

# Trail Orienteering Steering Group Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## 1 Present

Richard Keighley WIM, Iain Philips LEI, John Kewley MDOC, Graham Urquhart OD, Liz Urquhart OD, Christine Roberts EBOR, Ian Ditchfield MV, Colin Duckworth TVOC, , Wilbert Hollinger LVO, Charles Bromley Gardner BAOC, Nick Barrable SYO, Clive Allen SN

## 2 Chairman's introduction and opening remarks

2-1 None

## 3 Conflicts of interest declaration

3-1 None

## 4 Apologies

4-1 Apologies were received from Anne Hickling ESOC and Tom Dobra BOK

## 5 Minutes of previous meeting (6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021) and Matters arising

5-1 Reference in 8.1 to BTOC 2023, the equipment purchased is to support TrailO in general and not just the BTOC competitions.

## 6 Review priority items for this meeting's agenda

6-1 It was agreed to follow the published agenda.

## 7 BriTOL

7-1 TD has set a process to provide a completion for the 2020/21 league and provide a clean start in 2021. CA will publicise the final results through British Orienteering

7-2 A key priority of the Steering Group is to establish a program of events to constitute a Britol League for 2022 that can be publicised early in the year. It is impractical for the Steering Group to engage 1-1 with all the UK clubs to stimulate events. To address this ALL are to consider opportunities to add a Britol Event alongside other [larger] events that are already in the calendar, to leverage the organisation, access and publicity of these events. This would include the other Major or National Foot Orienteering events and championships, and other Regional level events. Events. Progress will be discussed at the next meeting.

7-3 AH confirmed that there would be a low key TrailO competition within the Edinburgh Big Weekend in January.

7-4 GU to approach Mike Cope to examine any opportunities for events alongside the Major events calendar.

7-5 There may be an opportunity in the Lakes5 on the rest day (Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022). JK is controlling one of the FootO days, and might have some availability if this is on an earlier day.

## 8 BTOC 2022

8-1 ID set out his plans to run BTOC 2022 on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March alongside the BOC and relatively close by. This will be a PreO event. Some permissions are outstanding but are not expected to be an obstacle. Mapping update is under way. ID will place an embargo on the chosen area.

8-2 SC reported that the British Orienteering Board had agreed in principle to the Britol being an official BO competition and he will pick up with TD how to make this happen. This should include a link from the British Orienteering website and the ability to filter events for Britol.

8-3 There was some discussion relating to BTOC2021. If a suitable event can be identified to be BTOC2022 later in 2022, we could consider re-titling the 27<sup>th</sup> March as a late BTOC 2021, and thus not have 2021 with no BTOC and champion. At present no suitable event is in the calendar, but this can be reviewed and final decision made at the next meeting

## 9 Target event formats

9-1 In terms of format, the BTOC should generally follow IOF rules, and so for the present a conventional timed control based tiebreaker is required for PreO. Similarly any BTOC Tempo should also follow the IOF model.

9-2 The JK is part of a festival of orienteering and creating a good experience for new participants is also important. As a result small formats which can be run for larger groups of participants and which avoid both volunteer overload and long competition times such as Sprints may be acceptable alongside more conventional competitions.

9-3 For Britol, a range of formats will be acceptable, provided they deliver a realistic experience of the disciplines and reward accuracy and good decision making and do not disadvantage physically challenged athletes.

9-4 Some events may be more focussed on beginners or as an adjunct to a multi event such as the Edinburgh Big Weekend. These events will be low key and are provided principally for athletes competing in FootO as well.

9-5 The route to bring non-orientees and particularly physically challenged new orientees who are not ex-foot orientees into the sport was discussed. The current membership structure for British Orienteering is unhelpful, as the low number of competitions and the impossibility of partaking of Foot Orienteering for these members make the British Orienteering subscription not good value for new entrants. This will also make the league unattractive to them, as it is a requirement of the league software that competitors are British Orienteering

members. While it might be possible to create a non-membership number to make the league software work, this may well lead to confusion. In any case we would like these members to be in British Orienteering. SC will raise the issue of some special arrangements in the British Orienteering membership structure to accommodate this as part of an ongoing review of membership in British Orienteering. Options such as free initial membership for a fixed number of years, or a special membership class or rate for Physically Challenged members who do not/cannot take part in Foot Orienteering were suggested.

## 10 JK 2022 update (GU)

10-1 A low key event at Swansea is pretty firm. This will follow the type of event demonstrated by CBG with a PreO section and a short sprint tie breaker.

10-2 Difficulties of parking, access and the location of the event centre make day 2 uncertain. More details will be shared by GU at the next meeting.

10-3 Offers of planners and controllers to GU would be welcome, once the terrain is finalised.

## 11 Selection policy 2022

11-1 GU to write and ask Julie Webster if she is willing to continue as Chair of selectors for 2022.

11-2 Changes to the timing of submission and selection were suggested by CA to allow the Selectors time to assess 2022 results and were agreed. GU to update selection document:

11-2-1 Section 5.1 include ETOC 2022 performance in the selection for WTOC 2022

11-2-2 Section 9.2 To allow sufficient time to complete selection discussions after key events, the target date for notifying athletes will be moved to 4/4 (ETOC) and 6/6 (WTOC) at the latest.

11-3 GU to check wording of British Orienteering Covid section (3.2) to align with the FootO document already published.

11-4 While virtual event performance such as Torus will be part of 'known form', the selectors expect performance and experience in real events to take preference. (no change)

## 12 IOF update (JK)

12-1 JK provided an update on the IOF activities. (Presentation attached)

12-2 We should promote and encourage participation in the pre-WTOC 2023 for athletes who may wish to be considered for WTOC 2023 itself.

## 13 Promotional video – status

13-1 Significant progress has been made and the story is complete. Shooting has been delayed by Covid issues, and is now likely to be completed before the end of Q2 2022. Allowing for

editing and voice input the final target date is early summer 2022. British Orienteering and the Orienteering foundation are being kept up to date and are sympathetic.

## 14 Any other business

14-1 .Consideration at the next meeting for whether we should hold a BTOC on both PreO and TempO disciplines which would mirror the FootO arrangements

14-2 The new national kit has been publicised in CompassSport.

14-3 LU will seek to recover the old national kit, following the death of Anne Braggins.

## 15 Date of Next meeting

15-1 . **GU** to arrange the next meeting in a similar 90 minute time slot on 12 January 2022

## 16 Update on actions

**16-1 The updates on actions completed are below. The action list will be reviewed and updated at the next meeting**

## 17 Actions from previous meeting and action list

17-1 Actions relating to management of events are deferred until events start being planned.

Ref.	Item	Action	Who	Update
<b>Carried forward from July 2020</b>				
<b>7</b>	<b>8-5</b>	<b>IP to draft a set of UK rules for TrailO for review by the Steering Group</b>	<b>IP - deferred until events are likely</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>10-1</b>	<b>New Ranking List development to be co-ordinated by IP &amp; JK.</b>	<b>IP/JK - deferred until events are likely</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>13-3</b>	<b>TD agreed to undertake a survey of results systems to recommend a way forward for UK events</b>	<b>TD - deferred until events are likely</b>	
<b>16</b>	<b>15-2</b>	<b>RK and GU to discuss how to fund mapping of areas that are unsuitable for FootO</b>	<b>GU RK - deferred until events are likely</b>	

<b>Actions Carried forward from November 2020</b>				
<b>3</b>	<b>10-2</b>	EU will send David Coton a top and jacket for his own use when the new international kit is delivered, and	<b>EU</b>	
<b>Actions carried forward from January 2021</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>7-2</b>	GU to target clubs with significant Torus interest as potentially able to run low key TrailO	<b>GU</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>7-4</b>	<b>All</b> to consider what kind of webinar to promote TrailO or to support the creation of low key events they could propose	<b>All</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>8-5</b>	<b>SC</b> took an action to check with GU whether there would be any possibility of using SportEngland junior talent funding to subsidise any juniors who were selected for the junior places at WTOC.	<b>SC GU</b>	<b>Review in 2022</b>
<b>Actions from September 2021</b>				
<b>3</b>	<b>16-1</b>	Include an agenda item and sufficient time at a future meeting to consider the formation of Physically Challenged subgroup to planning and progressing our policy on developing inclusivity and reaching out to the various communities that we think could benefit from trying TrailO.	<b>GU</b>	<b>Q1 2022</b>
<b>New Actions December 2021</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>7-2</b>	ALL are to consider opportunities to add a Britol Event alongside other [larger] events that are already in the calendar, to leverage the organisation, access and publicity of these events	<b>All</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>7-4</b>	GU to approach Mike Cope to examine any opportunities for events alongside the Major events calendar	<b>GU</b>	<b>Jan 2022</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>9-5</b>	SC will raise the issue of some special arrangements in the British Orienteering membership structure to accommodate this as part of an ongoing review of membership in British Orienteering .	<b>SC</b>	<b>June 2022</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>11-1</b>	GU to write and ask Julie Webster if she is willing to continue as Chair of selectors for 2022.	<b>GU</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	GU to update selection document and GU to check wording of British Orienteering Covid section (3.2) to align with the FootO document already published	<b>GU</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>