

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ORIENTEERING CLUB HELD ON MONDAY 21st
OCTOBER 2002 at 7.30pm AT Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, Boundary Road, West
Bridgford, NOTTINGHAM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Helen O'Neil	Kevin Parker	James Clarke
Alison O'Neil	Bob Alderson	Pauline Olivant
Keith Streb	Margaret Buckland	David Olivant
Tony Donaldson	Tony Buckland	Amanda Greenwood
Dave Cooke	John Dalton	
Derek Mill	Kevin King	
Tom Billam	Ray Barnes	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies have been received from:

Mike O'Neil	Angela Lucking
Hazel Rice	Mick Lucking
Peter Hubberstey	Hilary Palmer
Janet Evans	John Palmer
Steve Hodgkinson	Hilary Hodgkinson

2. MINUTES OF THE 2001 AGM

The minutes of the 2001 AGM were accepted.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2001 MINUTES

None.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Helen O'Neil)

Helen thanked everyone for attending the AGM and identified a number of Club highlights and achievements:

· Innovations

The past two years have seen the introduction of e punching. After an enormously successful start with e punching at Walesby nearly 2yrs ago, unfortunately the new impetus which this brought to the club was brought to an abrupt halt by Foot and Mouth.

However after a full resumption of orienteering 1 year ago, e punching has continued to bring an added extra enjoyment to our events, with near-instant results, an even speedier event to web time, so that results on the web the same afternoon are now almost the norm, and those 'lost' 30mins between controls when the control 'wasn't there' become glaringly obvious to all. Younger juniors in particular appear to enjoy the thrill of e punching.

The other big change 2 years ago, but again only really coming into its own this year, have been the new Helper groups with the co-ordinators who take on the task of finding volunteers making the job of event organiser much easier. I would like to thank the Helper group co-ordinators Clare, David, Angela, Chis and Hilary for their hard work.

· Achievements

Our achievements as a club have included staging two major junior events, as well as some outstanding team and individual results. I hope that I'm not grabbing Ray's province as Fixtures secretary but first I'm going to pick out some notable fixtures from the year.

The staging of the British Schools Championships was a superb success for the Club, with many members putting in many hours of work to make it successful. Schools orienteering involves many courses of gradually increasing difficulty and length from white to light green, with only the top year approaching full standard. This has its own particular difficulties for planners. I would particularly like to thank Alan Beardsley for the planning, which also included significant re-mapping of some areas, and took him many months of work.

Mick and Angela Lucking made a superb organising team and again put in hours and months of work organising everything from prizes for all, lunch for the official guests, a quizz for the children whilst waiting, and co-ordinating the many volunteers.

I won't pick out everybody who helped as we'd be here for half an hour or so while I went through them, but I'll mention Brian James and David Winser who lead the Start and Finish teams, John Dalton who co-ordinated the equipment and Michael Napier who did his usual ultra efficient job with the Results even though he was just about to go into hospital the following week for an operation.

More recently NOC organised the Peter Palmer Relays. I'd like to thank Ray Barnes who took on the job of planning this. 2 possible venues had to be cancelled because of the difficulty of finding a suitable area with accommodation near-by. So after a lot of hard work by Ray the event went off very successfully at LEI's Martinshaw Woods, with the majority of the Helpers coming from NOC. Also again thanks to Michael Napier who produced as always marvelously efficient results, Jim Clarke for organising the accommodation, and many others who came and helped without the prospect of a run themselves.

Our big double weekend in February with the Short Races at Blidworth and the Badge event Clumber was a big success both in terms of the number of entries and financially. We had the usual small (but enthusiastic) number of Short Race entries followed by an excellent turn out at the Badge event at Clumber. This has largely helped to restore the Club finances for the present year, so despite Keith's encouragement to members to attend tonight, when John talks later, there shouldn't be too much controversy this year about the club membership fee.

Mick has picked out many individual and team successes in his Team manager's report, and Alison is going to mention some of the junior successes so I won't go through those. I'd just like to congratulate Hilary Palmer who won the NOC Club championships this year and confirmed her top standing nationally by finishing age group winner at W50 for 2001 and by just recently coming 8th at the World Masters in Australia at W55.

Looking at the rankings list, also notable is Nicola Olivant as first in the W21 Short ranking list.

I'd like to congratulate our women's team who were second in the Women's Relay league this year, and I'd like to congratulate those in the team which won the Footpath Relay.

Helen also expressed thanks to Keith Streb who has to regularly 'encourage' committee members and others to give him copy for Black and Green, but in the end has come up with the goods throughout the year. In addition, Helen thanked Tony Buckland for taking on the job of co-ordinating the permanent O courses.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT (John Dalton)

The Treasurer presented the Accounts and his report:

- 1 An Operating Profit of £1,100 was reported which had been generated by BSOC and the unusually high Entry on the Day at the Badge Event.
- 1 In addition, the balance on the Permanent Course fund had increased by approximately £600.
- 1 A club membership fee of £0 is proposed; this is based on the higher than expected revenue from the Badge Event and the fact that no expenditure is planned on professional mapping for the forthcoming year.

Pauline Olivant asked for clarification concerning the reported figure for income from Nottinghamshire County Council for map sales. It was agreed that this would be picked up by John Dalton, Hilary Palmer and Pauline Olivant outside the meeting.

All members present were happy to accept the Accounts as presented and agreed to the proposed club

membership fee.

6. REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The reports in this section are either reproduced verbatim (where written reports were submitted) or summarised (where they were not). Any discussion of the issues contained in a report which took place is summarised after the relevant report.

a) Report from Membership Secretary (Amanda Greenwood)

Key statistics on NOC membership as follows:

- | *Individual membership as at 18/10/02 is 258, a slight reduction from the 2000/01 figure which was 263*
- | *Breakdown of individual membership is: 178 seniors (M/W21 and over), and 80 juniors (M/W20 and under)*
- | *18 new members gained during 2001/02*
- | *23 members lost during 2001/02*

27 Membership packs provided in response to enquiries.

b) Report from Fixtures Secretary (Ray Barnes)

In the year November 2001-2002 NOC hosted a total of 21 events:

- | *One Level 2 event (BSOC01)*
- | *Two Level 3 events (C3 Badge, and Peter Palmer Relays)*
- | *Five Level 4 events (C4)*
- | *Thirteen Level 5 events (2 O5 events, 1 N5 event, 10 C5 events)*

Junior Orienteering is best hosted where access is easiest for the greatest number, and the terrain challenging, but not too much so. As a club we have now completed any obligation we had to provide these events which consume our human resources without direct personal reward.

Summer League remains a problem - it is the essential breeding ground for planners and organisers - and the pool has shrunk. Now I get bald "No's" now when I ask for officials - and whilst we will be able to staff the ongoing fixtures with arm twisting, this is getting more and more unfair on the occupants of that pool.

As levels shrink, increasingly the pool looks even less inviting to get in. We must broaden the pool, there needs to be a shallow end where people can dip their toes, and running a Summer League is perhaps too deep.

As many of you will know, I've been short of a towel for a while, but now I've found one, I'm going to get out of the water, but not completely

Thanks for all the help. Ray Barnes

There followed some discussion regarding the most appropriate format for the Summer League. It was generally agreed that events would attract more participants if they took place on a Saturday, rather than mid-week and it was agreed that next year's event should, where possible, be staged at weekends.

Helen O'Neil accepted Ray Barnes' resignation with regret, and thanked him for his significant

contribution to the club, in this post and in many other areas.

c) Report from Junior Representative (Alison O'Neil)

The NOC Juniors have had a great year again, sweeping up all the major junior trophies:

- | *Yvette Baker (making this the 4th consecutive win in the Yvette Baker competition)*
- | *Peter Palmer relays (beating the non-competitive BBOK into second place by 5 minutes and making this NOC's 5th consecutive win in the Peter Palmer's)*
- | *Harvester relay junior trophy*
- | *1st and 2nd in the M18 British championships relay.*

The NOC juniors have had some good individual performances:

- | *Jenny Evans winning W10B at the JK this year.*
- | *At the British Championships Fiona Claxton won W10B, Sarah Claxton was 2nd in W12.*
- | *At the British Schools championships in November 2001 Colin Olivant and Sarah O'Neil took 1st places in their school year competitions with other podium positions being Tom Billam 2nd , Alison O'Neil 3rd and Sian Roberts 3rd.*

Portugal World Schools April 2002:

- | *Colin Olivant, Tom Billam, Alison and Sarah O'Neil along with the Nottingham High School team were selected to represent BSOA at the World Schools competition in Portugal. We had a great time with the terrain being tricky pine-forested sand dune areas and the team gained great international experience.*

Junior Home Internationals 2002:NOC members selected to run for their countries were:

- | *Rose Hodgkinson W16, Alison O'Neil W18, Sarah O'Neil W18 and David Hodgkinson M18 for England*
- | *Sian Roberts W16 for Wales*

Summer O tours, Junior European Cup and the Start Programme:

- | *David Hodgkinson and Alison O'Neil were selected for the Junior European Cup.*
- | *Tom Billam, David Hodgkinson, Nick James, Andrew Llewellyn, Colin Olivant, Rose Hodgkinson, Alison O'Neil, Sarah O'Neil and Sian Roberts were selected for BOF summer tours this year*
- | *Colin, Alison, Sarah, Sian and Rose have been selected for the Start squad.*
- | *David Hodgkinson has been selected for the British junior squad and Alison for the Junior development squad, Helen Palmer for the Senior development squad.*

NOC Junior website:

- | *We have a new Junior Website at <http://www.shimagine.co.uk/nocjuniors/index2.shtml> which has news and photos of the NOC juniors.*

Forthcoming year:

- | *NOC juniors are looking forward to defending their Yvette Baker trophy in the forthcoming competition for 2002.*
- | *Tom Billam has agreed to be Junior Rep in the coming year.*

d) Report from Mapping Co-ordinator (David Olivant)

Three new areas had been mapped during the year: Vicar Water, Nottingham City Centre and Titchfield Park.

Activity to update current maps had taken place in a number of areas: Haywood Oaks, Rushcliffe Country Park, Clumber Park (15:000 and 10:000 versions)

The forthcoming programme of mapping activity encompasses: Harlow Woods, Bestwood Country Park, Sherwood Pines and School Festival maps.

It is intended that a mapping course for NOC members will take place during Spring 2003.

Any members interested in volunteering for mapping activity are asked to contact David Olivant, Mapping Co-ordinator.

e) Report from Coaching Representative (Hilary Palmer)

NOC coaches have put on two local day sessions and made use of two BOF personal coaching sessions in the Lake District for NOC members. Juniors are always more keen than adults to come along to these, although some newer adult members have supported us. Where have the results of you been?!! It always amazes me that golfers practice endlessly (well one golfer I know does!) but orienters don't jump at the chance of practising on an area like Bigland (last week's coaching c/o BOF Coaching Committee).

At half term we are putting on a junior 'fun' day again and I hope to repeat these at regular intervals during the school holidays.

Thanks to all the club's coaches who have helped during the year and to the club for providing access, maps etc so that we can put these sessions on at no charge as a service for members.

Hilary Palmer

f) Report from Team Manager (Mick Lucking)

NOC has had a successful year in terms of competition and thanks must go to the coaches, teachers, club members and parents who have made a lot of this possible by competing themselves, sharing their expertise or providing transport.

25-Nov-01 Midlands Champs, Kinver Edge

On a chilly wet windswept Kinver Edge NOC managed two winners.

Congratulations to Peter Hodgkinson (M10) winning M12, and Tony Buckland winning M65.

9-Dec-01 Yvette Baker Trophy Final, Beacon Hill

Now in its fifth year, the Junior Inter Club competition was won by NOC juniors, to complete their hat-trick. Since its inauguration in 1997 NOC has finished joint 1st, 2nd, 1st, 1st and 1st.

Sunday 10 March 2002

After a fairly traumatic coach journey, courtesy of Dunn Line, we arrived High Lodge Warren, Thetford just in time for the Regional Round of the Compass Sport Cup Final. A good turnout and excellent runs from some team members meant we easily progressed to the Final. This, as you all know is now being held at Titterstone Clee Hill on Sunday 10th November. Its proximity means we do not need to hire a coach so hopefully we will be more psychologically "focused" when we arrive!

After Keith Picksley's winning run in Thetford another of NOC's more senior members ran fast and straight to win the highly competitive M50 class at the Burnham Beeches National Event.

British Nights

On a surprisingly warm night in March Hilary Palmer won the W55 trophy and is now the proud holder of the "Gallopings Granny" trophy!.

JK

This is the biggest orienteering event held in the UK each year and takes place over the Easter Weekend. This year our M48- relay team (Tim Bagguley, Rhys Roberts, Andrew Llewellyn) came second and Sarah O'Neil, Sian Roberts and Rosemary Hodgkinson came 3rd in the W48- class. Our Women's Elite team of Helen Palmer, Liz Day and Alison O'Neil also came a very creditable 5th earning them lots of UK Relay League points.

Midland Championships again

Tony Buckland won M65 and Mick Lucking won M45 at the Wrekin however there were few entries in some classes because of a clash with a junior selection race in the Trossachs. David Hodgkinson did well to win the M18 class at this event.

World Schools Championships

Alison O'Neil came 4th in the short race in Portugal and continued her top form to win W18A at the Bigland National Event. NOC was well represented at these championships as Nottingham High School qualified to run in one of the boys classes and we also had quite a few members chosen for the select teams.

British Champs

The sun shone and the Northern Irish O Clubs delivered a superb weekend of competition. Notable NOC performances included, Fiona Claxton, 1st on W12B and Sarah Claxton 2nd on W12A. Tim Bagguley was 3rd on M18A and Hilary Palmer was also 3rd in the W55 class. Great fun was had at the relays with the two NOC M18- finishing 1st and 2nd in the competition. The winning team was Nick James, Colin Olivant and David Hodgkinson and the second team was Tim Bagguley, Rhys Roberts and Andrew Llewellyn. Rhys and Andrew coped particularly well with a top class race when they are nowhere near 18 years old! In the Women's Open our top team of Liz Day, Helen Palmer and Alison O'Neil came 4th and last but not least our M/W55 team of Bob Alderson, John and Hilary Palmer were second.

Jun-02 Scottish Champs - Relays (2nd June)

The NOC Elite Ladies traveled nearly 1,000 miles to compete in the Scottish Relays where they came 2nd behind a strong Interlopers team from Edinburgh. This put them in 2nd place the UK relay league.

22-Jun-02 Footpath Relay

After many years of being close NOC finally won the footpath relay again. Everybody was in the right place at the right time and nobody made any mistakes, showing the importance of reconnoitering your route in advance.

The two halves of the team finished in 5h14m08s and 5h11m21s one running the course clockwise, and the other anti-clockwise. The whole team time was taken when both halves had completed. My thanks go to all who took part.

31 August Harvester Relay

The Harvester overnight relay was held at Dipton Forest in the north east and was cold but dry. The Junior team won the Junior title and the Ladies came second to a very strong Interlopers team. The latter result consolidated the NOC ladies' team very impressive second position in the UK Relay League. NOC's men's team also took first place in the B relay despite one of their runners pulling out two days before the race. Particular thanks are due to Jim Clarke and David Olivant who drove the juniors to the event and did not run to ensure that they were fit to drive back

Peter Palmer Relay

The Peter Palmer relay was held locally, at Groby Community College, Leicester. Once again NOC won the main race and our handicap team came 3rd in their race. Many thanks are due to the NOC members who organised the event and to Nicola Olivant and Jim Clarke who managed the team.

Throughout the year nearly all the team selections have been made simply on the basis of what I believed should result in the highest position for the club. This has sometimes resulted in people running shorter courses than they would have liked or on a relay leg that they were not used to. However I have found that members have nearly always cheerfully accepted the decision that have been made and done the best for the club. I think that the excellent results in team races during the year have reflected this team spirit which I hope will continue in the forthcoming year (particularly on 10th November).

Mick Lucking

7. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

It was confirmed that J R Wadsley had audited the 2001/02 Accounts. Following some discussion it was agreed that Bob Alderson would audit the Accounts for 2002/03.

8. 2003 CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEE

This item was discussed during the Treasurer's Report and it was agreed that the Club Membership Fee would be set at £0 for the forthcoming year.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND LIFE MEMBERS

The following members stood for election to the committee:

Chair	Helen O'Neil
Secretary	Amanda Greenwood
Treasurer	John Dalton
Fixtures Secretary	Dave Cooke
Coaching Co-ordinator	Hilary Palmer
Mapping Co-ordinator	David Olivant
EMOA Rep	Pauline Olivant
Team Manager	Mick Lucking

No nominations for opposing candidates were received, and the candidates above were agreed.

10. PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Helen O'Neil once again thanked Ray Barnes for his long-standing commitment to NOC in a variety of positions over the past 8 years. This has included maintenance of the NOC website, significant contributions to many discussions and developments in the club and the generosity with which he has given his time to planning, controlling and organizing events. In recognition of his contribution, Helen presented Ray with a trophy for the "Special Achievements Award 2002".

Helen also stated that help was being sought for Dave Cooke as Fixtures Secretary. The role would involve obtaining planners, organisers and controllers for diary events. Any volunteers were asked to contact either Dave Cooke or Helen O'Neil.

In addition, members were reminded that if they wished to change Helper Group they should contact Amanda Greenwood as the Helper Groups are currently in the process of being re-jigged.

Helen singled out the tremendous success of the NOC Juniors during the year, and looked forward to continued success in the future, as new Juniors and new club coaches were coming through to participate.

Finally Helen thanked the committee members for all their help, contribution and commitment during the year.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Anyone who was prepared to receive their copy of Black and Green via email was asked to contact Keith Streb.

The proposed running order for the CompassSport Cup had been prepared by Mick Lucking and Pauline Olivant (deputising for Mick Lucking at the event). Any comments or issues should be discussed with Pauline Olivant.

It was agreed that a coach be organised for the Juniors to attend the Yvette Baker Trophy.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.45pm.