

Deeside Orienteering Club

Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting, held at the Community Centre, Kingsley
29th October 2008.

Present: Peter Sleigh (Chairman), Jill Barnes (Treasurer), Andrew Tarr, John Padget (Secretary), Barry Barnes, Mike Vokes, Norman Hall, Sheila and Peter Hills, Mike and Pauline Smithard, Bob Elmes, Pete Owens, Tim and Jenny Palmer, Steve and Kate Ingleby, Robin Tilston, Peter Edwards, Chris Edward and Siân Calow, Bob Roach, Gwyn Thomas, Caroline Gregson, Barbara Majumdar, Graham Sutton, Andrew Williams, David Beattie, Dennis and Margaret Murphy, Martin Pickering, Caroline, Thomas, Olly and Julie Williams, Graham Sutton (29).

Apologies were received from Mike and Nicolette Richardson, Andrew Tarr, Carol Tarr, Noel Scolah, Barbara Jones, Marian Padget, Simon Coppock, Pat Moody, Jane Beattie, Janet Vokes, Mathew Vokes, Alan Mullock, John Evans, Huw Lewis, Chris Smithard.

Peter Hills (Galoppenmeister) presented certificates and trophies from the summer event series, and thanked all who had helped stage them, and Sheila Hills for co-ordinating the programme.

Bob Elmes presented the Web Team Award for Outstanding Uploading to Peter Hills

1. The minutes of the 40th AGM (28th October 2007) were approved; there were no matters arising.

2. The Secretary summarised the 22 events held by the Club during the year, including two C3 events, and commented that this number of events is probably as many as we can organise. The club attained Clubmark accreditation, which will aid interactions with schools and juniors. The Clubmark exercise did however highlight our shortage of first aiders, and members were urged to come forward for training at the Club's expense. The secretary said that especial thanks were due to three retiring officers i.e. Jill Barnes (treasurer), Peter Sleigh (chairman) and Barry Barnes (fixture coordinator). The committee have agreed to help Vale Royal to develop schools orienteering in a lottery funded project, and we expect to map some 20-25 schools and hold a schools orienteering festival. A successful innovation was the Chester City race, for which many thanks are due to Nick Campbell and Jane Mockford for negotiating and organising, and to Malcolm McIvor and Chris Smithard for an excellent map. The Web site has been much improved, thanks to the efforts of Martin Pickering (site design) and Bob Elmes (keeping it promptly fed with news and results). The Sandstone Trail race had been held thanks to Geoff Shaw offering to organise, and proved as popular as ever. The secretary concluded by remarking that by his reckoning 40 members had done something major and time consuming for the Club during the year, quite apart from the many essential helpers at events. This showed how active a membership we are fortunate to have, but also how demanding our sport is to organise.

3. The Treasurer presented her financial statement and thanked Peter Hills for examining it. The Club is in a sound financial position, largely due to having held two C3 events and the Sandstone Trail race during the year. Funds are £600 up on the same position last year and £2,500 above the sum the club has in the past agreed to keep as a reserve. The summer evening events are declining in average profitability (some make a loss) because of a variety of reasons. The following committee's proposals for 2008/9 were agreed unanimously:

- there should be no increase in Club membership fees
- up to £1100 should be spent on a new laptop computer and further modern style SI boxes before the Delamere regional event
- the Club will continue to subsidise junior training/competitions and social activities
- the fees for summer evening events will be increased to £4/£1.50, but only if MDOC agree to do the same

The Treasurer's report was accepted. She thanked Jenny Palmer for offering to take over the role of treasurer.

4. The Chairman felt he had little to add to the Secretary's report, and concentrated on summarizing the considerable successes of the club's juniors both as individuals and teams.

The Chairman said that the committee wanted to recommend Mike Smithard for life membership for all that he had done for the Club over the years, which included his work for the juniors and teams, equipment storage and organising the winter weekend. Mike has also had considerable success as a competitor. This was unanimously supported.

The chairman awarded the Decennial Trophy to Sheila Hills for all her hard work in arranging the summer evening event programme.

The chairman closed by saying that he had enjoyed his 7 years as chairman and hoped his successor would have as easy a ride as he had and expressed his thanks for the support of a strong committee.

5. Election of Officers.

The following officers were elected on a show of hands.

Treasurer	Jenny Palmer	(proposed by Peter Sleigh, seconded by Pete Owens)
Chairman	Barry Barnes	(proposed by Tim Palmer, seconded by Bob Elmes)
Secretary	Jill Barnes	(proposed by Bob Elmes, seconded by Pete Owens)
Fixtures Coordinator	John Padget	(proposed by Jenny Palmer, seconded Chris Calow)

The remaining committee members are standing again for office and were elected by a show of hands, these being : Nigel Beasant (News Letter Editor), Mike Vokes, Bob Elmes, Huw Lewis, Pete Owens and Chris Calow

7 Proposed Changes to Constitution

The following changes to the constitution were unanimously agreed.

7.1 5.1.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club shall be held within *four* months of the end of the Club's financial year, namely 31 July.

7.2 3.6 Cheques drawn on the Club's bank account shall be signed by any two from the following four: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, *and one Committee member nominated by the Management Committee.*

8 Reappointment of Auditor: Peter Hills agreed to continue as Independent Financial Examiner.

9 Appointment of Club Welfare Officer: Barry Barnes explained the need to appoint a Club Welfare Officer and outlined briefly what the job involved. Martin Pickering volunteered to take on the role.

10 Other Business:

10.1 David Beattie reminded members about his mapping course to be held on 29 Nov.

10.2 Robin Tilston said that Konica Minolta have an attractive offer on a new printer which is open until Dec 19 and that we should consider buying one. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting (Nov 25). Robin also expressed concern that map printing for 3 events had been done outside the Club (and once with very poor quality), which seems a waste when the Club has purchased its own printer for this purpose. It was agreed that unless A3 printing is required, planners should be encouraged to get their printing done on the Club printer.

10.3 Pete Owens asked for an organiser for his Daresbury thrash on 14 Dec.

10.4 Barry Barnes said that now Chris Smithard had gone to University a new Junior Development Officer is ideally required – preferably but not essential to be a junior. Members were asked to consider possibilities.

10.5 Sheila Hills asked for planners and organisers for the SEE's.

10.6 Norman Hall asked for helpers for the Colomendy schools league event on 31 Jan.

The meeting closed at 10-05 pm.