

Event Scheduling Group Meeting Minutes
7 pm – online meeting - Zoom
Monday 13 March 2023



1. Chairman's opening comments.

Welcome to all. Thanks to Ursula for arranging the hosting of the meeting.

2. Record of persons present, and apologies.

Mike Cope (MC) – Chairman of the Event Scheduling Group (ESG) and YHOA

Kerina Lake (KL) - WOA

Richard Sansbury (RJS) – SWOA

Jean Payne (JP) – NWOA

Sarah Mansel (SM) – EAOA

Steve Scott (SS) – SOA

Wilbert Hollinger (WH) – NIOA

Philip Gristwood (PAG) – SEOA

Richard Sharp (RES) – SCOA

Ursula Williamson (UW) - EMOA

Apologies

Rick Roberts (RR) - WMOA

Allie Wilson Craw (AWC) – NEOA

3. Declaration of interests and any other business.

MC as YHOA representative and chair of ESG.

4. Minutes of Event Scheduling Group meeting held on 18 October 2022 and actions from the meeting.

a. Agreed as an accurate record.

b. Actions from meeting.

8b BOC/BRC 2025 host and date or alternative needed – RJS, SS, KL and MC. **Nothing yet.**

8c British Middles 2025 host and date or alternative needed – PAG and MC. **MV.**

8d BNC 2025 host needed – MC and all. **SOA a possibility.**

10a Dates and hosts are needed for Area Champs in 2025 – NW, EM and SW – JP, UW and RJS. **Dates for two are now identified.**

11 MC finalising UKOL list. **Done.**

12 MC will try and chase up possible WRE events and add Elite League details. **Elite league details on planner. Little success with WRE suggestions for Brit Champs, but 3 SOA WREs in place in addition to the 3 JK ones.**

13 All to ask about a 2024 CSC final host. MC to ask CSC coordinator. **MC and CSC coordinator have tried. Possibility that PFO will host.**

15a Possible JIRCs swap. JP and MC to chase. **Still not finalised.**

15b 2024 host for YBT final – MC, JP, PAG. **HH seems best possibility.**

15def MC will ask others for ideas if no offers appear. **Almost no progress except for BSOC 2024. May be a solution to BSOC 2023 but no details known.**

5. Events list and scheduling to be done.

Club level B events for the second half of 2024 to be agreed and finalised.

6. Reports from other meetings.

a. Changes to E&CC structure and its working groups. Some thought is going into this, but nothing firm yet. E&CC has become a very small group of only 4 members.

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- b. ESG functions may be updated. This might happen as part of the above as Event Programme and Publicity (which has not done much for a long time) may disappear. The latest new suggested version of our remit is as below, but note that this has not been accepted yet as the review has a long way to go.

Advise Events & Competitions Committee on all matters relating to the development, hosting and scheduling of events; based on the agreed strategies and working with other interested parties (e.g. UKOL coordinator, CSC group, British Schools Orienteering Association, elite representatives, Major Events Managers), coordinate the scheduling of all Major and National events; act as a line of communication between associations and clubs and the national committees. Make recommendations on which events should be nominated for World Ranking Event status.

There was a discussion about this. Some did not realise that the section about the line of communication existed, though it has always been in place since other groups with a representative from each association were disbanded many years ago. It might be better to substitute just E&CC for National Committees since this is really the only one.

- c. Rules Group. A new Rules Group is being formed with a long list of items to be considered. Too much has fallen on E&CC and a dedicated group should be able to do the job properly. The group is more or less formed, but it needs a chairperson to move things on.
- d. One item for Rules Group is to consider Event levels. It is likely that the criteria will be reviewed with tighter requirements for National/B events.

A number of points were raised in the discussion about event levels. There was agreement that it was often difficult to distinguish between Regional and National events. It was agreed that all the events listed on our planner which ESG schedules should be Major or National events as they are now. There was also a place for a number of named events as Nationals where the intention was to attract competitors from outside the region hosting the event. Not all could agree that some regional leagues should automatically be National events. The number of National events has gone down over the years and some which are normally Nationals have been downgraded because of finding appropriately qualified officials and the 12 month embargo rule. Some thought that UKOL events ought to be Nationals – normally they are, but there have been exceptions. There has been no successful checking of National events to ensure that they do meet criteria as set out in the rules. The lack of National events will have an effect on opportunities for officials to progress to higher grades. It may be that an alternative route is needed for such officials to progress. Pre-entry has become common for events at all levels which once was a distinguishing factor. The lack of EOD can be an extra hurdle especially where it applies at some Local level events. Tighter rules for National events might well mean that more clubs are reluctant to put them on. The cost of events was mentioned. Some thought that there was often no justification for charging a higher fee just because an event was a National. Some members of the group were willing to compare the list of requirements for National and Regional events, sending comments to MC to pass on further.

- e. Officials Group. Ernie Williams is retiring from the Event Officials Group. People have been identified to do the two separate jobs that Ernie did more or less on his own - developing training materials for officials and appointing controllers and IOF advisors to Major/WRE events. Partly linked to this is an effort by BO office to get the controller list up-to-date and in a more accessible way to those who need it. A list of Major Events, their officials and embargo status was produced in January and some work was done to get embargos up-to-date and find urgently needed officials. More progress should be made now that Alan Rosen has agreed to take on the appointments role.
- f. Major Events Consultants. Andy Yeates is now the only Major Events Consultant.
- g. The Forestry Agreement will be due for renewal later this year. Comments were sought from a number of people to help with the negotiations. Some ESG members had sent in comments.

7. Reports from associations.

- a. Report from Rick as he may not be able to attend the meeting.

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8. JK, British Long/Middle/Sprint/Relays/Mixed Sprint Relays/Night Champs.

- a. JK rota. OK as far as is known.
- b. BOC/BRC rota. Rota is OK except for 2025. There seems to be no solution as it is likely to be too much of a burden for any association to take on with other commitments. The best hope might be to have BOC with the JK and abandon BRC for a year, but this has not been agreed or even discussed. There was a thought that if it got round the membership that there was to be no BOC/BRC then somebody would come up with something. Messages to clubs have not had much effect so far. A reserve date remains in the database.
- c. British Middles. 2025 with MV and now with a date – 16 March. There was a suggestion that BRC could go on the weekend with the Middles, but it would be a big additional task for MV or a neighbouring club. HOC in 2026 in April along with the Midlands Champs on the same weekend. 18/19 April has been suggested so that it falls 2 weeks after Easter and 2 weeks before any events on the early May Bank Holiday weekend.
- d. British Sprint and Sprint Relays. Suggestion of SWOA for 2026 should be OK. There is concern about the date for 2024. It may have to move back a week because of availability of the areas. No final decision yet. This would cause a clash with WOC test events so some elites would not be available.
- e. BNC. Host urgently needed for 2025. 8/2/25 date suggested and reserved. There is a possibility that SOA might take this on. If that fails, LEI may have possible area. Possible offer from WOA for 2027.
- f. Can we maintain the running of the JK and 6 British Championships? It looks now as if it will still be possible except for 2025.

9. International Events.

The database has been updated for a selection of events with information from IOF Eventor. The useful Swedish Base programme seems to have disappeared. All of these entries in the database should be treated with caution as things change and dates particularly may not be 100% accurate.

10. Area and Association Championships

- a. Northern, Midlands, Southern. For 2025 DVO will host the Midlands Champs on 7 Sept 2025, MDOC/BL will host the Northern Champs on 17/18 May 2025. The Southern Champs cannot be fixed yet. It will be held alongside another event which could be the Caddihoe in Sept/Oct. Rotas beyond 2025 are shown on the planner and are assumed to be OK.
- b. Scottish Champs. Possibility that the regular date may change from 2024 onwards because of a clash with an International event.
- c. Welsh Champs. OK on usual date. Change to ERYRI in 2025.
- d. Irish Champs.

11. UKOL and Year Outline Plans.

- a. 2024 UKOL to be considered. Most of the Major events and Area Champs are in the first half of the year. Events are sought for the second half. A number of possibilities are shown on the year outline planner to be considered around the time of our next meeting. Could AFS concerned check whether or not there is any interest and, if a single event, if there is a supporting event to make a weekend of UKOL events.
- b. Outline plans now exist for 2025 and 2026.

12. UK Elite Orienteering League and Junior Elite League. Details for the Elite Leagues are on the Year Outline Planner.

World Ranking Events for 2023 are on the year outline planner. No response when I suggested that some of our British Championships should be included. What about encouraging some WREs for 2024? Currently likely to be just 2 JK events and the British Champs?

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13. Compass Sport Cup and Trophy.

- a. Host urgently needed for 2024 final. PFO may do it, but this is still not confirmed. The 2025 final will be earlier than usual on 21 Sept.
- b. 2024 heats are all to be on 18 Feb after the failed experiment in 2023. SOA, NWOA-SROC (Heslington Barrows), YHOA-EBOR (Cawthorn and Keldy), WMOA-WCH (Cannock Chase), EAOA-SUFFOC (King's Forest), SWOA-WIM (Moors Valley), SE-SLOW (Esher Common). There will be no SCOA heat, but the SWOA heat is near enough for many SCOA clubs. The requirement to cater for 300 entrants and adequate car parking was stressed.
- c. 16 Feb fixed for 2025 heats and 15 Feb for 2026 heats.

14. Home Internationals.

- a. 2024 host clubs needed and date check. Dates assumed to be OK but little club information.
- b. 2025 host clubs needed and date check. Dates assumed to be OK but little club information.
- c. 2024 Interland will be in Belgium on 24 March.

15. JIRCs, YBT, PPJTR, BSOC, BSSC, BUCS.

- a. JIRCs probably OK. The possible swop of host regions for 2025 and 2026 will not work as NWOA will be doing SHI and then JIRCs 2 weeks later. Post meeting SM has found out that SOS may be OK with the event in 2025. If this turns out not to be the case, MC will ask if others scheduled after 2026 could move.
- b. YBT final – host needed for 2024. Best possibility now seems to be with HH. PAG checking.
- c. PPJTR. 2023 SMOC. Hosts needed for 2024 onwards. Nothing known.
- d. BSSC. Hosts needed for 2024 onwards. This ought to be easy enough as the event is not too complex.
- e. BSOC. Host needed urgently for 2023 – something may be possible – details not known. 2024 now DFOK. 2025 ESOC.
- f. BUCS. New system now with any university invited to apply. Howard Blackman the BO liaison. Decision for 2025 should be made by November 2023. ESG should only have to advise on date.

16. Harvester.

- a. BAOC/CLOK in 2023 has had to be cancelled, but there is still a slight chance that BAOC might find something maybe August rather than June. No hosts for 2024 and 2025. Are FVO interested in trying again?

17. Other National events requested by clubs/associations.

- a. National events for the first half of 2024 OK.
- b. National events for the second half of 2024 to be confirmed. No undesirable clashes except for NATO urban with Dales Weekend and CoL. MC to query, but other potential problems with Sept/Oct.
- c. Ideally add others for 2025 for later confirmation.

18. Any BO fixtures database issues.

- a. None.

19. Any other business.

- a. None.

20. Dates of next meetings. Monday 16 October 2023 was agreed at the last meeting. Monday 11 March 2024 was agreed.

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ACTIONS

- 6d It would be helpful if any group members can compare National and Regional criteria and make comments – Any ESG members.
- 8b Still a decision needed about BOC/BRC 2025 – MC.
- 8d Decision needed asap about whether Brit Sprints/BSRC will move by a week – RR.
- 8e BNC 2025 decision from SOA or alternatives if not – SS, UW, KL.
- 10a Southern Champs 2025 date and club needed – RJS.
- 11a Could all AFS concerned check for interest in UKOL and for supporting events – MC, RES, SS, JP, PAG, SM.
- 13a Confirmation of CSC final club and date is needed – MC.
- 15a JIRCs problem in 2025. SM to confirm 2025 is OK for SOS - SM.
- 15b PAG checking with HH about YBT final.
- 15d Offers for BSSC 2024 and 2025 – all to check if there are any offers.

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| Event | S6 L5 W6 | JK | BOC BRC | British Sprints | British Middle | Brit Sprint Relay Champs | BNC | CSCF | Northern Champs | Midland Champs | Southern Champs |
|-------|--|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Level | | Maj | Maj | Maj | Maj | Nat | Maj | Maj | Nat | Nat | Nat |
| 2018 | Lakes 5 29/7 - 3/8 | WM 30/3 - 2/4 WM | SOA 19/20 May MAROC | SW 01-Sep SW | SW 02-Sep SW | NE 09-Jun NATO | WOA 24-Feb SBOC | WM 21-Oct WCH | YH 22-Apr EBOR | EM 18-Mar LEI | SE 25-Nov SN/SLOW |
| 2019 | Scottish6 28/7 - 3/8 | SC 19-22 Apr SC | YH 5-6 May AIRE++ | EM 14-Sep LEI | EM 15-Sep DVO | YH 04-May AIRE++ | SOA 23-Feb MAROC | SE 20-Oct MV | YH 10-Mar SYO | WM 26-May HOC | SW 01-Dec BOK |
| 2020 | Welsh 6 25-31 July | NE 10-13 Apr NE | SE 6/7 Mar SEOA | NW 21-Jun | NW 09-May LOC | NW 20-Jun | SC 22-Feb TVOC | WM 18-Oct OD | NW 10-May MDOC | EM 09-Feb DVO | SC 29-Nov BKO |
| 2021 | Scottish6 1-7 Aug | SW 2-5 Apr Cornwall | SWOA 2 Oct (no BRC) DEVON/BOK | NW 22-Aug | NW 05-Jun LOC | NW 21-Aug | SW 27-Nov NGOC | YH 17-Oct SYO | NW 06-Jun MDOC | WM 30-May WRE | SE 12-Dec MV/SAX |
| 2022 | Lakes 5 7-12 Aug | WOA 15-18 Apr with help | SE 26/27 Mar SEOA | YH 12-Jun AIRE | EAOA 06-Mar EAOA | YH 11-Jun YH | YH 19-Feb AIRE | SOA 16-Oct FVO | NE 03-Apr NATO | EM 30-Jan NOC | SW 17-Sep DEVON |
| 2023 | Scottish6 30Jul- 4Aug Euromet 13-15Oct | NW 7-10 Apr | SC 25/26 Mar SC | NIOA 06-May | NIOA 07-May | SE 17-Sep LOK | SW 18-Feb WIM | SW 12-Nov BOK | YH 26-Feb SYO | WM 28-May HOC(with SINS) | SC 05-Nov SOC |
| 2024 | Welsh 6 WOC 12- 16/7 | EM/WM 29/3-1/4 | NE 13/14 Apr | WM 23-Jun OD | YH 27-Apr AIRE | WM 22-Jun HOC | NW 10-Feb WCOG | NW 20-Oct PFO?? | YH 28-Apr AIRE | EAOA 09-Mar-24 NOR | SE 04-Feb-24 GO |
| 2025 | Scottish6 | YH 18-21/04 | ??? 29/30 Mar? | EA 31-Aug | SE 16-Mar MV | EA 30-Aug | SOA? 8/2/25? | NE 21-Sep- 25 CLOK | NW 18-May MDOC/BL | EM 07-Sep-25 DVO | SW |
| 2026 | Lakes 5 | SOA 05-Apr | WOA SBOC/SWOC | SW Summer | WM 18? April HOC | SW Summer | | | YH | WM 19? April HOC | SC |
| 2027 | Scottish6 | SE 28-Mar | NW | NE? | | NE? | WOA? | | NE | EA | SE SN |
| 2028 | Welsh 6 | SW 16-Apr | YH | | NW?? | | | | NW | EM | SW |
| 2029 | Scottish6 | SC 01-Apr | WM | | | | | | YH | WM | SC |
| 2030 | Lakes 5 | NE 21-Apr | SOA | | | | | | NE | EA | SE |
| 2031 | | WM 13-Apr | SE | | | | | | NW | | |

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| Event | Scottish Champs | Welsh Champs | Irish Champs | JHI | SHI | VHI | Harv |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Level | Nat | Nat | | Nat | Nat | Nat | Nat |
| 2018 | SOA 26-27 May INVOC/MOR | WOA 3-4 Mar ERYRI | | SOA 6-7 Oct STAG/ESOC | EOA-NW 8-9 Sept PFO | WOA 29-30 Sept SWOC | SE 24-Jun SO |
| 2019 | SOA 25-26 May SOLWAY | WOA 2-3 Mar MWOC | | NIOA 12-13 Oct LVO | WOA 7-8 Sept SBOC | SOA 21-22 Sept ESOC | x x x |
| 2020 | SOA 22-23 Aug INT/ESOC | WOA 20-Sep SWOC | Munster - South | SEOA 10-11 Oct SLOW | {SOA} 21-22 Nov MA | NIOA 3-4 Oct FERMO | SOA 28-Jun FVO |
| 2021 | SOA 13-Jun ESOC | WOA 12-Sep SWOC | Munster 30/4 to 3/5 South | SEOA 9-10 Oct SLOW | SOA 4-5 Sept MAROC/GRAMP | E- SE(wasSC) 4-5 Dec SLOW | x x x |
| 2022 | SOA 28-29 May GRAMP/MAROC | WOA 01-Oct MWOC | Munster 29/4 to 2/5 South | SOA 8/9 Oct BASOC+INT | E-SC 5/6 Nov SOC+? | WOA 1/2 Oct? MWOC? | SOA 13-Aug FVO |
| 2023 | SOA 27-28 May West Scotland | WOA 11-Mar SBOC | Leinster 28/4 to 1/5 East | E-WM 7/8 Oct OD/COBOC | WOA 9/10 Sept SWOC | E-SW 30 Sep/1 Oct NGOC | ?? 25-Jun ?? |
| 2024 WOC 12- 16/7 | SOA 25/26 May East? | WOA 03-Mar SWOC | Connaught 3-6 May West | E-EA 12/13 Oct N Norfolk? | SOA 7/8 Sept | NIOA 21/22 Sept | 30-Jun |
| 2025 | SOA 24/25 May North? | WOA 02-Mar- 25 ERYRI | NIOA 2-5 May North | WOA 11/12 Oct SWOC | E-NW 13/14 Sept | SOA 4/5 Oct | 29-Jun- 25 |
| 2026 | | WOA 01-Mar- 26 SBOC | | SOA | NIOA | E-YH | |
| 2027 | | | | E-NE | E-SE | WOA | |
| 2028 | | | | NIOA | SOA | E-EM | |
| 2029 | | | | E-SW | WOA | SOA | |
| 2030 | | | | SOA | E-WM | NIOA | |
| 2031 | | | | WOA | E-NW | E-SC | |

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| Event | JIRCs | YBT Final | PPJTR | BSSC | BSOC | BUCS | CSC Rd 1 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Level | Nat | Nat | Nat | Nat | Nat | Nat? | Nat |
| 2018 | EM 29/30 Sept DVO | WM 01-Jul HOC | YH 09-Sep SYO | SW 13-Oct WIM | NW 18-Nov PFO | (SC) 3&4/3 OUOC | 11-Mar |
| 2019 | YH 28/29 Sept SYO | EA 07-Jul EA | SE 08-Sep SAX/SO | NW 12-Oct MDOC | SC 17-Nov SC(BADO/BKO) | (SOA) 30/31 Mar EUOC | 17-Mar |
| 2020 | SG 26/27 Sept BAOC | SW 05-Jul BOK | NW 06-Sep WCOG | EM 10-Oct DVO | SE 15-Nov HH | (EAOA) 28/29 Mar CUOC | 15-Mar |
| 2021 | NE 25/26 Sept CLOK | SW 04-Jul BOK | NW 12-Sep WCOG | YH 09-Oct EPOC | SE 21-Nov HH | (EAOA) 27/28 Mar CUOC | 14-Mar |
| 2022 | NIOA 24/25 Sep LVO | EM 03-Jul LEI | WM 11-Sep COBOC | EMOA 08-Oct DVO | YH 20-Nov SYO | (YHOA) 26/27 Feb SHUOC | 13 Feb or 13-Mar |
| 2023 | WOA 23/24 Sep SBOC | YH 09-Jul SYO | EAOA 10-Sep SMOC | EMOA 14-Oct LEI | ?? 19-Nov ?? | (SOA) 18/19 Mar EUOC | 12-Feb |
| 2024 WOC 12- 16/7 | SW 28/29 Sept NGOC/BOK | ?? 07-Jul HH?or BL? | 08-Sep | 12-Oct | SE 17-Nov DFOK | (EAOA) 9/10Mar CUOC | 18-Feb |
| 2025 | EA 27/28 Sept SOS | 06-Jul-25 | 14-Sep- 25 | 11-Oct- 25 | SOA 16-Nov ESOC | | 16-Feb |
| 2026 | NW 26/27 Sept LOC? | | | | | | 15-Feb- 26 |
| 2027 | WM | | | | | | |
| 2028 | SOA | | | | | | |
| 2029 | SE | | | | | | |
| 2030 | EM | | | | | | |
| 2031 | YH | | | | | | |