

Trail Orienteering Steering Group Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom, 9 March 2022

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, Clive Allen SN, Nick Barrable SYO, Charles Bromley Gardner BAOC, Wilbert Hollinger LVO

2 Chairman's introduction and opening remarks

2-1 None

3 Conflicts of interest declaration

3-1 GU reminded members to maintain their BO Declarations of interest if anything changes

4 Apologies

4-1 Apologies were received from Anne Hickling ESOC and Tom Dobra TVOC, Scott Collier BO,

5 Minutes of previous meeting (12th Jan 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 International events and teams

7-1 The Committee re-affirmed the approach to funding and self-funding in light of British Orienteering support budget. The funding will be allocated equally to the ETOC and WTOC (£2000 each) and will be used to fund accreditation, entries and licensing, with team members covering any shortfall and travel and accommodation.

7-2 Elizabeth Urquhart was appointed as Team Manager for ETOC and for WTOC 2022. In future years the committee will publish the vacancy and request volunteers earlier in the cycle (in late 2022), to provide an open opportunity for others to take on this role.

7-3 In view of the deadlines for the events, the approach to accommodation and team size bookings for ETOC which need to be made pre-selection will follow the estimates used in 2019 with the expectation that small variations may be possible when the final team is selected. EU to liaise with British Orienteering to make entries.

8 UK Ranking

8-1 The issue with restarting the British Rankings was the lack of events in 2019, 2020 and 2021 to support the 5 from 8 scoring, and the lack of any suitable recent events being pre-notified as ranking events. The view was that performance measures needed to support a specific purpose, and that the British ranking was not a key measure for selection in Trail Orienteering. We have

- BriTOL, which provides an ongoing measure for a wide range of abilities to develop to monitor personal improvement and specifically encourage participation, in a method parallel to the other UK Leagues
- British Ranking was historically important as a prime input to team selection, and included both UK and European events. For 2022 this is not the case, and this gives an opportunity to establish whether a separate British ranking is needed in addition to the other measures, the objective of the ranking and the method of calculation. We are basing selection on a range of evidence, and in future years selection may become more similar to FootO with an increasing emphasis on performance in nominated events where these are available.
- If the British Ranking is based on UK only events, it contains no measure of familiarity with other terrain and competitions, but including significant overseas events make it inaccessible to some people. It was decided that a decision on the mix of events and the revised scoring, and the issue of Tempo vs PreO would need more discussion at a later meeting.
- World Ranking provides a method of comparison with the rest of the world and demonstrates ability in a range of competition environments. But not all UK athletes can travel to achieve this.

8-2 It was agreed that:

- We would refine the need for a UK ranking alongside BriTOL and World ranking schemes before restarting the UK ranking.
- The British Ranking would be suspended for the time being and that the minisite would explain that insufficient ranking events have been available and that the purpose and approach to British Ranking will be reviewed and communicated for the start of 2023.
- To ensure that athletes could identify events that would contribute to a future British ranking and remove the considerable lag until enough events have taken place for the new rules, events in 2022 would be identified as 'UK Ranking Events' and this would be published on the minisite and in the event details. Initially BTOC and JK Day 2 were agreed.

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.

8-4 IP reported that the programming of the proposed system was under way and this will be taken as the basis for the mechanism. Expects to complete this programme in a couple of months.

8-5 Splitting Tempo and PreO British rankings – no Tempo events in the calendar so deferred

9 Items deferred during the pandemic that we may now wish to pick up –

9-1 Trail Orienteering Rules; IP has started producing a set of British Trail Orienteering rules, derived from and aligned with the IOF rules, but in a form that helps UK event organisers and removes the WRE and ETOC/WTOC considerations. This may take some time, and we should expect a draft at the end of the summer.

9-2 Review of electronic results and punching systems. No update.

10 2023 WRE possibilities

10-1 Consideration of this and/or ECTO possibilities were deferred to next meeting when the UK 2023 calendar will be clearer.

11 IOF update (JK)

11-1 JK provided an update on business at the IOF, including changes to the mapping standard and the position relating to Russia and Belarus.

12 Action updates:

12-1 The selection policy has been published on the British Orienteering web site

12-2 As in previous years, British Orienteering have indicated that the 2022 financial support for international teams to assist with entries etc will be in the form of a sum of money up to £4000

12-3 GU reported that we now have support for international event organisation from Rachael Handley at British Orienteering

12-4 The video is progressing, and we can review progress at a later meeting

12-5 EU has sent David Coton his British Orienteering kit.

12-6 BriTOL and ECTO events have all been placed on the TrailO minisite (thanks Clive)

12-7 Suspension of the Russian Orienteering Federation from the IOF. Noted.

13 Any other business

13-1 Request for a permanent trail Orienteering course from Forestry England in Chopwell Wood, Gateshead – permanent courses in general.

13-2 The deadline for expressions of interest in the GBR teams for 2022 is approaching. We should publicise this as widely as possible, and beyond the Minisite and the British Trail Orienteering Facebook. There is no planned BO Newsletter before the deadline (18 March 2022). Clive to ask BO to put to notice on the News page of the BO website and items in the British Orienteering social media feeds. GU to repeat original postings with deadline prominently included.

13-3 GU reported that the FCOC (Catalan Orienteering Federation) has asked to translate some of the TrailO documents on the minisite as they are trying to get Trail Orienteering going there and permission had been granted.

13-4 CR reported that there may not be an organiser for the possible Sprint PreO alongside the British Sprint weekend and the event may not now take place.

13-5 DK reported that the minutes of previous meetings had not been published on the British Orienteering Web site. **GU to bring this up to date.**

14 Date of Next meeting

14-1 . **GU** to arrange the next meeting in a similar 90 minute time slot on 11 May 2022

15 Update on actions

15-1 The updates on actions completed are below.

16 Actions from previous meeting and action list

16-1 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 November 2020				
3	10-2	EU will send David Coton a top and jacket for his own use when the new international kit is delivered, and	EU	Completed
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 that we think could benefit from trying TrailO.	GU	Q1 2022
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				
1	7-1-7	TD to contact Tom Edelsten for the map and any help he could offer for an event alongside BTOC 22	TD	Completed
2	12-3	GU will send the revised selection policy to British Orienteering	GU	Completed
3	14-1	JK will also contact Libor Forst to see if he has any interest in trailo.org	JK	Completed
4	14-2	TD will publish the 2022 rules as final.	TD	Completed
New actions 9 March 2022				
1	7-3	EU to liaise with British Orienteering to make entries for ETOC	EU	25 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	ALL	Next meeting

		these fit with World rankings and BriTOL measures. as a preparation for a future meeting on this issue.		
3	13.2	Clive to ask BO to put to notice on the News page of the BO website and items in the British Orienteering social media feeds. GU to repeat original postings with deadline prominently included.	GU/CA	Before 18 Mar
4	13.5	Publish previous minutes on BO web site	GU	Next meeting

v.2 GU 18/3/22