p> <p>TS Has tried to get hold of PH. BE suggested that there should be a simpler process with documents held by Rules Group. Group discussed challenges of multiple editors last year.</p>	<p>TS to discuss best process for document updates on BOF website with PH.</p>
<p>d. <i>TS to progress the work on file structure and version control based on feedback from the group</i></p>	<p>TS to progress</p>
<p>e. <i>Feedback on "Badly worded" rules. GL unable to attend this meeting</i></p>	<p>GL to feedback at next meeting</p>
<p>f. <i>AL sent out first & second drafts of updated sprint and urban rules.</i></p>	<p>FA to send the second draft to AW for review</p>
<p>g. <i>BE to document what happened at the British Sprints when there were issues and circulate to the group for information/comment</i></p>	<p>Closed</p>

<p><i>h. Revision of Level A map template requirement. TS passed on requested amendment of Appendix D 1.1.5 to PH.</i></p>	<p>TS to chase.</p>
<p><i>i. TS to discuss competition rules with Alan Rosen to find out if any feedback suggests rule changes are needed. Not currently progressed.</i></p>	<p>TS to progress after collation of feedback from British Sprints</p>
<p><i>j. W-2024-03 Reduce embargo time for BOC2026. Agreed by email. TS has responded to originator</i></p>	<p>Closed</p>
<p><i>k. Proposal for revised wording for a rule for relays such as “Each leg of a relay must be run by a different member of the relay team for the team to be competitive.”. BE to complete wording of the rule from email discussion</i></p>	<p>BE to send wording and rule location to TS</p>
<p><i>l. Consideration of whether rules are required to cover the scope and responsibilities of Commentary teams as they may impact the fairness of events. Include final control/handover order in relays in rules review.</i></p>	<p>TS to contact Andy Yeates with a view to inclusion in Major Events Handbook</p>
<p><i>m. Group to ensure republication of competition rules to include year for which they apply.</i></p>	<p>To be included with upload to website of competition rules documents for 2025 competitions</p>
<p><i>n. FA to investigate options for forums. FA, DM & BE investigated a few options.</i></p>	<p>FA to contact BOF to see if there is an available Microsoft solution for the group</p>
<p>Meeting</p>	
<p>1. Proposed amendments to IOF Rules</p>	
<p>A document of proposed changes has been circulated to the group. Comments have been received from AL in which is concluded that nothing was required to change in the BOF rules but 2 things should be considered: 21.5 GPS Devices and Special wider contactless ‘Gates’ at the Finish. Other group members are invited to read and comment via email</p>	<p>Include on agenda for next meeting</p>
<p>2. Rule Change / Waiver Requests</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TS was approached by organisers of Caddihoe Chase with regard to allowing all classes to run on 1:7500 scale maps at their level B event. Map group did not support this informal request. Organiser was asked to raise a waiver to progress but unlikely to be granted. The group noted that the event has already advertised map scale of 1:7500 for all classes and is taking entries by colour coded course not age class (age class entry required for level B event). It was also noted that 1:7500 scale was used by all courses at Croeso Day 1 (level B) and no waiver was raised for this event. This prompted a group discussion of what happens when rules are ignored by organisers and how rules such as this should be enforced. The group were keen to know what support there is from elites for enforcement of map scales in terms of their opportunities to 	<p>TS & AW to discuss how to progress outside the meeting.</p>

<p>practice at the map scales provided at international events. The event is a UKOL event so the group discussed the possibility that the person responsible for selection of UKOL events (Martin Ward?) could have an interest in ensuring those events comply with the BOF rules on event levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TS was approached by Andy Yeates to include M/W95 as classes in the BOF rules. The main rules currently don't define age classes or the convention of sprint/urban age classes. The challenges of planning for such advanced age classes was discussed and the need for flexibility in course provision when entries are received from such competitors. The consensus of the group was to include M/W95 with M/W90 as an age class to be included by event organisers when requested. • Appendix B 5.2. AR requested change of wording on finish location – (see below) 	<p>BE to produce some common wording for inclusion of M/W95 for each of the relevant major event rules.</p>
<p>3. Point of contact for Rule Change & Waiver forms</p>	
<p>Currently on the BOF website these forms are directed to E&CC. TS proposed that these are now directed to rules@ email address re-directed to AW. There was a consensus that Rules Group are happy to manage the rules independently of E&CC</p>	<p>TS to request this change on the BOF website</p>
<p>4. Rule change forms from David Rosen</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to standardise finish punching when contactless punching is used on a course. – The group discussed the proposal and the consensus was that this could be included in the rules but as advice rather than a mandatory requirement. 	<p>DM to draft wording for inclusion in rules revision</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating navigate to finish. – The group has discussed this via email and AL has drafted a revision to the current rules. It was pointed out that this version has lost the requirement to minimise the distance between the last control(s) and the finish. 	<p>DM to modify finish rule draft revision and circulate</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-competitive results – Proposal to require n/c results to appear after all competitive results in a results table. Concerns over whether software changes will be made by providers to facilitate this. It was agreed that the rules would state that n/c results “should” be listed after all competitive results and that this would be communicated to software providers as a new requirement. When confident that this is possible the rule will be changed to “must” 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranking point outliers – the proposal is to change the definition of a ranking outlier before the calculation of ranking points. DM pointed out that the proposed system needs to be tested with data to provide evidence that it still produces a reliable ranking point result. FA said a club member who is a senior statistician at the OU may be interested to look at this. The original ranking points working party (TS, DM, DR & GA) should review. 	<p>FA to contact club member about statistical review</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncating courses at level A (Misplaced controls to void or not) – the group agreed to postpone the discussion on this 	
<p>5. Rules Review</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TS has added a spreadsheet to the sharepoint listing the sections of the rules. Each group member should add their initials against sections/topics they will review. The vast majority will be left the same this year. The group should focus on adding things that have arisen through waivers/rule change requests. Removal of duplication etc may be left to next year • Competition rules – no comments on competition rules have been received (except M/W95 see above) so with the exception of British Sprints & British Sprint Relays the competition rules are ready to be distributed for 2025. 	<p>ALL – add initials to rules review spreadsheet</p> <p>BE to prepare JK, all other British, and Area Championship Rules for publication</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th August – 7.30pm 	