

**Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Harlequins Orienteering Club  
October 19<sup>th</sup> 2023, 7.30pm.  
At Somers Club, Halesowen.**

**Present:** Peter Langmaid (Chair), Jenny Uff, Mandy Mackereth, Charlie Nelson, James Thomas, Paul Basher, Robert Vickers, Ian Gamlen, David Williams, Barry McGowan, Dave Aldridge, Kerstin Mitchell, Alison Sloman, Carole Sparke. (14 members.)

**Quorum:** 14 members present; Quorum is 5% of 154 membership = 8, so the meeting was fully quorate.

**Apologies:** Lesley Brown, Eric Brown, Barbara Ford, Ashley Ford, John Leeson, Brian Hughes, John Robertson, Peter Rose, Marian White, Andy White, Adrian Bailey.

**Minutes of Previous General Meetings:**

The minutes of the 2022 AGM (proposed by Dave Aldridge, seconded by Paul Basher) and those of the EGM on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (proposed by Dave Aldridge, seconded by James Thomas), were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

**Chairman's Report:**

Peter Langmaid's report was given with a slide presentation which is attached. Peter reviewed the year in terms of the number of runs HOC had been able to provide by category of event, and the community support provided, and looked forward to the full winter programme and the highlight for 2024 of putting on the Sprint Relay Championships in June. (HOC will host the relays at Birmingham University on the evening of Saturday 22 June, OD the Individual Sprints at Warwick University on Sunday 23 June.)

Peter finished with thanks to volunteers and especially the mappers, and the organisers of events – a job which is less fun than planning courses, but just as vital.

**Secretary's Report:** The Committee has met 7 times in the 10 months since the last AGM, by Zoom. The next "admin" project will be reviewing the Constitution ready for any amendments or general tidying up at the 2024 AGM.

**Membership Secretary's Report and subsequent discussion:** Mandy Mackereth presented interesting graphs (distributed with these minutes) showing how membership is increasing over the last two years, and that new members are generally younger than the current average, so that our average age is decreasing, though our proportion of females is falling. However Mandy reminded that we need to work on involving and supporting members to feel part of orienteering, and to provide social interaction and coaching. We need a long term development plan.

Mandy's major project on the helpers lists had sadly not produced much response from those not yet on it. Takeaways from the project and the discussion

1. a reminder to team leaders to use the "help with anything" list when they run out of their specific list (or indeed before that, where an element of training or induction is needed)
2. While an approach in person may work better than a "helpers wanted" notice in the newsletter, we should avoid overwhelming newcomers with repeated requests. Perhaps team leaders could alert one-another when they have either made a successful approach (e.g. X has joined the parking team) or been unsuccessful, especially if it is clear X is not able to help at the moment.

**Treasurer's Report:** The accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023, for HOC and for COBOC, and Dave Aldridge's presentation of them, are attached. Expenditure and income were in almost perfect balance, which shows that the usual inflow of cash in a SINS year has been used, partly on a power pack to replace the generator to power the IT kit at events, and to subsidise entries for Compass Sport runners. Dave observed that our reserves were good, and we could plan to use funds for developing the club.

**Independent Examiner's Report, and Acceptance of Accounts:** The HOC accounts had been checked and approved by Lesley Brown the independent examiner. They were accepted unanimously. (Proposed by Ian Gamlen, seconded by Paul Basher)

**Ratification of Subscription Rates for 2023, and setting for 2024 onwards:**

The committee recommended that the rates remain as £5 for adults and £1 for juniors (including students) for 2023. For 2024, BOF has introduced new categories of membership. To match BOF's family membership, HOC will introduce a family rate of £11 for 2024. The full range for HOC in 2024 is:

Senior	£5
Young Adult (aged 21 to 25)	£5
Junior (up to age 21)	£1
Family	£11
Group	£14

Subscriptions will remain at these amounts until we decide to change them.

We will not offer discounts for part year membership, but will retain the provision that a new membership taken out in November or December will apply for the whole of the following year. Proposed Barry McGowan, Seconded Kerstin Mitchell.

**Final Report on City of Birmingham Orienteering 2022/23:**

Ian Gamlen presented a report on COBOC's final activities before the two clubs merged on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023. COBO Group will continue to function as a group within the merged HOC, using the name and good will built up with Birmingham City Council to put on events in that area.

**Election of Office Bearers and Other Positions:**

Office Bearers were elected unopposed as follows:

Chairman Peter Langmaid )  
Vice-Chairman Ian Gamlen )  
General Secretary Jenny Uff )  
Treasurer David Aldridge )

All proposed by Paul Basher,  
and seconded by Mandy Mackereth)

The following Holders of Other Positions were proposed by Ian Gamlen,  
seconded by Paul Basher, and elected unopposed:

Membership Secretary	Mandy Mackereth
Fixtures Secretary	James Thomas
Social Secretary	Kerstin Mitchell
Equipment Officer	Peter Langmaid
Mapping Officer	Paul Basher
Club Captain	Kerstin Mitchell
WMOA Representative	John Leeson
Junior Captain	to be settled by the Juniors at the Club Championships
Permanent Orienteering Course Coordinator	to be addressed
Safeguarding/Welfare Officers	Barbara Ford, Eric Brown
Social Media Promoters	Peter Rose, Adrian Bailey
Club Newsletter	Peter Rose
Website Content Manager	Marian White
Webmaster of website	Peter Langmaid
Permissions & Support Officers	Charlie Nelson, Marian White, Robert Vickers Carol Pelusi, Richard Davies

Independent Examiner of Accounts - Lesley Brown

**Any Other Business:**

None.

**Date of Next AGM:** 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024

The meeting closed at 9.53pm.