



North East Orienteering Association

Minutes of the Annual Delegate Conference for 2014/15 held at Slaley Commemoration Hall on Sunday 1st November 2015 *version 2 with minor correction to point 5b.*

- 1 **Present:** Peter Archer (chair), Marion Archer, Duncan Archer (minutes), Paul Boyles, Nigel Wright, Paul Taylor, Wendy Taylor. **Apologies for Absence:** Peter Firth, Adrian Barnes, Katherine Bett (DUOC)
- 2 **Minutes of the previous meeting at Coulby Newham on 9th July 2015 (in relation to the 2013/14 season):**
Accepted as a true record of events.
- 3 **Matters Arising:**
 - a. PA had thanked the outgoing officers (Mick Garratt, Patrick Smyth)
 - b. Signatories: PA had been added for NEOA, and NW for NEJS (along with PF, Patrick Smyth and Rob Mckenna still on for NEOA, and PF, Patrick Smyth and Linda Thornton still on for NEJS)
- 4 **Officers' Reports for 2014/15:**
 - a. **Chairman/Secretary** (Peter Archer) – See appendix.
 - b. **NEJS** (Nigel Wright) – Some activities proceeding, e.g. small team at JIRCs, a few will go to Hawkshead regional squads weekend. Not much else currently planned. A weekend away could be done if sufficient interest. **Action:** All clubs to let NW know if they are holding coaching days that NEJS can attend (e.g. CLOK and NATO expect to). PA mentioned the safeguarding information Carolyn Rigby had circulated to CLOK recently. **Action:** PA to send link to NW, and NW to consider if NEJS should adopt a policy in this area. There is currently no NEJS lead coach, and nor is there an NEOA coaching co-ordinator, and both are needed. **Action:** NW to write role descriptions for circulation on PF NEOA email list. **Action:** DA to send NW list of qualified coaches in NEOA, as possible candidates.
 - c. **Technical** (Paul Taylor) – Not much to report. A level B controllers course may happen if/when there is sufficient interest, and possibly general controlling/planning courses too. Although not directly related to this post, DA reported that British Orienteering may insist all planners (not just organisers) for Level D events from 1st Jan 2017 onwards have attended an event safety course, so there will be a need to run such courses through 2016. PA said the recent British Orienteering club conference reported issues with risk assessments not completed at some events, and it continues to be important to do them.
 - d. **Fixtures** (Duncan Archer) – See appendix. **Action:** DA to update NEOA day/night/score champs rules regarding eligibility.
 - i. UNOC had forgotten to renew their British Orienteering affiliation this year. Rules to clarify eligibility is only of British Orienteering affiliated clubs.
 - ii. Independents / British Orienteering-only members are not eligible.
 - iii. In the spirit of encouraging the competitions, and encouraging club membership, it was agreed that those who are only local/direct members of clubs *are* eligible.
 - e. **Treasurer** (Peter Firth) – See separate attachments. Accounts unanimously accepted.
 - f. **Coaching** (vacant) – This role involves e.g. checking CPD logs are up to date, attending the coaching conference to learn about best practice to filter down to the region, general coach education in NEOA etc. Currently vacant. Action for NW to advertise as above.

- 5 **Budget for 2015/16 and Club Subscriptions and SI box and Card Hire Levies.** Following some discussion the following were unanimously agreed:
- SI contributions:** Leave as today, £1 per senior for use of NEOA SI equipment at any registered Event (not Activities), and £1 per dibber hire.
 - NEOA contributions:** CLOK £100, NATO ~~£35~~ £70, NN ~~£15~~ £30. Tops up the general fund to cover anticipated EOC affiliation ~£200, possible NEOA league prizes, miscellaneous expenses.
 - NEJS contributions:** CLOK £500, NATO £350, NN £150. Covers a similar level of funding to the NEJS program as last year.
- Action:** PF to issue invoices to clubs and collect NEOA / NEJS money.
- 6 **Appointment of Officers and Co-ordinators:** The following were agreed.
- Chairman** – Peter Archer. The role was confirmed as rotating annually around the clubs (may or may not be taken by the chairman in a club). PA will continue up to and including the next annual meeting. Following a coin toss it was agreed NATO will go after, then NN.
 - Secretary** – Peter Archer. Combined with chairman as above.
 - Treasurer** – Peter Firth assumed happy to continue.
 - Fixtures Secretary** – Duncan Archer happy to continue.
 - Coaching Co-ordinator** – Remains vacant.
 - NEJS Co-ordinator** – Nigel Wright happy to continue.
 - Technical Co-ordinator** – Paul Taylor happy to continue.
- 7 **Discussions**
- Future Major Events.** JK 2020 **Action:** DA to poll clubs for suggested areas that could stage JK events, with the aim of pulling together possible plans over the next 6 months.
 - Regional Leagues.** AB had previously circulated a proposed lists of events. Everyone was happy with the idea and the lists. **Action:** AB to advertise the list of races, eligibility, scoring, etc. to the general orienteering public (page on NEOA website, PF email list, and club newsletters?), notify event organisers as events approach to advertise on their flyers, and do scoring promptly afterwards. It was agreed there should be prizes, and if necessary NEOA might fund up to £100, but sponsorship should be sought. **Action:** AB to investigate.
 - SI Equipment.**
 - Splitting the NEOA SI holding between clubs was discussed. One motivation would be to clarify ownership and responsibility. However it was agreed there was no pressing need at this time, and the current system was working well.
 - NN expect to continue to have access to EMIT equipment for most of their events for some time (although using and paying for NEOA SI is fine when required e.g. OO).
 - It was confirmed that clubs are responsible for their own Auto-Download licenses.
 - It was proposed to purchase the following out of the NEOA SI fund. All present were in favour. **Action:** PB to discuss with PF who wasn't there to have a chance to object! It is hoped that if purchasing all this we could negotiate a discount with SPORTident.
 - Two mobile print sets to be held by NATO (approx. £900 total)
 - Twenty new v10 dibbers capable of holding significantly more punches (approx. £1200 total)
 - Twenty new boxes and stakes to be held by CLOK (approx. £2500) bringing their total held to 73, with the aim of covering Level B events in the club, and level A events without boxes from outside NEOA.
- 8 **AOB.** It was noted that holding an NEOA club weekend, maybe in conjunction with a British Orienteering training day (if one ever occurs) would be nice, if someone fancied arranging it.
- 9 **Date of next meeting.** 30th October 2016, after the NN Bishop Auckland Park event (NE score champs)

NEOA Chairman / Secretary's Report

This last year has seen a few changes in the Region. At the delayed Annual Meeting held in July 2015 it was decided that the post of chairman/secretary should be rotated around the three open clubs on an annual basis, with me carrying on until October 2016. Thanks should be given to Patrick Smyth for keeping things ticking over in these roles for longer than I can remember. Also after a number of years the Coaching Co-ordinator (Mick Garratt) stepped down, and a replacement has yet to be found.

The necessary ongoing work of the region has been carried out by Peter Firth (Treasurer) and Duncan Archer (Fixtures Secretary), and our thanks go to them for keeping things on track.

Well done to the clubs for putting on the usual wide range of events. The clubs do all face a number of challenges, however: falling membership and participation at some events; getting new volunteers to take on major roles. Although these are primarily for the clubs themselves to address, we need to think what the region can do to support them in their efforts – eg training for officials, interesting event series.

Peter Archer
October 2015

NEOA Fixtures Secretary Report

1. 2015 Events

The following significant events were held in NEOA in 2015:

- Acorn Level B event, CLOK, Hutton Mulgrave & Skelder, 8th March
- Compass Sport Cup round 1, NN, Hamsterley, 15th March
- Yvette Baker First Round, NN, Bewick Moor, 24th May
- *[UKOL Urban event, NATO, Newcastle, 11th/12th July was sadly cancelled]*
- *[Northern Champs, AIRE, Malham, 19th September]*
- October Odyssey (North East Champs on day 2), CLOK, Eston/Silton, 3rd/4th October
- North East Score Champs, NATO, Beanley, 11th October
- North East Night Champs, NN, Hamsterley, 24th October
- Northern Night Champs, NATO, Slayley, 31st October [rescheduled from earlier in year]

The following numbers of events have or are expected to take place this year. Slight rise in Level D events, but a fall in activities, mostly due to CLOK stopping two of their club nights.

	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Activities
CLOK		3	6	14	16
NATO		2	7	36	63
NN		1	3	6	22
TOTAL 2015	0	6	16	56	101
TOTAL 2014	2	3	11	44	189
TOTAL 2013	0	4	13	52	167
TOTAL 2012	0	3	15	60	178
TOTAL 2011	1	4	20	55	154

2. 2016 Events

The following significant events are planned in NEOA in 2016:

- North East Night Champs, CLOK, Hutton Lowcross, 6th March
- *[Compass Sport Cup round 1, CLARO, Harrogate, 13th March]*
- *[Northern Night Champs, NWOA – date/location TBC]*
- Northern Champs Level A Mulgrave, and urban Whitby, CLOK, 16th/17th April
- Yvette Baker First Round, CLOK, Silton 15th May
- October Odyssey (North East Champs on day 2) & Junior Home International, NATO, Kyloe, 8th/9th October
- North East Score Champs, NN, Bishop Auckland Park, 30th October

3. Future Events

The following major events are due to come to NEOA in the coming years:

- Yvette Baker Trophy Final, 2nd July, NATO Druridge – assuming NATO will just get on with this
- JK, Easter 2020 – needs some co-ordination and thought

4. Other

- We held a productive NE Fixtures Meeting in Durham in May 2015, to plan fixtures for 2016, and I intend to do the same again in 2016 to plan for 2017.
- I formalized the rules for the NE Champs events, which we are now using. Some areas of ambiguity were uncovered at the NE Score and Night Champs that need correcting.
- Adrian proposed dates/rules for an NE League (NEOL) and NE Urban League (NEUL) starting in 2016. The dates look good, it now needs co-ordinating, advertising, promoting, etc.