



# North East Orienteering Association

## **Annual Delegate Conference for 2016/17 at Cumberland Arms, Byker on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**0 Present:** Alasdair Wilson Craw(chair), Peter Archer, Fred Miller, Nigel Wright, Peter Firth, Patricia Davies, Brian Davies, Rob McKenna, Matthew Foskett

**1 Apologies** received from Adrian Barnes, Paul Taylor, Duncan Archer, John Crosby, Frank Shillitoe and family, Boris Spence

**2 Minutes of the previous meeting at West Moor Community Association on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016 :** Accepted as a true record of events.

**3 Matters Arising (not covered later in agenda):**  
None.

### **4 Officers' Reports for 2016/17:**

a. **Chairman/Secretary** (Alasdair Wilson Craw) – Little to report from Chair's perspective except to note that it had been a quiet year for major events in the region but Duncan Archer and others had made a good start in setting up for JK2020, the region's next major event. The NEJS continues to develop our regional juniors in a low key way and the regional clubs delivered a range of high quality events most weeks of the year.

b. **NEJS and Coaching** (Nigel Wright NEJS) – Report as circulated was accepted. He highlighted the success of the Great Tower Wood event and joint activities with DUOC in coming terms. NW asked for clubs' input to the following:

- i. to publicise coaching sessions so that juniors from other clubs can attend.
- ii. Inform NW of **juniors in your clubs** who are of the right age and ability to be considered for NEJS membership. ie 2nd year M/W12 , doing well in their age class, keen and committed.
- iii. Still seeking a person to be **NEJS coach**, qualified to at least level 2.

This led to a discussion about coaching validation, particularly for people who'd been coaching for many years. Keeping DBS, Safeguarding and 1st Aid up to date was fairly straightforward but a recent requirement to attend 2 training courses a year, often many miles from home, was a big block.

**Agreed** that **BD would contact BOF** to clarify process and raise the concern of the Region. Noted that Phil Batts was qualified to deliver training of coaches to Level 2.

**Agreed** that possibility of holding an NEOA Level1 course be investigated. **Action PA** to approach PB in first instance.

- iv. **Clubs to advise NW** when they plan training events so that a timetable for the year can be compiled. These should cover Sprint/urban, and different terrains. Noted that a lead coach at Level2 or above needed to "sponsor" sessions for insurance purposes at least.

c. **Technical** (Paul Taylor) – Report as circulated was accepted. Discussion on providing training for new mappers covered a lot of ground. Noted the high cost for clubs of having sufficient OCAD licences for an increase in mappers and it being difficult to split the task of surveying from the cartography eg inducting assistant surveyors may not be that helpful if they aren't trained to draw up their work. Suggestion for a taster course using a park with mixed terrain. Urban mapping different from forest. New skills needed when using Lidar. Prospective mappers could come from Uni clubs but any course needs to be in term time. **Action: Clubs** to encourage new mappers.

d. **Fixtures** (Duncan Archer) – Report as circulated was accepted.

It was commented that "Activities" in 2016 and 2017 had dropped significantly. This was mostly explained by the fact that club nights were not being recorded as activities with BOF. Both NN and CLOK continue to hold regular club nights. NATO is concentrating efforts on LOP events .

NEOL and NEUL: a good number of participants have been recorded. Thanks to PF for maintaining the league tables. Many had only done one event however. **Agreed** that PF continue to show these people in the standings. **Agreed** that clubs try to encourage members to compete more often. Noted that both DUOC and UNOC students have a problem if they have a home club that is flagged up when their BOF number is checked for eligibility. **Agreed** that their club secretaries advise PF of names of such students so they can be included in the Leagues.

The issue of prizes /certificates was raised. Noted the awards for OO and the NE championships and thanked NN for their production. **Agreed** that recognition of League winners by issuing certificates be recommended.

In absence of DA and Adrian Barnes(proposed NEOL/NEUL coordinator) decisions on which events to include in 2018 was deferred. **Action: DA and AB to set up meeting** within a few weeks.

Noted that preparations for JK2020 are underway and the areas of Stockton/Tees Barrage and Mulgrave/Whitby earmarked with permissions being sought. The meeting felt that the areas were sufficiently attractive to achieve good entry numbers.

The two funding shemes were discussed and the Partnership Agreement route was agreed to be better option. Sponsorship by the new Phosphate Mine people was mooted.

**Agreed** that a plan B may be needed for the areas but not to spend time on this at present.

Significant 2018 fixtures were confirmed as in hand by the clubs. Noted that the NE has the privilege of hosting inaugural British Sprint Relay Championships in June 2018 around Morpeth.

e. **Treasurer** (Peter Firth) – The accounts as circulated, and the commentary on them, were unanimously accepted. Richard Field had checked and signed the accounts as a true record.

Account signatories: It is some years since these were changed. It was proposed from the floor and agreed nem con that common signatories would be chosen for the two NEOA accounts ie NEOA and NEJS. Both are with Santander. The principle would be that they would comprise Treasurer, NEJS Coordinator and one other eg the Chairman/Secretary, ideally one from each principal club. Signatories to be confirmed after election of officers (Item 6)

**5 Budget for 2017/18 and Club Subscriptions and SI box and Card Hire Levies.** Following some discussion the following were unanimously agreed:

- a. No levy at this stage would be made on clubs for the general running of the Association and expected regular expenditure could be met by existing funds without setting a formal budget.
- b. A levy of £1000 would be made in respect of costs of NEJS. Club contributions to be – CLOK £500, NATO £350, NN £150; as previous year since no significant change in proportion of membership
- c. SI box levy to remain as £1 per senior for events where all (or most) controls use SI boxes. When only a start and finish box are used, no levy will be made.
- d. SI card hire to remain at £1 for events at level C and above, but to be free for level D events. Lost SI cards to be charged at £40.

**Action:** PF to issue invoices to clubs to collect NEJS money.

**6 Appointment of Officers and Co-ordinators:** The following were agreed.

- a. **Chairman** – Nigel Wright The role continues as rotating annually around the clubs (may or may not be taken by the chairman of the club). NW will continue up to and including the next annual meeting. The following year the post will pass to CLOK.
- b. **Secretary** – NW. Combined with chairman as above.
- c. **Treasurer** – Peter Firth happy to continue. [Noted that a treasurer in waiting should be identified - action all]
- d. **Fixtures Secretary** – Duncan Archer happy to continue.
- e. **Coaching Co-ordinator** – Remains vacant.
- f. **NEJS Co-ordinator** – Nigel Wright happy to continue.
- g. **Technical Co-ordinator** – Paul Taylor happy to continue.

Bank signatories: These were agreed unanimously to be Peter Firth (NATO), Nigel Wright (NN) and Peter Archer (CLOK)

**Action:** PF to arrange change of signatories with Santander.

**Action:** AW to inform British Orienteering of the change to Chairman/Secretary.

**7 AOB**

a. PA informed the meeting that Autodownload is being replaced by a Sport Ident product. It is similar and CLOK's recent use of it was troublefree. There will be no further support of Autodownload but transfer to the SI version is free and current licences will carry forward.

b. The issue of internet digital banking was raised as a possible way of making the Treasurer's job easier. Following clarification of current procedures by PF and his assurance that these are practical at present given the few transactions on the accounts the meeting agreed not to move ahead on any change just now. PF advised the meeting that the NEOA constitution would need to be altered to allow single person authorisation of internet payments. Dual authorisation is not available on either bank account.

**8 Date of next meeting. This to be at a suitable venue at end of October /start of November 2018**

Alasdair Wilson Craw

31<sup>st</sup> October 2017