

# Minutes of Teleconference on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012

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**Attendees:** Brendan O'Brien, Aine Joyce, Fergal Buckley, Sarah Ní Ruairc, Ruth Lynam, Finn van Gelderen, Harold White, Andrew Cox

**Apologies:** Ed Niland, Brian Power, Ivan Millar

## **Agenda**

IOC 2012 – request for financial assistance from Bishopstown Orienteering Club.

BOC have based IOC fees on 150 participants and entry fees as follows;

	DAY 1	DAY 2
ADULT	32 EURO	42 EURO
STUDENT	29 EURO	38 EURO
JUNIOR	24 EURO	32 EURO

and the projected fees for the RELAYS will be 88 EURO (premier and handicap) and 66EURO (junior) per team.

Harold White has been in correspondence with the IOC planner regarding the subvention and requirements to meet 100% of the €1000 subvention.

A higher number of participants than planned for at IOC maybe expected.

Looking at previous year's clubs who held the IOC broke even with the subvention from the IOA.

It is probably necessary to tailor expenditure to the expected income from the event.

The map print costs may be lower than budgeted for; Harold has passed along details of 'print5' to the planner.

The IOA can provide advice on reducing the costs currently in the IOC budget.

Chairperson and Technical Officer will draft response

*Text of email sent from IOA to Patrick Murphy, BOC on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2012*

Dear Patrick,

Thank you for your e-mail of the 8th of January regarding the Irish Championships that has been partially answered by the correspondence from the Controller of Technical Standards, Harold White. He has notified you of the subvention grant of up to E1,000 that will be available to your club for the staging of the Irish Championships in 2012 provided that the requirements of Guideline 20 are met. These are intended to ensure that the expected standards of a championship event are met, and to provide some financial support to the organising club.

The level of the available subvention grant has remained fixed over recent years despite our grant income from the Irish Sports Council being down by 25%, with our only other major source of income being event registration fees where we have an ongoing difficulty of clubs not paying them in a timely manner, or not at all.

I have discussed your e-mail with the IOA Executive Committee, and their feeling in our current financial situation is that we cannot afford to increase the level of the subvention grant any further. Their view is that other clubs who have taken on the task of organising the Championships, have generally matched income with expenses. We think that you are taking an extremely pessimistic view on the number of likely competitors and certain costs in your budget seem out of line with the experience of recent major events.

In this regard the IOA will happily facilitate any help, advice, or knowledge transfer to reduce the chances of your club incurring a loss in staging the Championships. Please let me know if you want me to initiate this.

The level of your proposed entry fees caused much concern amongst the Committee as those suggested are far in excess of the entry fees for previous Championship events, or even those charged internationally, and in the current difficult economic climate, we feel that they would have a very detrimental effect on entry numbers. Apart from the subvention grant, the IOA is unfortunately unable to provide any further financial support and we would suggest that you reconsider your budgeted expenses even if it means that some of the less core items have to be dropped, so that the entry fees could be pitched closer to the historic norms.

I am copying in on this mail your colleagues, Terry, Paul, Dermot and Sean Cotter and if any or all of you would like to discuss it further, please let me know. We are very appreciative of your club taking on the task of organising the Championships and I can assure you of our support in whatever way we can help.

Yours

Brendan

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Brendan O'Brien  
Chairperson Irish Orienteering Association