



Devon Orienteering Club

Chairman's Annual Report 2017-18

Highlights (*recognising that any list can only provide a flavour of the year as a whole*)

- Devon hosted a very successful CompassSport Cup & Trophy Final at Virtuous Lady
- Tamar Triple, run in conjunction with Kerno, with over 500 competitors on Days 2 and 3.
- Ann Hughes, W75, British Long Distance Champion
- Tom Perry, M14, British Sprint Champion
- Flurry Grierson, M16: a strong performance in the European Youth O Championships
- Devon is now placed 15th in the UK Orienteering League 2017.
- Jamie Parkinson, M21, British Open Middle Distance and Sprint Championships in Milton Keynes and Wendover Woods
- Eight Devon juniors participated in the Junior Inter-Regional Championships September 2017
- Ben Chesters, M40, planned the British Middle Distance event at Stock Hill

- Torquay Boys Grammar School (Devon) runners dominated most of the boys age groups at the British Schools Championships in the Forest of Dean



Finances

- The club is in a strong position financially, significantly helped by the success of the Tamar Triple. As a result, there is financial scope to help address club priorities. The club has a sensible level of reserves to cope with cashflow and the unexpected. Matt Atkins will provide a more detailed report.

Membership (Report from Acting Membership Secretary)

- Membership levels have fallen by 9% over the last year; this presents a significant challenge and a priority for the club to address.
- Membership is at 181 units (123 Seniors and 58 Juniors.) This is down from 133 seniors and 65 Juniors in 2017.
- The club gender balance is 25% female and 75% male.
- The cost of Devon membership for seniors and juniors was held at the previous years' rate.



Activities (See committee minutes for a comprehensive list!)

- The club has put on 17 Events (1 x Major, 2 x National, 5 x Regional, 9 x Local)
- Introduction of 4 well-received Street O events
- Survey of Club members re coaching and associated activities
- Membership and Recruitment Action Plan drawn up and Summer Series of events targeted

- Organisers' Training Course run with 6 attendees.
- Extensive use of the website, Facebook and Mailchimp to communicate with members.
- Support provided for the establishment of Exeter University OC (XROC).
- Completion of requirements for General Data Protection Regulations
- BOF has selected Devon as a club to support, through Phil Conway, English Development Officer
- One member attended a Level 2 Coaching course.
- Seven members attended a SWOA Planning course
- Full page article on Devon in the Mid Devon Advertiser.
- First Aid course run for 6 attendees.
- Financial support for two juniors to attend international training camps and youth championships
- Devon's commitment to O Safe reviewed and actions prioritised.
- O event supported at East Devon Heath week
- Significant update of BOF register of Devon officials
- Responses to DNP re proposed changes to access
- Establishment of Gruffalo orienteering trail at Hladon POC
- High quality maps produced for all Devon's events e.g. Virtuous Lady, Braunton, Golden Dagger
- Updated Club development plan 2018 -2020 drafted.

The following club members sadly passed away in 2017 -18:

- Sir John Cave, Bt, DL, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Club President
- Graham Dugdale, Club Membership Secretary and a key member of the SI team
- Sue Hateley, a founding member of the club and long standing editor of the Devon Newsletter
- Edna King, a founding member of the club.



Committee

- Once again, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all members, to thank everyone on the committee, and those volunteers who are not committee members, for their time, hard work and activity over the last 12 months and their commitment to making the club a continuing success.



(All photographs courtesy of Mark Lockett and Bryan Smith)

Priorities 2018-20

(NB. These are subject to further discussion within the committee)

- Maintain and develop a **vibrant club with a growing membership** and clear identity.
- Provide a wide range of good **quality events and activities** which appeal to current and prospective members
- Ensure the activities of the club are supported by **well qualified and suitably experienced officials, mappers and volunteers**
- Further develop a **strong identity and positive sense of “Devon Orienteering Club”**
- Plan for the **longer term development and future** of the club.



Awards *(to be presented at the AGM)*

- **The Haytor Trophy** – for “scaling the heights” in terms of achievement:
- **The Epic Trophy** – for going “above and beyond” in supporting the club and its activities:
- **The Chairman’s Trophy** – in recognition of a particularly “significant contribution” to the club:
- **Junior Trophy** – the award of The Tom Chesters Trophy – for an “outstanding junior or group of junior club members” (recognising that juniors may also be presented with any of the above awards)



Bryan Smith, Chairman,
Devon Orienteering Club, September 2018

www.devonorienteering.co.uk



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