

Trail Orienteering Steering Group Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom, 6 February 2023

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, , Nick Barrable SYO, , Wilbert Hollinger LVO, Anne Hickling ESOC , Charles Bromley Gardner BAOC, 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 Scott Collier BO, and Tom Dobra TVOC

5 Minutes of previous meeting (12 December 2022) and Matters arising

5-1 None

6 Review priority items for this meeting's agenda

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

7 Organising to support development

7-1 CA's suggestions for smaller working groups was put forward at the December 22 meeting, and it was agreed that this could deliver more focussed action and assist us in our role in developing the sport. It was agreed that one would focus on opportunities to engage Physically Challenged non-orientees and the other would focus on the development of TrailO for all existing orientees in other disciplines, effectively for BO members of all ages both as a competition and as a training aid. How these could operate was discussed and the different challenges that each would face as well as how we might engage with Trail Orienteers more generally to help them grow the sport around them, and to embrace activities such as those being run by David Coton.

- **Engaging existing orientees** may best start as an activity or training alongside other activities before developing into competition. Engagement will need to be local and stimulate grass roots engagement rather than top down. It is similar to working with

schools, with activities delivering a few who then engage with the sport. BO could perhaps be persuaded to send a Newsletter item (that we write) about TrailO and the video to all Clubs and leverage the mini site. The WP could then identify which Clubs already have active Trail Orienteers, and prioritise them for contact and support, e.g. first encouraging them to have a couple of TrailO controls within a training session. The WP can decide which members of our Group are best suited to work with identified Clubs, and encourage them to do so.

- **Engaging physically Challenged** non-orientees is a much more difficult prospect. It may be possible to engage with other multi-activity events that are aimed at this community. There may be specific subsets that are easier to reach through national or regional organisations; either specific disabilities or communities of interest (such as the veterans focus in the USA). We should also consider ways to support this community to devise its own events to do this **with** them rather than **to** them. There may be activities that are on the path to TrailO that can leverage existing resources such a permanent FootO or map run courses.

7-2 GU agreed to draft terms of reference for these working groups, and all to consider who might undertake the work, given that the Steering Group members alone may not have sufficient capacity to do this.

8 International events and teams

8-1 Progress in seeking a new Chair of Selectors for 2023. Neil Cameron has agreed to be our chair of selectors and plans to get together with the other selectors on Tuesday.

8-2 Selection policy 2023 - The draft selection criteria are complete from the subcommittee viewpoint, subject to the selectors final comments and BO approval.

8-3 Invitation for team manager for 2023 Now the selectors are finalised GU will issue the invitation of interest to see if there are others who wish to act as Team Manager.

8-4 Purchasing personal GBR kit. The recent announcement of the BO GBR kit sponsorship deal relates solely to the FootO teams and there is no intent to change the GBR TrailO kit. LU reported that everyone eligible to purchase their kit had been contacted and expressed their interest. The prices will be finalised based on these numbers to cover the cost of replacements for the stock of kit to replace that purchased.

8-5 WTOC accommodation – there is no official accommodation at WTOC and team meetings will be virtual on Zoom. As a result it may be prudent to provisionally look for accommodation to meet the (possible) GBR team needs where this does not create a cost prior to selection.

9 Event updates

9-1 JK 2023 (JK) – JK gave a presentation o the current formats and plans, which are progressing well for 3 different events over Days 1 to 3 of the JK 2023. Presentation attached. NO additional assistance is needed from the Subgroup.

9-2 Moray 6 Days. (AH) – Progressing, and at Roseisle

9-3 BTOC in May 2023 in conjunction with the British middle and sprint by NIOA, confirmed as the afternoon of Saturday 6th May 2023 near the Sprints in Armagh. Publicity and entries to follow soon.

9-4 BRITOL events 23 – 5 already in place, and the opportunity for more later in the year.

10 IOF update (JK)

10-1 JK reported on activity at the IOF

10-2 The GBR proposals for IOF TrailO rule changes have largely been accepted, including the rules around electronic double punches discussed in December 2022.

10-3 IOF are seeking countries to host WTOC 2025.

10-4 JK suggested that we should prepare to seek funding from BO or from the Orienteering Foundation in 2024 to enable larger UK events to use the newly approved ToePunch to improve the competitor experience.

11 Action updates

11-1 To improve the usefulness of the actions, it was agreed to remove actions dating form 2021 and which had either been superseded or ceased to be a priority. Where necessary new actions will be added later.

12 Any other business

12-1 After many years creating and managing the BO TrailO mini-site, Clive proposed that David Jukes take over managing this and publicity in general both to harness his skills and enthusiasm and it being easier from the UK. The committee approved this. Clive was thanked for his many years starting up and managing the mini-site, and agreed to continue on the subgroup to assist the handover and to continue to provide his valuable input.

12-2 David should be invited to join this Group.

12-3 The Orienteering Foundation and British Orienteering have agreed to allow the IOF to use the TrailO video, and to add IOF branding, which will increase the value and use of the video, and underlines the quality of the work.

13 Date of Next meeting

13-1 . GU to arrange the next meeting in a similar 90 minute time slot in about 6 to 8 weeks at 19:30. It was suggested that the use of an online availability voting service had helped to choose a time and should be continued

14 Actions from previous meeting and action list

14-1 Actions relating to management of events are deferred until events start being planned.

Ref.	Item	Action	Who	Update
Carried forward from July 2020				
7	8-5	IP to draft a set of UK rules for TrailO for review by the Steering Group	IP - deferred until events are likely	Likely to be Sept 2022
8	10-1	New Ranking List development to be co-ordinated by IP & JK.	IP/JK - deferred until events are likely	Scoring approach agreed. Subsumed into discussions Item 8 on 9/3/22
13	13-3	TD agreed to undertake a survey of results systems to recommend a way forward for UK events	TD - deferred until events are likely	
16	15-2	RK and GU to discuss how to fund mapping of areas that are unsuitable for FootO	GU RK - deferred until events are likely	
Actions carried forward from January 2021				
1	7-2	GU to target clubs with significant Torus interest as potentially able to run low key TrailO	GU	
5	8-5	SC 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.	SC GU	Review in 2022
Actions from September 2021				
3	16-1	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	GU	Complete Jan 23

		that we think could benefit from trying TrailO.		
Actions from December 2021				
2	7-4	GU to approach Mike Cope to examine any opportunities for events alongside the Major events calendar	GU	Jan 2022
3	9-5	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 .	SC	June 2022
Actions from January 2022				
New actions 9 March 2022				
2	8.3	All to consider the purpose of a new Ranking in the development of the sport and support athlete progress, and how these fit with World rankings and BriTOL measures. as a preparation for a future meeting on this issue.	ALL	Next meeting
New actions 31 august 2022				
4	8	All to consider a mechanism for awarding the Anne Braggins trophy	All	Next Meeting
6	9.2	GU will write to Julie Webster to express the thanks of the Steering Group for all her help and support as Chair of Selectors	GU	Completed
New actions 6 February 2023				
1	8.3	Publish the Team Manager invitation	GU	Feb 23
2	7.2	Draft terms of reference for working groups		