

Rules Group Meeting

12th December 2023

Apologies:

Graham Louth, Sarah Mansel

Attendees:

Freya Askham, Charles Daniel, Barry Elkington, Terry Smith, David May, Alan Leakey & Graham Nilsen

Introduction

Charles started the meeting by thanking everyone in the group for their hard work this year.

Correspondence

Major Events Conference - there will not be a major events conference this year but there will be a series of webinars one of which will focus on the rules. Charles asked for volunteers to appear in this webinar.

Consultation on the Rules

Response received from Andy Yeates. CD has sent a conciliatory response and invited him to present to the group. For context, PH invited him to have a go at re-writing the rules when he was contracted to BOF during the COVID period before Rules Group was re-established.

Other comments received – majority are helpful.

- Urban winning times – urban is not an IOF standard so no standardisation. Course lengths presented in the table are optimum distance but some planners interpret the table as straight line distances. UK urban league expect 40-45 minute winning times. NOTE: This would be a good topic to highlight in Rules Webinar
- Inconsistency in use of event levels A, B, C & D vs Major, National, Regional & local. It was agreed that this is confusing and Rules group would like to propose that they use the letter categories and not the names. **ACTION: FA to contact BOF office to amend website to add letters to event finder against names**
- Must vs. should – CD proposed that rules are “must” and “should” highlights an issue to look at and is best practice. TS proposed a glossary of terms be added to rules in the future. Rule 3.3 Rule applicability conveys message of “should/shall” being best practice.

The group reviewed all the input from contributors by running through the rules document where DM had highlighted contributions.

ACTION: DM to contact PH proposing to take out the wording regarding “the Board of British Orienteering” from clause 3.9

ACTION: CD to contact Marc Owen to thank him for his contribution and to advise that scope was too large for current revision but that he could fill in a Rule Change form for consideration in 2024

ACTION: CD to send out Competition Rules to 2024 organisers

ACTION: DM/BE to finish tidying up Competition Rules

DM suggested that all controllers should be contacted to advise them of update to rules. Links to the rules on the BOF website are not consistent and this needs to be addressed.

ACTION: DM to highlight inconsistencies when he sends the updated versions

ACTION: DM to produce new equalised M/W winning times for British Nights Competition Rule

Date of next meeting: The date will be decided following a WhatsApp poll of possible dates.