

Thames Valley Orienteering Club

TVOC Junior Squad



Bid for Funding from SCOA JK19 Surplus – TVOC Junior Development

Purpose: To attract, encourage & coach junior newcomers.

Plan: Two strands to the 3-year plan:

1. Launching a TVOC Youth League in conjunction with the TVOC 'Saturday Series' of monthly local-level events to attract junior newcomers and encourage existing juniors.
2. Creating a TVOC Junior Coaching Team to enable the development of juniors from White to Orange course standard.

Details:

TVOC currently has about 15 junior members who are actively and regularly engaged in the club's 'Saturday Series' local events. TVOC currently does not organise training sessions specifically for juniors, but a few juniors have benefitted from participating in recent coaching sessions primarily set-up for adult members, and from taking part in the SCOA Junior Squad training sessions.

Joel Taylor (TVOC Junior Rep) is planning to devise a TVOC Youth League to run in conjunction with the TVOC local-level events that take place monthly (currently called the 'Saturday Series'). The TVOC Youth League will be based on examples of successful leagues being run by other clubs across the country. The Youth League will be designed to be inclusive across a range of levels, to allow competition between different ages and skill of newcomers and existing club members. The Youth League will introduce juniors to an extra competitive dimension at local events, in preparation for TVOC juniors entering other regional events and junior competitions such as the YBTS.

TVOC is planning to create its own junior coaching team to enable the development of new juniors from White to Orange (after Orange, juniors would be encouraged to engage with the SCOA Junior Squad training programme focussing on Orange/Light Green to Blue and supporting GB Squad athletes). At the moment there aren't enough UKCC Level 2 Orienteering Coaches within TVOC for both adult and junior training, so this bid is focussing on training-up a number of people to create a junior coaching team who could then run a repeatable junior development program of up to 8 training sessions per year (some potentially allied to Saturday Series events) that could help progress a junior from White to Orange in 1 to 2 years.

Funding requirements:

1. Introduction to Coaching Workshop: 4 club members to undertake workshop. Total of £100.
2. Level 2 training: 2 club members to be trained as UKCC Level 2 Orienteering Coaches (at £500 per person). Total of £1,000.
3. Emergency/First Aid training: Emergency Aid Certificate (minimum of 4 hrs) for 4 people (at £50 each). Total of £200.
4. Equipment: Purchase of 30 training kites (at £5 each), 5 spare compasses (at £30 each), and first aid kit (£60) for the coaching team. Total of £360.

5. Training sessions for juniors: Map production (two years of 8 sessions per year at £30/session). Total of £480.
6. Advertising for training sessions: No cost for electronic advertising; but purchase of event boards and flags. Total of £200.
7. British Orienteering 'Young Leader' Award training session: To be provided to enable 14-19-year-olds within the club to introduce the basic skills of the sport, provide fun activities on a safe enclosed site and assist as volunteers at school or local events. £50 for tutor pack and certificates.

Total amount of funding requested: £2,390

Timescales:

- TVOC Youth League to ideally start in autumn 2020 (or as soon as Saturday Series local-level events are able to re-commence following COVID-19 restrictions).
- Current Level 2 coach to run Introduction to Coaching Workshop (2x half-day) for orienteering club members who are interested in starting to help with club coaching in autumn 2020 (or as soon as able to take place following COVID-19 restrictions).
- Identify at least one TVOC member to start UKCC Level 2 coach training by end of 2020 (subject to training courses being available). Level 2 award assessments must be completed within 18 months of registration on the course and the portfolio completed and marked within 2 years of registration. British Orienteering state that most candidates should be able to complete the Award within 6 – 9 months of attending the course.
- Identify a second TVOC member to start Level 2 training by summer 2021.
- British Orienteering 'Young Leader' Award training session to be provided in summer 2021 to enable 14-19-year-olds within the club to introduce the basic skills of the sport, provide fun activities on a safe enclosed site and assist as volunteers at school or local events.
- Junior coaching team to commence full training sessions in summer/autumn 2021.

Measures of Success:

1. Double the number of juniors who are actively and regularly engaged in the club's 'Saturday Series' local events by 2021/22, from 15 to 30.
2. Triple the number of junior members who are actively and regularly engaged in the club's 'Saturday Series' local events by 2022/23, from 15 to 45.
3. TVOC to be successful in regional qualifying round of YBTS in 2022 onwards.
4. Increase the number of TVOC juniors engaged in SCOA Junior Squad training sessions and picked to complete for SCOA squads for JIRCS by 2022.

Please note that this bid has been written with help from Simon Kippin, SCOA Junior Squad Coach. Once TVOC junior coaching team has been created, engagement with other SCOA clubs would be possible to see how some local training sessions could be shared.