

NEOA treasurer's report

1st September 2019 - 31st August 2020

There have been several notable things regarding NEOA treasurer and finances this year:

- **Peter Firth (NATO) stepped down as NEOA treasurer, and Duncan Archer (CLOK) took over.** Many thanks to Peter for all his hard work over more than 30 years!
- **We have moved the bank accounts from Santander to HSBC.** This enables online banking (specifically, paying invoices via bank transfer, with appropriate approvals).
- **We have taken the opportunity to simplify the accounts.** Previously we had separate bank accounts for "NEOA" and "NEJS", both had a current account and a deposit account, and in the NEOA account we tracked a "SPORTident fund" ringfenced from a "general fund". However, the separate deposit account was only useful years ago when it got a decent interest rate, and the level of transactions on all accounts is sufficiently low (reflecting the low activity at the NEOA regional level vs. individual clubs) that it makes sense to just have a single account. Therefore we now have a single account with HSBC, within which we separately track funds for NEJS, SPORTident, and general fund.
- **The NEJS fund** has seen very little activity during the year, just some transactions from events last autumn (JIRCs, Hawkshead), then nothing due to Covid-19 lockdown. No club contributions for NEJS were requested during this financial year.
- **The SPORTident fund** continued to grow and wasn't so badly affected by Covid-19 since most O events occur in the autumn / winter before lockdown, and CLOK have even held some well attended events since. There was the odd SI box repair or battery replacement to pay for as normal. The annual insurance was paid which covers NEOA owned SI kit, and Duncan did a stock take with CLOK and NATO, which resulted in declaring ownership of less kit and a modestly reduced premium.
- **The General fund** has been relatively static. The main expenditure is usually the England Orienteering Council (EOC) subscription, just over £200 for NEOA in recent years (based on membership), which funds the main EOC activities of Home Internationals and Interland. Duncan Archer attend the EOC AGM (remotely) in May, where it was reported that contributions were expected to be reduced this year, and have subsequently been confirmed as zero, as the HIs and Interland aren't going ahead. No club contributions for NEOA were requested during this financial year.
- **The JK 2020 hosted by NEOA was cancelled.** Fortunately, the timing of lockdown meant it could be cancelled before the most significant expenditures were made (e.g. map printing). In discussion with British Orienteering we agreed to provide 90% refunds to all entrants, and British Orienteering cover what amounted to about a £10,000 loss (as per our partnership agreement).

Looking ahead to the coming year and beyond:

- Frank Shillitoe and Kim Sanderson have taken over from Nigel Wright as NEJS coordinators, and are hopeful that NEJS activities will pick up again soon at least with some training days, although JIRCs 2019 were cancelled (and JIRCs 2020 are on our doorstep hosted by CLOK!). Given existing funds, anticipated activities and personal contributions, they propose we ask for combined contribution of £500 to NEJS from the clubs (split by membership - see below) for the coming year
- As above the NEOA general fund remains healthy, easily enough to cover anticipated expenditure during the year, so no contributions are requested towards the NEOA general fund from the clubs for the coming year.
- There seems no reason to deviate from the current NEOA SPORTident levies:
 - SI box levy of be £1 per senior runner.
 - SI card hire of £1 for level A, B and C events, free for Level D. Alternatively, as we return from lockdown, clubs may charge £5 to hire an SI card for the season (TBD exactly when this runs until - next Spring?).
 - Loss of SI card – Clubs are now advertising a reduced charge for loss of £20, given it is not obvious we would even replace older cards if lost, and a high fee it is a big disincentive to newcomers
 - If another major event comes along, either in our region or another region/club borrowing our boxes, we likely charge a special rate of £2 per box per day (this is what we were going to charge for JK 2020).
- As per the NEOA and NEJS constitutions, open club contributions are proportional to membership on 31st July the previous financial year. On 31st July 2020 these stood at
 - CLOK 129 (48.3%)
 - NATO 107 (40.1%)
 - NN 31 (11.6%)
 - (plus DUOC 17, and one from each of RAFO and BAOC affiliated to NEOA).
- With rounding it is proposed to split CLOK 50% / NATO 40% / NN 10 %, so the NEJS contributions are CLOK £250, NATO £200, NN £50.

Duncan Archer

25th September 2020