

**Minutes of the Northern Ireland Orienteering Association AGM held at
The Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown, Co Tyrone
on Saturday 7 May 2016**

The meeting commenced at 15:20. 30 members attended (3 FermO, 18 LVO, 9 NWOC).

Apologies. Gavin Cairns, Jim Fallis, Stephen Gilmore.

Acceptance of the minutes of the last AGM held on 11 April 2015 and EGM held on 5 September 2015 were agreed on the proposal of Ruth Blair, seconded by Teresa Finlay. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report. The Chairman, Richard McCourt congratulated NWOC on staging the inaugural NI Sprint and Middle Championships, which had been held prior to the meeting.

In the previous year LVO had staged an excellent IOC with 6 events held over 4 days, all under the watchful eye of Harold White coordinator. NWOC hosted NIOC at Magilligan in conjunction with JHI. The 2015 Colour Series 2015 had 7 events with the Colour Series 2016 scheduled to have 6, as the LVO champs in June were skewing the league. In addition, many club events including summer midweek events were held. It was pleasing to see QUBOC hosting 2 sprint events.

As was agreed at the EGM, the membership fee had been reduced with the aim of attracting additional members. At the end of April membership stood at 214, comparing with 201 at the end of April 2015 and a total of 232 members at the end of 2014. There had been an reminder to last year's members to re-join at start of season and there was a need to encourage new participants to join at the summer events. However BOF's proposal which had been withdrawn but was likely to come to an EGM in the autumn to increase the BOF senior fee from £5 to £15 is a threat.

NIOA had successfully achieved registration with Charity Commission for NI, only 1 of 2 NGBs to do so, which had been positively noted by SportNI. Clubs were reminded that it was illegal not to be registered as either a charity or a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).

Both Susan and Davy Lambe were thanked for their work as Hon Treasurer and Trophy Coordinator respectively. Ann Savage was taking over from Davy, however a Treasurer was still required. BOF were also requesting each region to appoint a Regional Volunteer Champion.

External organisations had awarded members for their work in orienteering: Alan Gartside had been presented with a Torch Trophy Award, Lisburn and Castlereagh Council had presented Philip Baxter with a Runner-up Merit award and a Lifetime Recognition award was presented to Harold White by Ards and North Down Council.

No NI competitors had been selected for WOC in Scotland but a NIOA team helping with car parking attracted at £400 ex gratia payment being used to fund Sprint/Middle Distance trophies. Paul Pruzina had competed at JWOC and Alan Gartside at WTOC with many representatives at JHI, SHI, VHI and JIRCs. Rachel Collins and Andrew Elwood had also travelled to Lagganlia training.

Membership at year end was slightly increased at 232, compared to 228 in 2015. However current membership at 222 was showing growth, particularly in FermO who already have 42 members, compared with 31 at year end. This was largely due to Active Club activity and the challenge was to engage new members in mainstream orienteering.

The Chairman thanked Allan Bogle, Coaching and Talent Development Officer and Conor Fadian, Active Clubs Officer for their support during the year.

Financial Report. Accounts were circulated and the Treasurer Susan Lambe presented a report.

The consolidated accounts had opened with £42,044 and closed with £41,559, a decrease of £484. This was in line with a plan to reduce the balance through support for international representation and mapping.

Key sources of net income included membership fees of £1,429, income from development team events £516, income from schools events and NISOA £865 and the WOC legacy payment of £400. Main items of expenditure included £1,629 for junior support, £150 for senior international representation support and £2,566 in mapping grants.

The budget provides for £1,000 towards NIOC mapping, £2000 for IOC mapping in IOC years, £1,000 towards athlete support and £1,000 toward coaching juniors.

Due to the recent end of the financial year the accounts were draft and the accounts had not yet been audited, however provided there was only minimal change acceptance was proposed by Wilbert Hollinger, seconded by Ann Savage and agreed.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults.

Gordon Black reported that no issues had arisen during the year.

Presentations

Results for the inaugural NI Sprint Champs were not yet available due to an unfortunate computer glitch, however trophies for the NI Middle Distance Championships were presented to Frazer Howe and Olivia Baxter.

The Coach of the year award was presented to Dee Orwin.

A new award of volunteer of the year was presented to Ursula Mein in recognition of her work with junior squad fundraising.

The committee had selected Charlie Reid to be presented with the Services to NI Orienteering Award.

Election of Committee. Noel Bogle kindly agreed to chair the elections and thanked the existing committee for their work. Susan Lambe had indicated that she wished to step down from committee. The reappointment of the remainder outgoing committee of Philip Baxter, Gordon Black, Jim Fallis, Raymond Finlay, Lyle Fleming, Des Fletcher, Stephen Gilmore, Anthony McGonigle, Greg McCann, Richard McCourt and Joe McClure was proposed by Helen Baxter, seconded by Ruth Blair and agreed.

Election of Chairperson. Richard McCourt was proposed by Ruth Blair and seconded by Raymond Finlay and agreed.

Election of Secretary. Stephen Gilmore was proposed by David Blair, seconded by Gordon Black and agreed.

Election of Treasurer. There were no proposals. It was agreed that the committee would appoint a Treasurer and co-opt an additional committee member as required by the constitution.

Richard McCourt resumed the Chair.

Any Other Business

There was no further business

The meeting closed at 16:15.