



# CONSTITUTION

JUNE 2017

## 1. TITLE AND PURPOSE

The Association shall be called the Northern Ireland Orienteering Association (NIOA), (trading as NI Orienteering) and hereinafter referred to as NI Orienteering.

The object of the Association shall be the promotion of orienteering in all its forms in Northern Ireland.

(a) NI Orienteering shall be the national governing body for orienteering in Northern Ireland

(b) NI Orienteering shall be the Northern Ireland region of the British Orienteering Federation, known as British Orienteering

## 2. MANAGEMENT

(a) The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and to these may be added a President.

(b) The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by an Executive Committee which shall consist of the above office bearers and eight other members of the Association. The Officers and the eight other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. At least five members of the Committee are to be active orienteers. If any vacancy should occur amongst the Officers the Executive Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting. The Chairman shall not serve as such for more than three years consecutively.

(c) The Executive Committee shall meet and act as required for the efficient conduct of the Association's business, at least four times per year. An appropriate officer shall maintain a minute book and record in it the

business of all meetings and the names of those present. A quorum shall consist of not less than one third of the current voting strength of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to:

- 1 co-opt additional members for specific purposes, but these members shall not have the vote;
  - 2 constitute sub-committees as may be deemed necessary'
- and 3 appoint additional officers, but these officers shall not have a vote.

### 3 AFFILIATION TO THE BRITISH ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

- (a) The Association shall be affiliated to the British Orienteering Federation.
- (b) Categories of Club affiliated to the Association
  - (i) Affiliated (development based) Clubs.
  - (ii) Associated (participative) Clubs.

Clubs must seek recognition from the Committee and pay an annual fee as determined by the members. Criteria for recognition of Clubs are as determined by the Committee.

### 4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to those who agree;

- (a) to comply with the constitution and bye-laws of the Association,
- and (b) to pay appropriate annual subscriptions to the Association as determined by the members.

and whose application is accepted by the Executive Committee of the Association.

Categories of Membership:

- (i) individual;
- (ii) family;
- (iii) non-specialist Groups or Schools.

## 5. VOTING

All members of the Association have the right to vote at any General Meeting as follows:-

- (a) individual - one vote;
- (b) family - one vote per subscription
- (c) no proxy allowed. When the wording of a resolution to be put to a General Meeting has been published in writing before that meeting members as defined in (a) and (b) above shall be entitled to record the vote by post.

## 6. FEES

- (a) The fees payable by each category of membership shall be decided at a General Meeting.
- (b) Fees are due on the first of January each year.
- (c) Part subscription may be granted at the discretion of the committee.
- (d) If not paid by the first of March, membership will be deemed to have ceased.

## 7. FINANCE

- (a) The financial year of NI Orienteering shall run from 1 April to 31 March each year. The accounts of the Association shall be balanced on 31 March each year and submitted for approval after independent audit, to the Annual General Meeting which follows audit.
- (b) All cheques written on NI Orienteering funds shall be signed by the Treasurer and one Committee member from a group nominated by the Committee.
- (c) The Committee may from time to time, set aside funds for specific purposes. All cheques written on such funds shall be signed by two members of a group nominated by the Committee.

## 8. RULES

The Executive Committee shall be empowered to publish and enforce such rules as it feels will be beneficial to the affairs of NI Orienteering.

## 9 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Association shall hold an Annual General Meeting between the first of March and the thirty-first of May each year.

## 10. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee or on application in writing to the Secretary which is supported by ten per cent of the total voting membership of NI Orienteering. This meeting must be held within ninety days of being called.

## 11. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- (a) Notice of the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be sent to members one month before the date of the meeting.
- (b) Any amendments to the constitution shall be proposed in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (c) The agenda of any General Meeting shall be sent to all members at least seven days before the meeting.

## 12 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Alteration to the constitution require a ten percent majority at the General Meeting to which they are presented for decision.

## 13 BANKRUPTCY

In the event of NI Orienteering becoming bankrupt, all members over eighteen years of age shall be equally responsible for all liabilities.

## 14 POLICY STATEMENTS

NI Orienteering agrees to adopt the up to date British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website.

All individuals involved in orienteering through NI Orienteering, in any capacity, are deemed to have assented to and abide by and adhere to the British Orienteering Policies, Procedures, Rules and Regulations as published on the British Orienteering website, (including Safeguarding Children and At-Risk Adults and Anti-Doping policies).

Both NI Orienteering and its members agree to abide by the final outcome of any disciplinary and appeal proceedings.