



Berkshire Orienteers

Minutes of the Committee Meeting

7.30pm 15th Jan 26
The Cricketers, Cricketers Lane.
Warfield. RG42 6JT

Present: Simon Moore (Chair), Brian Sewell, Derick Mercer, Bo Oqvist, Peter Entwistle, Ian Hudson, Lynne Moore (Treasurer), Fiona Clough, Mark Foxwell.

Apologies: John Methven, Rob Mullens.

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting (20th Nov 25)

Matters Arising –

- Lynne has suggested that we have a non-members mailing list for those that agree to receive further information. The wording needs to be correct. Update July – Simon will check Racesignup for entry wording for BKO format. Update Sept – SM confirmed that we can collect email addresses. Update Jan – Mark sent his apologies for the meeting. Update March – Mark Foxwell said he has set up the whatsapp community. Within that you can set up subsidiary groups. Simon said we still need an email address for people to be able to sign onto. A reliable email list is the priority. Update – Ongoing. Update July – Mark, ongoing. Update – Nov, ongoing. *Update Jan - Mark said he is still progressing and also looking at mailchimp.*
Action; MF Ongoing
- From the SCOA Meeting it was asked whether ‘there is an appetite within the club to take part in and support the delivery of a coaching weekend for adult orienteers’ – sponsored by The Orienteering Foundation – like the coaching weekend in the Lake District. Simon will talk to Mark & John for interest, if they are then we can open it to members. Update Nov – Simon will email members of the Club if they would be interested in a Coaching course/session in Southern England. *Update Jan – Fiona gave an update that SCOA are looking into this and she will keep the Committee informed.*
Action; Complete
- From the SCOA meeting. Can we use Whiteknights as the Sprint area for JK2029 This was chewed over at length and other alternatives considered but discarded (permission would not be forthcoming/restricted numbers permitted). Simon will talk to John to see if this is possible. Update Nov – Simon has talked to John, the issue would be how permissions are obtained at Whiteknights. Obtaining permissions on the Campus is now more piecemeal and can be difficult. Discussion took place on other locations that could be used. *Update Jan - Will be discussed under JK.*
Action; Complete
- Concorde Chase - Southern Champs, trophies Fiona said that she would run with ‘Trophies’ *Update Jan – Fiona, some trophies have come in and she is chasing others.*
Action; FC
- Trish is putting in a new order for Club kit and has asked if we can hold a small stock of the most popular sizes. – The Committee agreed that Trish should come up with a proposal of the stock levels she would prefer and the costs involved. *Update Jan – Trish has put in a new order with some extras.*
Action; SM
- Brian is now updating the ‘BKO SiTiming User Notes’ to incorporate the upgrade. *Update – Brian, now complete.*
Action: Complete

- Windows 10 extended support on the 3 Club laptops needs to be implemented. Update – Complete.
Action: Complete
- Concorde Chase. Simon and Brian are working through the complication of having the Sunday event as the Southern Championship. Marc Balston of SARUM has kindly supplied information of how he set the event up in 2025. *Update Jan – Simon has completed a trial run and is running through the system. He will send Brian the schema.*
Action: SM & BS
- AGM date – 6th February, Bo said that he would arrange for Royal Ascot Golf Course again. *Update Jan – Bo has booked the venue. Fiona volunteered to organise attendees.*
Action; FC
- Brian also asked can we purchase another 5 SI cards to replace lost ones. (these have been charged to the persons losing the cards). This was agreed by the Committee. *Update Jan – Brian also requested a Service off key, two clear back up keys and a new laptop. Approved by the Committee for purchase. Cost of SI items £386 and laptop £400*
Action; BS

2. Chairman's Update

2.1 Chair's Update.

- Simon has successfully negotiated a price saving with Big Yellow for this years' annual fee.
- Events we have had is Burghfield also having a group of scouts and new members.
- 14th Dec we had the Black Park event (230 entries) which does need remapping.
- The tractor drivers have now been paid for helping with the field evacuation of cars at last year's Concorde Chase at Cold Ash.

3. Membership Secretary

- Ian said that we currently have, National 92 members – 4 local – no group members.
- Ian suggested that we make these 4 members honorary local members due to their services to the Club. All agreed.

4. SCOA Report

- Coaching Weekend for adults – sponsored by The Orienteering Foundation. Discussions are ongoing and Ian Moran (Chair of SCOA is obtaining the blueprint of the previous TOF sponsored coaching sessions for review.
- Ian Moran asked that Clubs consider putting the SCOA Bulletin on their websites.
- Yvette Baker Trophy round 2027 – SCOA have not hosted one for several years and it adds very little effort to a normal SCOL event.
- SCOA host for the CSC Heat 2027 on 07/02/2027 needed.
- SCOA Coaching Officer has fallen vacant (Chris Poole TVOC resigned mid-term) and a replacement is needed. Liz Yeadon could brief any potential candidates.

Safeguarding

- Simon Kippin then talked about the lengthy session at the JROS Annual Meeting with the new British Orienteering Safeguarding lead, Jeanette Downing. He circulated a link showing the expected minimum levels of training expected from coaches/volunteers.
- <https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/doc/policies-and-guidance/safeguarding/safeguarding-minimum-training-standards-2025>
- The implications of the requirements are enormous not only for Junior Squads (who could not function without the help and support of parents and volunteer coaches) but also Clubs delivering events and Associations. It was agreed at the JROS meeting that the Junior Squad

coaches would send various scenarios to British Orienteering for discussion with a view to working out the route forwards.

LOOK AT THE MINIMUM LEVELS FOR EVENT OFFICIALS!

- JK2029 – Katy has suggested Birch Hill as a possible area for the Sprint given the issues obtaining permission for such a large event at Whiteknights. Middle may be a BADO area but using BAO to get permission (can't remember where).
- Cold Ash has not been chucked out as an idea for the Long with parking elsewhere and bussing discussed at length. Alternatives being discussed being Mytchett/Windmill/Frith Hills with road crossings and permissions being issues. Additionally, JK 2027 are circling the same areas as they have just lost their Long area. Relay may be a TVOC area?
- AGM will be on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 followed by normal committee meeting.
- Lynne & Simon will feed back to SCOA Safeguarding for the Club.

Action: BS

5. Events & Mapping

5.1 Events & Mapping

- The Committee went through the events list detailed in Appendix.

5.2 Results

- Brian will look at the results system scoring for the YBT on completion of the Concorde Chase.

Action: BS

6. Treasurers Report (Lynne)

- Lynne said that our auditor (Graham Johnstone) is finalising the 2025 and would like the Committee to recognise his work £80 donation to the Charity, The Listening Place.
- Overall, expect a small surplus of up to £1000 for 2025. We had additional costs to pay for Cold Ash field and tractor drivers - £1,100. We didn't incur £2,500 for website.
- Black Park surplus currently stands at £1,200 with £178 to pay for land fees
- Overall event surplus for 2025 was £6,900 higher than the budgeted amount of £6,500
- In 2025 a stable year where we will break even or end up with a slight profit. This included the payment to the tractor drivers and insurance.
- The 2026 budget is being prepared and will be ready for the next Committee meeting.

7. Development Matters

Apols from John.

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8. Secretary's Report

- AGM date – 6th February, Bo said that he has booked the room and a carvery as usual the subsidy will be the same as last year, members will pay £25. As Bo will be away that evening Fiona volunteered to organise attendees.

Action; Fiona

- No-one at tonight's meeting said they were standing down.

9. Publicity Report

- **Website** – Simon went back to Paul Frost and he is no longer doing website updates so he will not be able to update BKO's. Simon suggested that we make the website a lot simpler and take

off some of the databases. Eg membership, results, location data. Discussion took place on alternatives and a way forward. Simon will also come up with a proposal for the website.

Update - Ongoing.

- **Facebook – Instagram**

- Facebook -

- Instagram -

10. Coaching Report

- Mark said that he has sent out his initial outline plan for the Summer which will run similar to last years schedule. We normally stop the events at the end of June but is looking at extending that for this year.

11. Juniors

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12. Welfare Report

- Sue has nothing to report and is working through the BOF safeguarding training. Brian said that Sue has completed her new BOF DBS check.

13. Next Meeting –

- Thursday 19th March 0730 @ The Cricketers. Booked, Yes.

14. AOB

- David Jukes has asked to borrow Club kit for the TrailO British Champs in South Wales at the end of March. Committee agreed provided he pays normal hire rates.

Appendix A – Events Table

Date	Location	Level	Comments	Officials
Saturday 24th January 2026	Concorde Chase Urban Woosehill	C	<p>Permissions – WBC approved of event and assembly at field off Rushkin Way (but not parking). WBC will charge same event fee as was charged for Ashenbury park.</p> <p>Parking - WBS rejected parking at Field off Rushkin Way due to risk at being wet. WBC confirmed we can use in summer though. Main parking will be at Wokingham Cricket Club. Surplus parking on local road.</p> <p>Mapping – Suggestion from Martin Wilson (Planner). Extend existing Woosehill map by mapping Fox Hill woodland. Also enables length requirements for Regional Urban courses.</p> <p>Other -</p>	<p>Organiser – Mark Foxwell</p> <p>Planner – Martin Wilson</p> <p>Controller – Neville Baker (TVOC)</p> <p>Results - BKO Result team</p>

Sunday 25th January 2026	Concorde Chase & Southern Championship Star Posts SCOA Championship?	B	<p>Permissions – Permission request has been submitted to Landmarc on March 18th. Landmarc got back 10/6 informing our date was rejected due to 'higher priority' bid.</p> <p>24/6 Crown Estate confirmed to use Star Posts instead.</p> <p>24/6 SWT confirmed use of Poors Allotment. 16/11. Crown Estate approved our suggested OOB areas.</p> <p>Parking - Coral Reef + Hockey Club +?</p> <p>Mapping – Map partly updated for Southern Nights 2024 by Simon Moore. Simon to do further updates.</p> <p>Other - Result by BKO team? How to handle championship classes and results on the day?</p>	<p>Organiser – Simon Moore</p> <p>Planner – Craig Blackford (BADO) with assistance from Trish Monks and Jon Vaughan.</p> <p>Controller – Paul Fox (SN)</p> <p>Results - BKO Result team</p>
Saturday 7th March 2026	Spring Local Swinley East	D	<p>Permissions – Received. Asked Richard at Crown Estate on for 21st March. Reverted back with ask to make earlier to avoid ground nesting birds causing restrictions on areas for us to use. Agreed on the new date March 7th, no OOB other than fenced areas. Land fee paid already together with payment for CC at Star Posts.</p> <p>Parking - Wide forest ride in the middle of the area</p> <p>Mapping –</p> <p>Other - Event # 87414.</p>	<p>Organiser – Bo Oqvist</p> <p>Planner – Rob Mullens</p> <p>Controller – N/A</p> <p>Results – BKO results team (Brian available)</p>
Sunday 12th April 2026	Spring Regional Rushall Woods	C	<p>Permissions – Secured. Permissions received from Yattendon (incl licence), Rushall Farm (email) and Fitzwilliam (email).</p> <p>Parking - Along Burnt Hill Road under/south of M4? Rather than farmers field which is possibly too wet to use.</p> <p>Mapping –</p> <p>Other - Event # 86966</p>	<p>Organiser – Peter E said he will look at his dates</p> <p>Planner – Alan & Judy Nesbit has started planning but will be away for the competition weekend. A&J will continue planning and complete taping. We need an assistant planner on the day. Possibly Alan & Judy's daughter.</p> <p>Controller –</p> <p>Results – BKO results team (Brian might be away?)</p>
Saturday 20th June 2026 change to 4th July?	Summer series urban #1 & Club Picnic Sandhurst memorial park	D	<p>Permissions –</p> <p>Parking -</p> <p>Mapping –</p> <p>Other - Event # 87419. Tie in with Parkrun that starts 0900?</p>	<p>Organiser –</p> <p>Planner –</p> <p>Controller –</p> <p>Results -</p>
Saturday 25th July 2026	Summer series urban #2 Regional Lower Earley	D	<p>Permissions –</p> <p>Parking -</p> <p>Mapping –</p> <p>Other - Event # 87421. Tying in with SN event at Frimley on 26th July.</p>	<p>Organiser –</p> <p>Planner –</p> <p>Controller –</p> <p>Results -</p>
		D	<p>Permissions –</p>	<p>Organiser –</p>

Saturday 19th September 2026	Autumn local event Yateley Common Country Park		Parking - Mapping - Other - Event # 87426	Planner - Controller - Results -
Sunday 25th October 2026	Autumn Regional Bucklebury	C	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - Other - Event # 87427. Possibility for night event if area is too restricted after forestry work.	Organiser - Planner - Controller - Results -
Nov-26	Autumn Regional/Local Snelsmore Common	D	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - Other - Idea of a jointly organised event with BADO has been shared again with BADO	Organiser - Planner - Controller - Results -
Saturday 30th January 2027	Concorde Chase Urban Arborfield Green	C	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - David Jukes has started mapping Arborfield Green estate (SW of Wokingham) during autumn 2025. Other - Event # 87428	Organiser - Rob Mullens Planner - Controller - Results -
Sunday 31st January 2027	Concorde Chase Hawley	B	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - Roger Maher is the mapper for Hawley. BKO and BAOC to split cost for updates. Other - Event # 84379. BAOC will not hold MLS events after Jan 2026 at Hawley.	Organiser - Planner - Trish Monks and Jon Vaughan (assistant) Controller - Results -
Saturday xx Feb 2027	Bramshill	D	Permissions - check with TVT triathlon how they get permission from Forestry commission. TVT has held triathlon (duathlon?) competition at Bramshill in 2025. Parking - Mapping - Other -	
Saturday 29th January 2028	Concorde Chase Urban TBD	B	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - Other - Event # 87838	Organiser - Planner - Controller - Results -
Sunday 30th January 2028	Concorde Chase Barossa	B	Permissions - Parking - Mapping - Other - Event # 87839	Organiser - Planner - Controller - Results -