



TVOC Club meeting: Minutes

Held at 8pm on Tuesday 16th May 2017 at The Merry Bells, Wheatley

Present: Carol Edwards (Chair), John Dalton (Minutes), Martin Ricketts (Treasurer), Neville Baker (Vice-Chair), Yvonne Hodson, Bob Beresford, Jon Wheatcroft, Robin Bishop

Apologies for absence: Nat Skidmore, Andrew Chalmers, Alun Jones, Chris Poole

1. Matters Arising from previous Club Meeting

a) TVOC equipment insurance arrangements

ACTION UNDERWAY: Martin Ricketts to circulate complete kit lists for review for next month.

b) Planners Checklist

Mark definitely plans to do this in due course

c) People who have left TVOC

- Who should remain on the TVOC email discussion group?

The following were **AGREED:**

- The TVOC-ANNOUNCEMENTS GoogleGroup will be removed. **ACTION:** John Dalton to ask Duncan Booth for his help with this. **ACTION COMPLETE THROUGH MARK COLLIS**
- Most non-members will be removed from the TVOC-MEMBERS GoogleGroup. Exceptions to remain on the list are non-members who are still closely-associated with the club. **ACTION:** Carol Edwards will make the necessary deletions. **ACTION COMPLETE**
- Members of the club who are not members of the TVOC-MEMBERS GoogleGroup will be contacted to see if they would like their email addresses to be added. **ACTION:** Carol Edwards to make contact with such members. All were contacted. Two agreed to be added to the list. **ACTION COMPLETE**

- How can we show our appreciation for people who have contributed hugely to the club and are now stepping back?

IT WAS AGREED THAT: in future, a simple letter will be written by the Chair to such people

d) Documentation of information for Planners and others (Nat Skidmore)

Documentation of Maps

COULD ALL PLANNERS AND MAPPERS WHO HAVE UPDATED MAPS PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO JOHN FARREN FOR THE RECORD

ACTION: John Dalton to contact Nat to see if any Saturday Series planners had updated their maps, but hadn't yet managed to pass the latest version to John Farren.

Documentation of other useful event information

John shared with the meeting that several people had contributed to a discussion about how to do this (including Alun Jones, Nat Skidmore and Ben Green).

ACTION: John Dalton to liaise with Alun, Nat and Ben to share and agree a practical way forward

e) Cubs Event at Hill End ~~25JUN17-16SEP17~~

Marcus Goodwin is looking at organising an Orienteering event / competition at Hill End Centre for up to 200 Cub Scouts from all over Oxfordshire County.

John has been in contact with Marcus Goodwin. With the agreement of Nat, we have agreed to run a Saturday Series event at Hill End (involving this group) on Saturday 16th September.

ACTION: John Dalton to continue liason with Marcus Goodwin and Hill End.



2. Recent Club Successes

JK:

Top junior results in the Sprint were:

M10 14th Nathan Taylor
M10 19th Stephen Cunnane
M12 3rd Joel Taylor
M12 26th Jonathan Cunnane
W12 15th Carys Sharp
W18E 1st Fiona Bunn
W18E 14th Bethany Kippin

Top senior results in the Sprint were:

M40 8th Ben Green
M60 9th Alun Jones
M80 3rd John Thompson
W60 1st Carol Edwards

Top junior results across days 2 and 3 were:

W12A 16th Carys Sharp
W18E 1st Fiona Bunn
W18E 19th Bethany Kippin
M10A 9th Stephen Cunnane
M12A 18th Jonathan Cunnane
M16A 5th David Bunn

Top senior results across days 2 and 3 were:

W60 5th Carol Edwards
M50 4th Julian Birkinshaw
M50 6th Nigel Bunn
M60 3rd Alun Jones
M60 7th David Kingham
M80 2nd John Thompson
M85 2nd Roger Baker

Relay

Our top result came from the Vet Men's team of Nigel Bunn, Alun Jones, and Roger Thetford

British Championships

Top Junior Results

M12A Joel Taylor 12th

3. Club Development Committee (Chair: Robin Bishop)

Robin reported that the Development Committee had met earlier in the month. This involved Carol Edwards, John Dalton, Chris Poole, Robin Bishop (with apologies from Mike Shires).

The following were identified as the key topics for focus:

- Succession planning across the club
- Encouragement of Saturday Series entrants to venture to Level C (and Level B) events
- Coaching and Training
- Development of our web site

Next meeting is pencilled in as Monday 10th July.

4. Past events

Chiltern Challenge, Hambleden, Level B, 09APR17

M16A David Bunn 3rd

W12A Carys Sharp 4th
W18E Fiona Bunn 3rd
W18E Bethany Kippin 10th

Top individual senior results:

M50L Nigel Bunn 13th
M60L Dave Kingham 7th
M60L Mikhail Gryaznevich 13th
M70L Jim Prowting 14th
M80 John Thompson 8th
M85 Roger Baker 1st

W21E Anne Edwards 12th
W60L Carol Edwards 8th
W65L Inara Gipsle 6th

The top TVOC relay results were:

Junior Ad Hoc: David Bunn, Carys Sharp, Joel Taylor - 4th
Women's Premier: Fiona Bunn, Bethany Kippin, Anne Edwards - 5th
M50: Nigel Bunn, Julian Birkinshaw, Roger Thetford - 5th
Women's Short: Inara Gipsle, Alison Smith, Carol Edwards - 8th
M60: Jeremy Hill, Mark Thompson, Peter Riches - 20th

...and special mention goes to Jon Bones who ran all three legs of Men's Short!

Recent club selections:

- David Bunn for British Orienteering 16s tour to Scotland
- Fiona Bunn to:
 - JWOC
 - Pre-JWOC tour, 2018
 - JEC 2017 (Junior European Cup)



A range of comments were shared:

- Alun Jones reported that he thought this event went very well. Only disappointment was the weather - it was too good! He thinks this led to a disappointing number of entries on the day.
- Jon Wheatcroft expressed his pleasure at working with Planners, Mark Thompson and Peter Riches. The area was excellent, the arena location worked very well. The weather was great. Idyllic! Working with the estate was a pleasure.
- A dog in seemingly in distress was found locked in a car. The owner was found before any windows were smashed. This highlighted a problem of identifying competitors from their car registration number. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Car Park team should keep an eye out for dogs as cars arrive at events
- A different number of people were recorded as registered on each the two MTR0 devices at the Start. The second check missed 8 people. The EMIT team only downloaded from MTR0 as the second was purely for back-up.

ACTIONS:

- Jon Wheatcroft was not present at the Start as Organiser. Jon to make sure that both devices pick up all competitors in the future
- John Dalton to liaise with Alun Jones to discuss whether the EMIT team should download from BOTH MTR0s in the future to ensure competitors don't get missed
- The Car Park team needed more information about where helpers with kit needed to park, and the route there
- The team system worked very well indeed. Not just on the day, but after the day, too (e.g. putting up results, loading results to BOF etc.)
- There was a discussion about how we allowed Start Times to be changed.
- Martin Ricketts shared some preliminary accounts for the event. However, we are still waiting for another amount of money from Fabian4, and have had no EMIT invoice yet. We expect a healthy surplus
- On behalf of the RadiO event, Robin Bishop thanked TVOC for allowing the RadiO event to take place.
- Chair of the Radio Society of GB wrote to thank TVOC for our help in staging their radio event
- Many thanks and well done to all officials and helpers

5. Future Events: see <http://tinyurl.com/TVOC-plans>

NOTE: The meeting should now be reviewing newly appointed Planners and Controllers for Level C events. (Level B events are reviewed by SCOA).

SEE APPENDIX FOR FULL DETAILS OF ALL EVENTS CURRENTLY PLANNED

It is clear that some forthcoming Planners and Organisers who have not yet been on a Safety Course yet. This includes Dougie Cochrane, Andrew Chalmers and Mike Shires.

ACTION: Carol Edwards to contact these three Planners and Organisers to address this problem.

6. Saturday Series

(**NOTE:** Nat Skidmore had apologised for not being present at the meeting)

It was reported that, at the Saturday Series at Christmas Common on 1st April, we ran out of EMIT cards.

This was caused by two factors:

1. A high number of entrants – the highest we have seen, but not materially greater than we have seen at previous events. There were 190 runs, against 161 at Wittenham, 135 at Hill End, and 151 at Black Park.
2. A long walk to the Start and from the Finish, which extended the time competitors took from registering to downloading.

Fortunately we had a case of cards from EMIT UK available, which had been hired in for the Chiltern Challenge. Otherwise we would have been left with a lot of dissatisfied customers!

We currently have just over 100 working EMIT cards. Numbers are slowly declining due to battery failure.



An initial note from Alun about this was circulated with the Agenda to this meeting. Alun Jones circulated a further note about this to club members and proposed a range of options. These were:

- Option 1. Buy more EMIT cards now
- Option 2. Switch to EMIT Touch-Free Punching (TFP)
- Option 3. Consider switch to SPORTIdent Active Card (SIAC)

Alun circulated a note to the club containing all the comments he received. He also commented:

- Apart from one comment, the general theme seems to be not to rush to a decision, and to buy more EMIT cards whilst we ponder. If the meeting wished to conclude that that was the right thing to do, I would be very pleased.
- But the meeting may prefer to put the onus onto a working group to make that (early) decision. My suggestion for the working group are Robin Bishop, Seamus Cunane, Roger Thetford and Richard Sharp.

This topic was discussed briefly at the meeting.

It was **AGREED** that:

- A working group be set up to consider this further
- That Robin, Seamus, Roger and Richard be invited to join that working group
- That the working group take into account all previous feedback and input provided to Alun and circulated to the club
- That the working group consider the following matters:
 1. To determine whether **any** change to our electronic timing system is warranted at all
 2. IF a change is warranted, to evaluate and propose to what, and over what timeframe

In addition, the group should liaise and coordinate with other parties undertaking similar considerations. This includes SCOA, other SCOA clubs (such as BKO and SOC) and other non-SCOA clubs (such as OD).

The group should attempt to provide some initial direction to the next TVOC club meeting (in July) so that a decision can be made then (at the latest) about the purchase, **hire or otherwise** of new EMIT cards required to better support our Saturday Series of events.

ACTION: John Dalton to initiate the above process with the people concerned.

Chris Poole provided the following comments following his involvement on the Start at Brill:

This is an absolute success in no small part due to the advertising and organising that goes in to it. Areas that we may be able to improve on from my perspective giving last minute (coaching) advice at the start at Brill;

1. Make use of start boxes – people were going straight through when there was a queue to get on the relevant course, as no boxes/indication our runners/families did not know there was a queue. This will also mimic ‘real event’ process.
2. Coach (if there is one) or mentor is ideal just before these start boxes.
3. There needs to be a person on the start line to point out start kite and keep things flowing, especially at busy times.

7. Summer Series 2017 (Chris Poole)

Chris Poole provided the following input:

This is now a pretty full set of events, and I will be confirming with the relevant organisers that everything is proceeding as expected, the current set of events are;

Tue 9 May	Ben Green	benjosephgreen@gmail.com	Brill - Taken as a good start to the series.
Wed 17 May	Robin Bishop		Coombe Hill Good to go, awaiting Risk Assessment
Tue 23 May	James Cunnane	james.cunnane@gmail.com	Bradenham Awaiting confirmation from the Warden, Matt Shrimpton



Wed 31 May			
Tue 6 Jun	Johanna Michl	johanna.michl@oncology.ox.ac.uk	Kingswood
Wed 14 Jun	BKO		Bloom Wood
Tue 20 Jun	Pete Riches, Mark Thompson	markxt777@gmail.com ; petercriches@gmail.com	Hodegemoor
Wed 28 Jun	Andrew Chalmers	aandechalmers@gmail.com	Chesham Bois
Tue 4 Jul	Jamie Parkinson	jamie.parkinson@gmail.com	Bernwood
Wed 12 Jul	Sue Buxton	buxtons@wycombeabbey.com	Wycombe Abbey
Tue 18 Jul			

Note regarding Bloom Wood:

BKO does not run a 3 loop system, expect a technical no paths option and a TD3/2 for others, no published results as such, so it is a BKO activity, so perhaps to avoid muddying the water we do not award any points for this event.

I think a potential option to get a full series could be for the series co-ordinator (Chris) to obtain initial areas and permissions then get somebody to plan them.

Series to potentially provide some practice of an O skill on at least 1 of the loops, so it is not just a runout.

Use of timing to enable earlier start instead of just the mass start.

Potential to do 20 min coaching before event so that develop the Sat Series runners to be able to move to full on to more technical events.

8. Oxford Street Series (Robin Bishop)

Going well. Heather Walton has offered to host the final from her house. Planner needed.

9. Other Mapping Topics

A discussion was had about the best way to identify potential mappers well in advance of future events. Areas can need mapping 12 months before an event. There are indications that TVOC is relying too much on the mapping services of too few people, meaning that the mapping load is falling on the shoulders of too few people.

Also, mapping is commonly an extremely time-consuming activity that is critical to the success of the sport. In TVOC, mapping is routinely conducted by volunteers. Currently TVOC relies on volunteers offering to take mapping roles on.

The club should consider how it can "spread the load of mapping more widely in the future.

FROM ALUN JONES:

Choices are either recruit more mappers, or buy in professional mapping for new big projects (like Bicester).

From Andrew Chalmers:

- I have just finished a remap of Chesham Bois Woods and Common for the evening event on 28 June.
- I'm going to the Parish Council AGM on 15 May where proposals for the future of these woodlands will be presented - by a forestry consultant.
- I'll provide a summary note on the outcome after this talk

From Andrew Chalmers and Yvonne:

Following a meeting Yvonne and I had at Waddesdon on 28 April I'm actively extending the map at Waddesdon for a POC to be open each weekend from January to March 2018. The exact extent will be



agreed with NT Waddesdon once I have looked over more of the terrain and completed a draft map to enable me to come up with possible options by the end of May 2017. Yvonne and I are not sure at this stage whether I shall be allowed to extend the present map for the October Saturday event. Will probably know after a meeting probably in June.

10. Officers Reports

a) Chairman:

b) Treasurer:

Some final surplus figures are available:

- £880 for Nettlebed
- £1,400 for Ladygrove
- £1,370 for Nettlebed

c) Secretary:

d) Captain:

e) Membership Secretary:

- We have a number of new members
- The new membership list will be going out with the next Newsletter

11. Any Other Business

a) Pricing of our events

FROM ALUN JONES:

Pricing of our events.

- I note that BKO is charging £11 for pre-entry for senior BOF members to Black Park (+£2 for late/EOD, +£2 for non-BOF), £4 (+£1) for juniors.
- By comparison we tend to charge £8 for seniors (+ the same additions), £3 for juniors.
- With the need to invest in new kit on the horizon, maybe we should be raising our charges a bit - maybe to £10 seniors, £4 juniors. Views?
- And if we were to use TFP for the Saturday Series, we would need to raise those prices!!!

A brief discussion was had about this. **CARRY OVER TO NEXT MEETING**

b) AGM

We should consider a date and a speaker

CARRY OVER TO NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting:

Confirmed as 8pm on Tuesday 18th July 2017 at The Merry Bells, Wheatley.



APPENDIX: Future Events

2017

a) North and East Abingdon (Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August 2017, Urban, Level C)

Organiser: Luke McNeill, Planner: Fiona Bunn, Controller: John Orton, NWO.

OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED BY TVOC

- Proceeds to go to SCOA Junior Squad.
 - Junior Squad will hopefully will provide some helpers
- ACTION:** John Dalton to suggest Luke and Simon are in liaison over help from the SCOA Junior Squad.

COMMENT FROM ALUN JONES:

I mentioned in my note about maybe testing EMIT TFP here. Roger T thinks he has sufficient experience from Bracknell. I have no view - other than Fiona may prefer to keep it simple.

Map:

Martin Ricketts has started creating the map. He provided Fiona an early version by Easter

b) British Middle Distance Championship (Wendover, Sunday 1st October 2017)

Organiser: Mike Cope (CLARO), Planners: Mark Thompson and Peter Riches, Controller: Hedley Calderbank (HH)

NOTE: This is not a TVOC event. The Organiser is Mike Cope (CLARO).

COMMENT FROM ALUN JONES:

Team Leaders (which is Neville, Roger T, Roger B and I) have been asked to mobilise teams. I have agreed with Nev and the Rogers to put a note in T'Voice, seeking members to volunteer.

Map:

Mark Thompson and Jim Prowting

First draft complete end January 2017. Plan vegetation update in July.

NOTE: ALUN HAS SOME QUESTIONS FOR THE MEETING ABOUT THESE TWO PENN EVENTS.

These were answered as follows:

- Suggested name of event: "Chiltern Night and Day"
- A warm welcome to the Army. (Note that they will attend on the Sunday event, too).
- No mementos
- No M80 class for the night event
- Timings agreed as proposed

c) Penn Woods (Saturday 2nd December 2017, Southern Night Championships, Level B)

Organiser: Alun Jones, Planner: Neville Baker, Controller: Mike Pemberton (BKO)

OFFICIALS REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED BY SCOA

Map:

Bob Beresford

d) Penn Woods and Common Wood (Sunday 3rd December 2017, Level C).

Organiser: Alun Jones, Planner: Gary Walford, Controller: David Frampton (HH)

OFFICIALS REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED BY MEETING

Map:

As above

2018

e) RAF Halton and Wendover tbc. (Sunday 21st January 2018, Level C, part Urban)

Organiser: Dougie Cochrane, Planner: Nat Skidmore. Controller: tbc.

OFFICIALS REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED BY TVOC



NOTE: Dougie must attend a Safety Course

UPDATE FROM NAT SKIDMORE:

I met Dougie and am now clear on what I want to map. Further to a long discussion a while back with the mapping experts, I've now decided we should use a single sided A3 ISSOM 1:5000, basically the previous Halton sprint map with amendments:

- Viewport to be moved south on the current map, chopping off the bit of woods to the north-west of Halton House
- New housing estate to the south east to be mapped and added. Note it is not a big area, possibly 10% of the total map size and Mark T has aerial photography of it.
- Add a slither more of the Wendover escarpment that isn't on the current map, but will fit!
- I will pick up with Martin on the detail, but already initially discussed, and I've checked it does fit on 1 side of A3

I visited with Dougie and we identified multiple suitable assembly locations - just waiting for outline planning to decide where is best

We will need to seek permission from the local authority to use the housing estate.

COMMENT FROM ALUN JONES:

I have not yet sourced a controller. We need the location finalised, and who will map it.

Map:

Martin Ricketts has done work to create an appropriate map of the area. He was comfortable with the information provided by Nat above. Martin Ricketts **AGREED** to complete this map.

f) ~~BUCS 2018 Championships (Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 February 2018).~~ **NOTE DATE CHANGE TO Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th March 2018**

Organised by OUOC

Support requested from TVOC

Saturday Series / BUCS Individual: Bradenham

Sunday BUCS Relay: Shotover

Some concern was originally expressed about trying to link a Saturday Series event with BUCS 2018. John Dalton repeated his assurance at the meeting that the two concurrent event approach had several advantages that had already been seen by OUOC. It meant that little extra TVOC resource would be needed, but that TVOC would be able to provide the necessary timing infrastructure. All helpers will be able to get a run, too. TVOC would use the usual Saturday Series area, whilst the three BUCS courses could start on the other side of the road.

The NT have still not granted permission despite significant efforts to seek this.

ACTIONS:

- John Dalton to continue to liaise with Jamie Parkinson
- John Dalton to continue to seek NT permission

Maps:

Bradenham mapper to be agreed

Shotover mapper to be agreed

ACTION: John Dalton to confirm that OUOC are happy to update the maps as necessary maps

g) Great Hampden (Sunday 15th April 2018, Chiltern Challenge, Level B
Organiser: John Dalton. Planner: Robin Bishop. Controller: Mike Edwards, RAFO.

John Dalton, Robin Bishop and Mark Thompson met up at the area to discuss Start and Finish locations, bussing routes. Permission has now been obtained to park in the usual car park field at the top of Kop Hill, which will remove the need for bussing.

Unfortunately, thinning, and sale of some woods has reduced the usable parts of the area.

ACTION: Robin's to confirm he can get level B courses out of the area available.



Map:

Mark Thompson has agreed to map

h) Coombe Hill tbc. (May or June 2018, Level C)

Organiser: tbc. Planner: tbc. Controller: tbc.

A date needs finalising for this event

ACTION: Neville to propose a date

Map:

Martin Ricketts has offered to update the map. Robin Bishop has done some recent updates to the map.

i) Bicester Urban (Monday August 31st 2018 Level C)

Organiser: tbc. Planner: tbc. Controller: Charles Bromley Gardner.

Needs an Organiser and a Planner

Map:

A discussion was held about the approach necessary to produce this new map. This will be a non-trivial task.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:

- John Farren will contact Roger Thetford for advice about the best way to produce this map
- John Farren will then try and find a mapper to take the creation of this map on

ACTION: John Dalton will check the latest status with John Farren

The meeting discussed the idea of considering a professional mapper to make this map if we are not able to find anyone within the club who was happy to do it.

We are also aware that we haven't got "permission" to run at Bicester, and this must be in place before we start mapping. A concern was raised that Bicester Village (at least) will be VERY busy on the 28th August Bank Holiday Monday. The club therefore also wonders whether it needs to look at alternative venues. Thame came up as one alternative urban suggestion. Farringdon came up as a suggestion, too.

ACTIONS:

- Yvonne Hodson to explore whether Thame would make a good Urban area
- Carol Edwards to contact two professional mappers in case quotes are needed to produce this map

j) Shotover tbc. (Sunday dd November 2018, Level C)

Organiser: tbc. Planner: tbc. Controller: tbc.

John Farren commented that the bracken is still very high at Shotover in November. February to April are better months for Shotover events.

A date needs finalising for this event

ACTION: Neville to propose a date

Map:

2019

ACTION: Neville proposed that initially he and Alun start to think in more detail about a full programme of 2019 events. **ACTION CARRIED OVER**

k) RAL (April 19th 2019, JK Sprint)

Use of RAL as a JK venue is still uncertain. Funding and timescales are still uncertain about future development at the site. A board decision as to whether we will have access is some months away.

l) JK Relay (April 22nd 2019)

Nettlebed is currently the preferred location by the Planner, Steve Long.



Neville reported that, after inspection, he thinks Nettlebed could be a suitable area to use, subject to car parking availability. Neville has identified three different fields that might suffice for this. This would come from the estate.

Neville and Steve have explored car parking options

ACTION: John Dalton to seek permission from the Nettlebed Estate to use the car park field identified once provided with a map excerpt of the car park location from Nev or Steve

Wormsley may be a fall-back option

Quite similar in terrain to Hambleden. Woods perhaps lacking enough decent features to be ideal, but generally does look a very promising venue. Next step is for Steve Long (planner) to review in detail, probably in February.

Neville reported that the estate seemed very enthusiastic. Arena area and car parking have been identified. Neville agreed that there might be a shortage of features for a good relay event. It is generally rolling hills and slopes.

Map:

Bob Beresford said he would be happy to help with mapping of Wormsley, if we get that far and TVOC are to do the mapping.

2020

m) Hambleden (British Nights, Saturday 22nd February 2020, Level A).

Organiser: tbc, Planner: tbc, Controller tbc

Alun Jones reported that SCOA have asked that TVOC organise the British Nights, to be followed by a Chiltern Challenge (Level B).

John reported that Hambleden have given provisional permission for this event

Map:

n) Hambleden (Chiltern Challenge, Sunday 23rd February 2020, Level B).

Organiser: tbc, Planner: tbc, Controller tbc

John reported that Hambleden have given provisional permission for this event

Map:

A significant debate was had at the March meeting about the ability of TVOC to both map and organise these two events given the constraints of Hambleden being a shooting estate.

Critical is the difficulty of obtaining sufficient access to the woods for mapping before the event. As a Night Event, the event has to be held sufficiently early to be dark. However, the woods are not available for easy mapper (and Planner/Controller) access until 1st February.

These problems could be alleviated somewhat by:

- Courses planned 12 months in advance
- Negotiation with the Hambleden Estate to allow some mapper and Planner access during the shooting season

This “double header” event will also put other strains on TVOC organisation. Controls will be required to be put out and collected for two events. Helpers will be needed on both the Saturday and the Sunday of one weekend.

These problems could be alleviated somewhat by ensuring that, as far as possible, both events use the same control sites.

Alternative approaches for these events might be:

- Separate the events out onto separate weekends
- Move the Night Event from Hambleden to an area with better access

It was **AGREED** to postpone any final decision on this matter until after the “double header” events at Penn later in 2017.