

Minutes of the SCOA AGM 19th June 2025 held on 'Zoom'

Present

Ian Moran	SOC	Chair
Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Secretary
Alan Kersley	BADO	Club Rep
Debbie Robinson	SN	Club Rep
David Currie	SOC	Club Rep
Simon Kippin	TVOC	SCJS Coach
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Club Rep
Chris Poole	TVOC	Coaching Officer
Jon Wheatcroft	TVOC	Vice-Chair
Pete Riches	TVOC	Club Rep

1. Apologies for absence

Trish Monks	BKO	Treasurer
Fiona Clough	BKO	Secretary
Simon Moore	BKO	Club Rep
Scott Collier	JOK	Club Rep

2. Minutes of last AGM held on 21st June 2024

The minutes were reviewed by those present and agreed to be a true record of the proceedings – proposed by JW, seconded by RD.

3. Matters arising

CP informed the AGM that the Coaching section of the SCOA Website is now up to date with a brief introduction on how to become a coach and the correct contact details for CP.

British Orienteering (BO) post and manage lists of qualified coaches on their website. An individual can still help another coach deliver a coaching session even though not licensed themselves.

BO has a new coaching qualification; it is no longer done through 1st Sport but run by BO. It is easier and quicker to run and participate in the course, but you now only have one-year to complete it (previous course gave you two). A lot of the training/information is online learning. The demonstration on how to coach and the final assessment are the only in-person sessions.

RS said that we now have a full set of results for the SCOA League.

IM spoke about orienteering in schools with the primary barrier is gaining teacher support for it.

4. Chairs Report

IM emphasised the need to increase volunteers in the sport and encouraged clubs to try to recruit more young people. The busiest age category is now M/W60. Car parking and access are the biggest current issues for all clubs.

Clubs are all asked to suggest improvements to the SCOA website as it is undergoing work to update and upgrade it.

There has been discussion within the committee regarding funding provided by SCOA to SCJS athletes and that IM is suggesting a 33% split between SCOA, their own orienteering club and the athlete. This needs to be discussed by the SCOA Clubs with feedback needed by October for adoption as policy by next year.

5. Treasurer's Report

TM had sent her apologies for absence but had circulated the accounts for 2024 that had been checked independently by AK and circulated prior to the AGM. IM asked that members present review the report and send any comments and questions to him after the meeting. IM said that it appeared to have been a positive year financially and proposed that the 2024 accounts be accepted by the AGM (proposed by PR and seconded by CP).

6. Fixtures Secretary's Report

RS had circulated a report prior to the meeting and data/graphs covering participation and events held in the region. RS stated that participation 2024 was down on 2023 but that was expected as in 2023 SCOA hosted the British Championships. A similar proportion of activities were put on over the year and the charts show an improvement since the pandemic but that numbers are still not up to pre-pandemic levels. More clubs are registering smaller activities as Level D due to the 'results being published' rule.

7. Coaching Officer

CP reported that the new process for qualifying coaches is working well. BO is keeping a good view of everyone's qualifications.

8. SCJS Report

SK circulates the SCOA Junior Squad Annual Report 2024-25 prior to the meeting and reported that the squad has got some new juniors in at M/W12. There have been a few coaching events held both in the forest and on zoom. They have not had high enough numbers attending unless the sessions were linked with either SE or SW squads. SCOA Juniors are getting into the Talent Squads and into the GB Squad. The SCJS caters for all types of juniors including those who just want to improve their navigation. Some other regions focus on fitness and navigation standards before they take juniors into regional training.

PR asked that the SCJS annual report be sent out to clubs to possibly generate interest amongst the club juniors not in the squad. **Action: Committee members asked to pass the report to their club juniors.**

SK did say that some sessions had to be cancelled due to lack of attendance. This seems to be because sessions are away from home and parents are not willing or able to drive a distance to take their children. Not sure whether this is due to time, cost or just reluctance to travel or possibly trying to cram too many activities in.

9. Technical Officer

Report to be circulated later.

10. Proposals

There were no proposals.

11. Election of Officers

Chair – Ian Moran – proposed by PR, seconded by RS – elected.

Secretary – Fiona Clough (absent but had agreed to remain in role) – proposed by IM, seconded by JW – elected.

Treasurer – Trish Monks (absent but had agreed to remain in role) – proposed by CP, seconded by LY – elected.

Fixtures – Richard Sharp – proposed by LY and seconded by DC – elected

Vice-Chair – Jon Wheatcroft – proposed by IM, seconded by PR – elected.

12. Any other business

There was no other business for discussion.

There being no further matters for discussion the AGM closed.

Fiona Clough

Secretary SCOA (thanks to Debbie Robinson for her notes)

3rd July 2025