



NUMBER 139 MARCH 2010

DEVON ORIENTEER

THE NEWSLETTER OF
DEVON ORIENTEERING CLUB

Clubmark

Work towards Clubmark by a subgroup of your Committee has now reached the frantic stage, as all the i's are dotted and the t's crossed before submitting our folder to British Orienteering. On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank all those who have helped me in any way – you know who you are!

By the time you read this – or shortly after – a new link will have been added to our website, labelled Clubmark (home page, left hand column). This will link to a series of policies and codes of conduct, together with a copy of the Club's Constitution which was amended at our AGM last September.

Please familiarise yourself with this section when you next visit our website:

www.devonorienteering.co.uk

John Dyson – Treasurer & Clubmark Coordinator.

Peter King 1927 – 2010

The editor was very saddened to learn that Peter died last night. He had been in failing health for some time.

Peter was a founder member of Devon Orienteering Club.

His contribution to our club and our sport will be fully acknowledged in the next issue of this newsletter.

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Chairman's Chat March 2010

Clubmark and Coaching

by Alan Simpson



Two topics have been brewing in the club over the past twelve months. A sub-group has been working towards Clubmark, the group consisting of John Dyson, group leader, Wilf Taylor, coaching, Helen Taylor, child safeguarding, Graham Dugdale, secretary, and myself.

You may have seen articles on the subject, but perhaps are still wondering what Clubmark is. To my mind is a kind of kite-mark, or MOT, evaluating the health and vitality of the club. Having said that, there is a strong emphasis on promoting facilities and support for junior members. So it does not cover all club activities, and the name is perhaps misleading in this respect.

There is a check list of 20-odd items in four categories. Here are a few examples chosen at random:-

- 1.8 A qualified first aider & kit is on hand at all activities.
- 2.5 All coaches and assistants have written role descriptions
- 3.2 The club has adopted an equity policy consistent with BOF policy
- 4.5 The club has links with at least one school

If you are interested in studying the full list, you can find it on the BOF website, www.britishorienteering.org.uk under Increasing Participation.

When we first looked at the check list, there was one obvious hole in what DEVON OC does.

- 2.1 The club provides a regular structured coaching programme for the junior section (min 30 hours per annum).

People who are members of other sports clubs, and there are dozens of different sports, generally regard coaching as a significant part of club activity. But orienteering clubs have not necessarily followed this pattern. Coaching in DEVON OC in its 30 history has been sporadic and limited in scope,

I am happy to say that Wilf Taylor, our lead coach, has been making heroic efforts to fill the gap. When we asked him how many coaches he thought the club needed, he said “about two dozen – the more the better”. That sounded a bit ambitious from a near standing start. However, we are about half-way to that target. In the last twelve months, 10 club members have attended the 3-day UKCC Level1 coaching course, including a batch of 7 people at the all-Devon course run at Killerton in mid-February. There are also levels 2 and 3, but this is a good start.

Wilf's program of regular training sessions at Haldon Hill Forest Park has just been published. Click on the Coaching Section on the club website to see details being added to the following schedule. (PTO).

Hopefully, DEVON OC will be awarded Clubmark in the near future. But that award will be a rite of passage, the icing on the cake. We have already had the benefit, in that we have been encouraged to review the state of the club, and embark on the new coaching venture.



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Club website: <http://www.devonorienteering.co.uk/>

Get fit!

Have fun!

Improve your skills!

Devon Orienteering Club presents a series of varied and challenging orienteering activities suitable for all ages and abilities.

All sessions take place at Haldon Hill Forest Park, GR 872849, and will be run by Wilf Taylor and other qualified coaches.

Date Time Programme

Saturday, Feb 20 1000-1300 Star and window activities

Saturday, March 27 1000-1300 Conditioning work followed by fun JK selection races

Tuesday April 13 1700-1900

Tuesday April 27 1700-1900

Tuesday May 11 1700-1900

Tuesday May 18 1700-1900

Tuesday June 8 1700-1900

Tuesday June 22 1700-1900

Tuesday July 6 1700-1900

If you want to find out more please ring Wilf on 01626 859365

Competition Framework

Questions for Junior Competition Group

Background

As you may be aware a competition review is taking place with the objective of producing a Competition framework. This will set out the structure of our competitions, what type of competitions, who the target audiences are etc giving clarity to the existing rather haphazard and congested fixtures. To this end it is important to get views and input from across the orienteering spectrum.

JCSG input:

Please could you consider the following for participants younger than 18 bearing in mind the long term orienteering athlete development model (attached):

1. Discuss the competition requirements of this group of orienteers.

- a **Focus** The aim and the target audience needs to be clearly defined
- b **Social** Juniors enjoy the social side of orienteering including team competitions
- c **Competition** This is the foundation of a competitive sport
- d **Local** Local competitions are important as less travel is involved and time of year is not as critical
- e **School / County** This competition structure needs developing

2. Discuss and recommend the competitions that are required e.g. team formats, ranking schemes, points based leagues, relays , individual championships

- a **Individual** national / regional / club
- b **Score** These events give opportunities for mixed ability events
- c **Relay** Different formats need to be considered

3. Consider the merits of the existing competitions and do they meet the requirements identified in 1

4. Discuss ways which will increase participation in this group both in terms of frequency of participation and number of participants.

- a It was thought that incentives are needed. National events offer championship, gold, silver and bronze.
- b Development committee are looking at possibilities

5. Make recommendations regarding criteria and processes that could be used to measure and monitor the success of competitions and events.

- a Participation can be measured in competitions by the number participating

Sir,

May I apologise for bothering you, my name is Stephen Mallison, I was running in the Compass Sport Trophy last Sunday when I was unfortunate enough to compress and fracture my Tibia Plateau running between control 6 -7. I was fortunate enough to have one of your runners in the vicinity, a Mr Mathew Aitkins, whose alertness and quick thinking enabled him to locate me and assist me to a nearby track. He then proceeded to run to the Start , may I say at this point that we could not have been further away, to get assistance, and returned at speed with warm clothing and first aiders in tow. As a result of my injuries I was in hospital for 5 days and required a major operation. I have attempted to locate Mathew in order to thank him but to no avail, and would be extremely grateful if you could pass on my gratitude to him and let him know I am on the mend. Please accept my apologies that you lost a potential scoring runner for the event, if it was up to me he would deserve 100 points.

Kind Regards

Stephen Mallison

Mobile: 07733060358

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

Bagley N

Carnell L

Trezise

Woodger

Why British Orienteering Needs a 4 Level Event Structure

At the 2010 British Orienteering AGM, to be held on Saturday 3rd April 2010 at the JK, we are tabling the following Proposal:

That the current BOF Event Structure be amended, with effect from 1st January 2011, from a 3 tier structure to a 4 tier structure, the Levels to become:

- **Level 1 Events - British Orienteering's major events, including the British Championships (Sprint, Middle, Long, Relays) and the JK.**
- **Level 2 Events - comprising a limited number of high quality events, including the best of the traditional age-class based cross country events, high profile city races and the Harvester Relays.**
- **Level 3 Events - comprising a wide range of typical Sunday morning events for competitors largely from within their Region, including colour-coded cross country events (former District events), urban races, etc.**
- **Level 4 Events - small scale events aimed at providing local competition (e.g. within a club) and increasing participation. e.g. introductory events, club summer evening events.**

This Proposal, if carried, will have the effect of creating a 4 tier Event Structure, by the insertion of an additional Level to enable a clear distinction between those events aimed at attracting competitors primarily from within the Region, and those aimed at a wider audience.

Following the introduction of the new Event Structure, clubs are now being encouraged to register their former District Events in the new Level 2, as Regional Events, instead of in the New Level 3, as Local Events, as was initially intended. Merging the former Regional and District Events into a single tier of Events of widely differing qualities, has created a number of problems, all of which may effect the quality or cost of our orienteering, including:

- **Identification of Quality Events:** How is a competitor to decide which of these Events are worth travelling to if they are all now described as Regional Events?
- **Entry Fees:** If Clubs choose to register their former District Events as Regional Events, they may well be tempted to increase their entry fees for these Events.
- **Embargoes:** The requirement for a 12 month embargo on areas to be used for Regional Events has been dropped, to permit former District Events to be registered as Regional Events.
- **Controllers.** Level 2 Regional Events should be being controlled by Grade 2 controllers, but there aren't enough of them for all the former District Events, so now experienced Grade 3 Controllers are being allowed to control Level 2 Events. Newly qualified Grade 3 Controllers can only control Level 3 Local Events, many of which don't need a controller at all.

The creation of a separate Level for the best of the old Regional Events, along with other events aimed at a national audience, will enable all of these, and other, problems, which didn't exist under the old Event Structure, to be easily resolved.

To get our Resolution adopted at the AGM, we need your support, either to attend and vote at the AGM, or to use your Proxy Vote, details of which will be sent out to you by British Orienteering. Few members of British Orienteering have yet had an opportunity to express their opinions on the current Event Structure. Use your chance to do so now.

Mike Atherton 01539 531838	mike@atherton.go-plus.net
Sue Birkinshaw 0161 980 5068	SueB@mdoc.org.uk
Roger Smith 015395 68671	roger.smith100@btinternet.com
Dick Towler 07771 998554	dick@acorn.plus.com

Current Debate on Event Structure by Alan Simpson

Two years ago, BOF signalled its intention to reduce the number of levels from 5 to 3. One benefit was that three convenient names came to mind, namely National (Level 1), Regional (Level 2) and Local (Level 3).

Many experienced orienteers have been perplexed and unhappy about this change. It is accepted that five levels should be reduced to four, merging the top two. But the new Level 2 event seemed to many to cover too much ground.

The February 2010 issue of Compass Sport dropped through my door recently. How many people take it? It is an excellent magazine, costing about £24 per annum for 6 issues. Pages 10 and 11 contain opposing articles supporting either four or three levels. Those supporting the three-level structure point out that the introduction was poorly managed, but find that it works well for their club – AIRE.

The table published separately provides a focussed summary of how the four-level structure would work. In the context of DEVON OC:-

- L 1 We rarely attempt a national event, but we are this year. I hope you have entered the JK.
- L 2 Devon puts on the Caddihoe and Tamar Triple (in collaboration with KERNO) in alternate years. Entry by age class.
- L 3 Devon 6/7 colour league events, plus Gallopen, night events. Entry by colour.
- L 4 CATI, Christmas Novelty, AGM Score, coaching sessions if not classified as activities.

A proposal is being put to the BOF AGM at Easter, recommending a return to four levels. If, like me, you tend to avoid AGMs like the plague, you might like to make an exception this year, because

you may have an interest in this debate - it is not so far away.

The meeting is scheduled for 5pm on Saturday 3rd April in Barnstaple, after JK day 2 at Cookworthy. The venue is in the JK Final Details. It is 45 minutes' drive to Barnstaple from Cookworthy. Alternatively you can submit a proxy vote.

Club Meeting on Friday 21 January 2010 at 74 Fore Street, Chudleigh

Present

Alan Simpson, Graham Dugdale, Jill Green, Roger Green, John Dyson, Tom Lillicrap, Wilf Taylor

Apologies

Apologies were received from Helen Taylor, Peter Flick, Lew Bean, Steve Perrelle, Nick Maxwell, Anthony Dew and Mike Hosford.

Matters Arising from previous minutes (not elsewhere covered)

BULLERS HILL PERMANENT COURSE

There was some confusion as to who was going to carry out the re-mapping, because Erik Peckett is “owner” of the map, whilst Lew Bean is responsible for permanent courses. It was left to Roger Green to reach an amicable conclusion.

Clubmark

John Dyson’s aim is to have all the clubmark documentation ready for submission by late February. Close on 50% has already been done and in the next week he will be allocating tasks to Alan Simpson, Graham Dugdale, Steve Perrelle and Wilf Taylor covering the outstanding documentation. It was agreed that we should endeavour to consult with Celia Watkinson when our documentation was complete, in order to ensure that nothing had been overlooked.

Coaching

Wilf Taylor has booked Bullers Hill for coaching sessions on the 30th Jan, 20th Feb and 27th March. After Easter it is intended to hold fortnightly training sessions at Bullers Hill on Tuesday evenings (5.00pm to 7.00pm). Jill Green offered to register the training sessions with BOF as club activities.

The coaching session on the morning of 30th Jan will be followed up by a coaching workshop in the afternoon

The south-west junior squad, under Jeff Butt visited Devon early in the new year for coaching and Steve Perrelle along with a number of boys from Torbay GS attended.

Steve Perrelle reported that he had obtained sponsorship for 18 seats on an Easyjet flight from Bristol to Inverness to be used to enable the club to hold a summer training camp in Scotland during the school holidays next summer.

Steve Rose, Eleanor Taylor, Tom Lillicrap, Lisa Brunwin (from the Torbay Countryside Trust), Luke Hayward and Mark Bagley will be attending the coaching course at Killerton over two week-ends in February and will be new coaches for Devon OC. (note:- since the meeting Tessa Stone has also applied to attend.)

Steve Perrelle will begin work on a grant application to support coaching activities. It is proposed that a set of up to 30 SI boxes, 30 dibbers and a stand-alone printer be held by Wilf Taylor, as head coach. The other aspect of the application is to cover travel expenses, personal development for coaches and costs incurred in running training sessions.

Fixtures

Jill Green reported that the publicity material supplied to the NT for the CATI at Killerton on Sat 13th February had not been used, so she is not optimistic about the turn-out.

Nigel Bateman is planning and organising the Meldon Hill race, with Steve Rose as controller. This will be manual punching so no IT support is required. The maps are ready to be sent for printing.

A planner and controller are required for the Bullers Hill event on the 27th June, and an organiser and planner for the Devon relays on the 18th July.

It was agreed to drop our event scheduled for 12th June in Plymouth area, as it was too soon after the Tamar Triple and was only 2 weeks before the Bullers Hill event.

Erik Peckett is to plan the SW sprint championships at Exeter University in September.

Alan Simpson is to attend a meeting of the Tamar Triple organising team on Sunday 31st Jan after the Kerno event at Polly Joke. Sue Hateley will lead the start teams for all 3 days and we are looking for a controller assistant to work with Charles Daniel.

Access

John Dyson reported that he has begun the handover of the Access Officer's files to Nicholas Maxwell. John will continue to arrange access in the east of the county.

SWOA

The next SWOA meeting will be on Wednesday 10th February. We need a volunteer to attend as none of the club's officers are available.

Captain's Report

Devon OC came 4th out of 5 at the Compass Sport Cup Qualifying round at Ashley Walk near Fordingbridge, although only 300 points away from second place. Our competitiveness was reduced by rule changes to the scoring, which meant that our strength in the younger male age groups was given less significance than in previous years.

Also Matthew Atkins sacrificed his run on the brown course to assist an injured competitor. So far only a handful of members have indicated that they wish to participate in the relays at the JK and British Champs. Tom Lillicrap will send out another e-mail and will approach members who have performed well for the club in recent relays.

JK2010

The club decided not to provide a training day on Good Friday. The turn-out at last year's training event did not warrant the additional effort involved. It was suggested that a note be put on the JK2010 website indicating where people could find details of the permanent courses in Devon and in particular Killerton and Haldon which would be close to the route into Devon for most JK competitors. Alan Simpson will pass on these views to the JK2010 team.

Jim Prowting (TVOC) is to plan a micro event at Wheal Florence near Smallhanger on Wed 7th April with Alan Simpson as organiser and Arthur Boyt as controller.

JK2010 has engaged Sportident UK to provide the necessary expertise in entries, timing and results for an event of this magnitude. Devon OC are providing the personnel to support the electronic timing in Alan Simpson's IT Team. Tom Lillicrap is to be in charge of the clocks and Nick Hockey will be in charge of results display. Sarum, under Charlotte Duncan, are to provide the registration team for EODs.

John Dyson will be looking after the VIPs.

Secretary's Report

BOF have received an offer from the BBC, to publicise orienteering events via their Dropzone Thrillseekers' website. It was agreed that we should place details for our events at Five Tors on 6th Feb, Killerton on 13th Feb and Woodbury Common on 21st March to see what response resulted.

(see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/thrillseeker/api/events/pems-463>)

Clothing

Vivienne Maxwell is preparing a circular on clothing, in particular with a view to obtaining lightweight cotton tops for summer use.

Dartmoor Mountain Marathon

Endurancelife are to organise a Dartmoor Mountain Marathon along the same lines as the OMM on 24-25th June and have asked Devon OC club members to provide help. The committee view was that it is not the role of Devon OC to provide help to a third party organiser, however there was general support for the endeavour and it was agreed to circulate the request to club members, so that any who wished to help could do so in an individual capacity.

Event structure Proposal

At the 2010 BOF AGM, to be held at the JK at the beginning of April, a proposal is to be considered to create a 4 tier Event Structure, in place of the current 3 tier Structure, which has created quite a number of problems.

We had been asked to circulate details of this proposal, together with some background information. The committee thought that the background information did not cover all of the misgivings that have arisen about the way 3 tier structure was implemented and asked Roger Green to write a short piece for the club magazine.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

date	rgstn tim	event	venue	grid ref.	information
Saturday 20 March	1000 1300	Forest League 3	Inny Foot Launceston	SX 372 762	KERNO
Sunday 21 Mar	1000 1230	League Event 5	Woodbury Common	SY 040 848	Jon Croome 01395 278434

Jan Kjellstrøm Orienteering Festival

Friday 2 April	Pre- entry	Sprint event + Temp O	Bicton College	SY 076 859	
Saturday 3 April	Pre- entry	Individual + Trail O	Cookworthy Forest	SS 415 013	
Sunday 4 April	Pre- entry	Individual + Trail O	Braunton Burrows	SS 468 348	
Monday 5 April	Pre- entry	JK Relays	Braunton Burrows	SS 450 340	
Wednesday 7 April	1000 1230	JK Dessert	Smallhanger Waste	SX 562 590	Alan Simpson 01752 311367
Thursday 8 April		Urban Race	Eden	SX 043 559	KERNO
Sunday 11 April	1000 1300	Forest League 4	Dunmere Woods	Sx 042 689	KERNO
Sunday 9 May	1000 1230	League Event 6	Ashclyst Forest	tba	Liz Bramley 01395 577707

Tamar Triple

Saturday 29 May	Pre- entry	Tamar Triple Day 1	Penhale Sands	SW 769 548	See flyer
Sunday 30 May	Pre- entry	Tamar Triple Day 2	Penhale Sands	SW 783 567	See flyer
Monday 31 May	Pre- entry	Tamar Triple Day 3	Penhale Sands	SW 766 587	See flyer
Sunday 20 June	1000 1300	Forest League 5	Trelissick	SW 828 397	KERNO
Sunday 27 June	1000 1230	League Event 7	Bullers Hill		Mike Cullen 01626 870370

Orienteering takes place over terrain that is sometimes rough and may be overgrown with vegetation. Weather conditions may be adverse. Competitors take part at their own risk. All Devon League events have courses suitable for novices: most have string courses.

Next issue of Devon Orienteer

Late April / early May - Press deadline: 19 April

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Updated fixture information and results always available on our club website

www.devonorienteering.co.uk

The editor regrets he has not pursued any club members for accounts of success or woes in recent events - he has been horribly busy preparing museum accounts for audit (4 separate funds), odd jobs for Britannia Choral Society, and preparing a presentation for Probus.

Peter Flick and I are hopeful that we will have enough data to produce a club membership list to accompany the next issue of Devon Orienteer.

In the hard copy of this newsletter the editor included the British Orienteering Ranking List for DEVON. Club members with internet access can, of course find the list themselves.