

Minutes of the 2010 Irish Orienteering Association AGM

Venue: Limavady Recreation Club, Limavady, Co. Derry.

Time: 8pm on Saturday 24th April 2010

Apologies: Fergal Buckley

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The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Brendan O’Brien. He welcomed all to the meeting.

The minutes of last year’s AGM were proposed by Martin Flynn and seconded by Ollie Clear.

Chairman’s Report IOA AGM 2010 (Brendan O’Brien)

Introduction

2010 marks the beginning of the 5th decade of Irish Orienteering, coming as it does amid the financial turmoil and uncertain times, nevertheless as a sport we have grown in many aspects over the previous years. Firstly we have a world class portfolio of maps, a vibrant and committed network of active enthusiasts and volunteers and a growing population of orienteers. We are also at the forefront of technology in the sport, building a strong and professional organisation from the bottom up, free from scandal of any sort, financially prudent and with a very positive future. Every orienteer in the country should feel proud of helping accomplish this.

Since I have come on the IOA executive in 2002, and prior to that there have been a series of very able chairpersons and strong and committed executives who have gradually, purposefully and meticulously built the structures of the IOA as it stands to date. The organisation is very professionally run, and all the executives run their functions in a highly effective, efficient and thorough manner, delivering on their and the IOA’s agenda in a tireless manner without any undue fuss or issues. For this I am extremely grateful and thank you all on behalf of Orienteering for your continued work and good natured attitudes.

This year has been one of transition, firstly planning for the future, and now moving in to an execution phase which over the next few years I hope will further develop Orienteering in Ireland.

Strategy

The approach we are adopting to the development of orienteering in Ireland has two main strands: firstly continuing to build on the development work underway in so many areas, and secondly increase the level of participation in the sport through multiple channels.

Continued development

An enormous amount of development work has been done and is continually ongoing within the sport.

Training, accreditation and coaching

Orienteering coaching and Instructor education and certification is well underway with a number of coaches/instructors almost through the system. In addition this is now supported by a coaches and instructors website containing a vast amount of resources to support the development and certification process. I want to thank Ed Niland for leading these efforts and the work going in to make this happen.

Development and International competitions

The Junior squad continues to develop under the watchful eye of Ruth Lynam and as well as having a series of training and development sessions also gain valuable experience in international competitions across Europe.

The senior squad, under Ivan Millar, has also ambitious plans for 2010 and have a committed and enthusiastic group of athletes vying to represent Ireland at international level. An example can be seen in the number of elites competing this weekend at the IOC.

Asset development and management

Brian Power is leading our efforts to continue to develop and manage our primary assets of the sport (maps). As well as supporting the development of new and improved maps, we are also working on an improved process for map registration, ownership, copyright etc. that will become a standard and transparent policy for the association.

Improving standards

Orienteering is an evolving sport, and quite technical in some parts. Over the past year Harold White has been ensuring the IOA are up to date technically and has been refining and updating the competition rules and guidelines to reflect current best practices.

Communications and marketing

Life begins at 40! As such the IOA has undergone a makeover. We have going through a re-branding exercise led by Finn van Gelderen, to develop a vibrant, coherent, appealing

and professional brand and imagery to help position us for the future. Further plans are being made to expand on this and develop further collateral etc. over the coming year.

Martin Flynn has continued his excellent work in developing the web site and adding new features, as well as releasing a new version of Ór the orienteering event software.

Child Protection and Medical

Barbara Foley-fisher has continued to work as child protection officer, and is now introducing a safe recruitment process for the IOA. Bernard Creedon continues to act as our anti-doping and medical officer.

Participation

We all know that our sport is an inclusive one both age, gender, abilities etc, we openly cater and welcome all to take part. Needless to say one of the ways we can measure the development of our sports is through its participation rates. Participation has traditionally been through the club & event route. In more recent years a concerted effort has been made to expand participation within the schools network and over the coming years further avenues to develop participation will be developed.

Traditional open competitions

There has been a trend of growth in participation from this source during the 3 year period 2007-2009, with a 9% increase in events, a 27% increase in individual starts, and a 37% increase in people who took part in more than one event. The average number of starts at events is now 94, up 16% since 2007.

Schools

Schools orienteering continues to expand. Recently Leinster and Munster championships were held followed by a National championships both at primary and secondary levels. Almost 400 students competed in the recent Irish Schools Championship event.

Uniformed organisations

Orienteering will be further developed within the membership movements, ie. The Scouts, guides etc.

Community Games

In 2010 we will begin an introduction to the Community games movement with Orienteering being a demonstration sport at the national finals in August this year. Depending on the success this year, discussions will be advanced towards holding regional events in 2011 and 2012, with a review being held at the end of the 3 year period.

Concluding remarks

I would like to express thanks on behalf of the IOA and the population of orienteers to Áine Joyce who as administration assistant really keeps this whole organisation running, she does it efficiently, professionally and pleasantly - keeping us all on our toes with a smile.

The focus for the coming year will be one of increased development of the organisation and its capabilities as well as encouraging increased participation in the sport at all levels and via multiple avenues.

Treasurers Report and Budget for 2010 (Mary O'Connell)

Income and Expenditure Account

The IOA had a net loss for 2009 of €14,417; in 2008 there was a surplus of €15,321. The loss is due to a number of reasons, primarily increased expenses in a number of areas and a decrease in amounts raised from event registrations. The increase in expenses was primarily in the areas of high performance, coaching, SI equipment, and championship subsidies and communications expenditure. These areas where there was an increase in expense had had reduced expenses in 2008, timing of payments played an element in the loss for 2009. The cash position of the IOA remains extremely healthy; the bank account balance was €78,779 at the end of 2009.

Income

The main source of the IOA income remains the Irish Sports Council Grant. The past grants from the ISC have been as follows:

	2010	2009	2008	2007
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
IOA Grant Total	50.688	52.8	52.8	46
Grant to NGB's	11,855	12,539	11,915	9,181

There was a slight decrease in overall income in 2008 and a further decrease of €1,950 in 2009. The grant from the Irish Sports Council in 2009 was identical to the grant received in 2008. The grant for 2010 was 4% lower than 2009 which is considered to be very positive given the current economic climate and budgetary constraints within government departments. The decrease in income in 2009 is due primarily to a decrease in fees from event affiliations. The fees from event registrations had increased in 2008. These fees are accounted for on a cash basis, i.e. dependant on when clubs register events. The income from high performance and juniors represents the contributions that the senior and juniors make towards international competitions these amounts should be viewed along with the appropriate item in 'Expenses'. For example:

	2009 Seniors	2009 Juniors	2008 Seniors	2008 Juniors
Income to IOA	€530	€3385	€0	€1015
Payments by IOA	€13,649	€19,168	€7,106	€16,086
Net funding provided by IOA	€13,119	€15,773	€7,106	€15,071

In 2009 the Irish teams were funded to a total of €28,892, this is in comparison to €22,177 for 2008.

Expenses

Some of the items under expenses have already been addressed above (High Performance and juniors). Communications Costs include the cost of the website, brochures, promotional films and PO Box. There was a significant increase in 2009 due largely to the fact that there had been very little expenditure in this area in 2008. Much work was done on generating new brochures and promotional material, significant work was done on the website and a new logo. Much of the work carried out will be used in promotional material over the next few years. The depreciation expense is the writing off of the new SI units that were purchased in 2009 and additional equipment for communication that was purchased in 2009. The IOA now has SI equipment that cost over €14,000. The net book value of all equipment is currently €2,345.

The cost of coaching increased due to an increase in the number of courses offered. A number of courses were run in 2009, principally Controllers Course, Orienteering Tutor Course and an OCAD course. In addition, a few individuals were funded to attend the Oringen Clinics. The net cost of coaching activities in 2009 (less the income) was €8,822 compared to 2,313 in 2008. 2009 was another strong year for mapping activities as the IOA continued to support clubs in their efforts to map new and existing areas. Insurance costs decreased marginally in 2009. The market for public liability insurance has become much more competitive in recent years; hence premiums have been relatively static over the past few years. In 2009, €2,200 was spent on subsidising the Irish Championships and the Shamrock. There was an additional expense of €1,000, a late subsidy for the 2008 Irish Championship which was paid in 2009. Other admin costs are self explanatory

Balance Sheet

The cash position of the IOA remains strong. While there was a net loss of €14,417 in 2009, there is a cash balance of €78,779 a decrease of €8,500. The reason for the difference is depreciation of €1,398 and a decrease in net current assets (debtors less creditors) of €7,315. - Loss for the year €14,417 - Depreciation €1,398 +Decrease in Debtors € 107 +Increase in Creditors €7,208

Decrease in Cash €8,500 All of the amounts owing at year end have been paid and all amounts due to the IOA at year end have been collected. Fixed assets are represented by the SI units that were purchased during 2009 and prior years and the equipment purchased for communications purposes. The IOA has now a capital surplus of more than €56k which is the result of many years of fiscal prudence in the management of the association's affairs.

Acknowledgement

Finally I would to acknowledge and thank John Casey (former treasurer of the IOA) for all the assistance he has provided over the past three years. In particular, John has prepared the annual accounts each year. I would also like to thank Aine Joyce and the other members of the IOA executive for all their help.

IOA Accounts for 2009

IOA Income and Expenditure account

Irish Orienteering Association							
Income and Expenditure Account 31/12/2009							
				2009€	2009€	2008€	2008€
Income							
Irish Sports Council							
Grant		Note 1		52,800			52,800
Clubs							
Affiliation		Note 2	3,795		3,865		
Event Registration		Note 3	3,205		6,220		
Rental of e-cards			0	7,000	0		10,085
Other income							
High Performance		Note 4	530		0		
Juniors		Note 5	3,395		1,015		
Coaching			1,380		1,150		
Sundry			0	5,305	2,000		4,165
Total Income					65,105		67,050

Expenses

Expenses							
High Performance		Note 4		13,649			7,106
Depreciation				2,120			1,185
Juniors - training, JWOC, JHI		Note 5		19,168			16,085
Coaching				10,202			3,463
Mapping		Note 9		10,058			9,908
SI equipment				181			0
Insurance				4,529			4,624
IOF Affiliation				1,451			1,301
Shamrock Subsidy				1,200			0
IOC Subsidy				2,000			0
Misc				266			227
Sligo O Development Grant				0			0
First Aid Subsidy				405			0
Admin							
Communication Costs				6,795			1,528
Audit Fee				753			750
Secretary's Honorarium				6,000			5,000
Bank Fees				91			59
Expenses (postage, travel, meetings)				654	14,293		493
Total Expenses					79,522		51,729

Excess Income over Expenditure							<u>-14,417</u>				<u>15,321</u>
(Total Income less Total Expenses)											
Signed on behalf of the IOA executive:											
Mary O'Connell Brendan O'Brien 1/5/10											

**Irish Orienteering Association ;Statement of Financial Position
31/12/2009**

Assets				2009€	2008€
Non Current Assets					
Equipment		Note 8	2345	947	
Current Assets					
Cash			78,779	87,279	
Debtors & Prepayments		Note 6	438	545	
			<u>79,217</u>	<u>87,824</u>	
Total Assets				81,562	88,771
Liabilities					
Non Current Liabilities					
Sundry Creditors		Note 7	24,896	17,688	
Total Assets less Liabilities				<u>56,666</u>	<u>71,083</u>
Equity/Represented By					
Balance @ 1/1/XX			71,083	55,762	
Surplus for year			-14,417	15,321	
			<u>56,666</u>	<u>71,083</u>	
Signed on behalf of the IOA executive: Mary O'Connell Brendan O'Brien 1/5/10					

Irish Orienteering Association; Cash Position of Association @ 31/12/09

Current Account				2009€	2008€
Current Account @ start of year			87,279	69,010	
Cash Received			64,732	76,983	
Transfer from Deposit Account				0	
Cash Payments			73,232	58,714	
Current Account @ end of year			<u>78,779</u>	<u>87,279</u>	
Signed on behalf of the IOA executive: Mary O'Connell Brendan O'Brien 1/5/10					

Notes To Accounts

1: Sports Council Grant

The amount from ISC represents €52,800 which was the association's full grant allocation for 2009.

The grant allocation for 2010 is €50,588.

2 Affiliation Fees

The following is a list of the affiliated clubs

3ROC	Cork O	GEN	GMIT O
Ajax	DFO	Kerry O	UCCO
BOC	DUO	MNAV	UCD O
BVOC	Fingal	Setanta	Wat O
CNOC	Cork Schools OA	Sligo OC	Galway O (Western Eagles)

Boru

Affiliation fees ranged from €65 for new clubs to €200 for the larger clubs

3: Event Registration

The following amounts were received in 2009

	2009	2008
Leinster	1,255	3230
Munster	1,730	2220
Conaught	220	770
Total	3,205	6,220

Amounts Paid per club

	2009	2008
3ROC	245	285
Ajax	160	125
BOC	980	890
CNOC	10	910
Cork O	535	510
Fingal	380	830
WEGO	10	435
GEN	375	235
Kerry		315
Sligo	210	335
Setanta	85	555
UCD		170
Wat OC	215	505
Leinster Schools		120
	3205	6220

Note 4 - High Performance - Costs of Competition

	Grants	WOC	World Cups	NOC	SHI	Gear	Total
Amounts Received by IOA				530			530
Amounts Paid by IOA	500	6200	652	2305	214	3778	13,649
Entries, Accomodation, Grants etc							
Funding Provided	500	6,200	652	1,775	214	3,778	13,119

In 2007 the IOA started its own grant scheme - to replace the Carding System that was administered by the Sports Council directly. The cost of the grants come from IOA resources.

Recipients were

	2009	2008
Neil Dobbs	500	
Nicholas Simonin		500
Patrick Higgins		140 (Training Subsidy)
	500	640

Note 5 - Juniors - Costs of Competitons

	Amounts Received by IOA	Amounts paid by IOA: Gear, entries, accomadation, flights and expenses	Grants paid to Juniors	Total Paid	Net Funding Provided
Waterford	351	396		396	45
TT1	462	641		641	179
Spring Cup	1,167	2,409		2,409	1,242
JK		137		137	137
Italy	630	1,801	420	2,221	1,591
EYOC		3,830	2,100	5,930	5,930
JWOC	330	4,413	240	4,653	4,323
Denmark	150	1,381	150	1,531	1,381
JHI	400	811	600	1,411	1,011
TT2 Oct	450	573		573	123
Misc	-545	-734		-734	-189
Total	3,395	15,658	3,510	19,168	15,773

The general method of aiding junior competitors is that juniors pay a significant amount of their costs (travel, accomodation food) and get reimbursed some of those costs depending on the amount of funds that are available at the end of the year and the relative cost of the various competitions

Note 6: Debtors & Prepayments

Amounts due to IOA at 31/12/XX

	2009	2008
Misc		150
Communication Costs		395
High Performance	200	
Coaching	150	
Affiliation	88	
	<u>438</u>	<u>545</u>

All amounts due have been received

Note 7: Creditors

Amounts owed by the IOA at 31/12/XX

	2009	2008
Audit Fee	750	750
Juniors	7,094	5,693
Mapping	9,250	9,908
Coaching	1,920	1,267
Reg Fee Refund		70
Equipment	523	-
Shamrock Oringen	1,200	-
Communication Costs	4,159	
	<u>24,896</u>	<u>17,688</u>

Note 8: Equipment

The IOA purchased a number of upgraded SI units during the year. These are being depreciated on a straight line basis over 3 years with zero residual
 In addition a helmet camera and monitor was purchased to help develop content for the website.

Cost	2009	2008
At start of year	12250	12250
Additions	3518	0
At end of year	15768	12250
Accumulated Depreciation		
At start of year	11303	10118
Charge for year	2120	1185
At end of year	13423	11303
Net Book Value		
At start of year	947	2132
At end of year	2345	947

Note 9: Mapping

	2009	2008
Mapping Grants		
Setanta	1,125	
Boru	500	-
Setanta		656
WE Galway O	875	1,500
Fingal	500	638
Galway O		-
Ajax	1,625	1,163
3ROC	375	150
BOC	1,550	1,175
Sligo		1,313
DFO		300
CNOC	750	150
GEN	1,000	300
MNAV		450
Cork O	1,250	1,613
Kerry O		500
Mapping Archive Project	508	
Total	10,058	9,908

of last year. 12 people attended each course (total 24). It is envisaged that there will be a need for this type of training to continue into the future, in addition to provide information on emerging technologies such as LIDAR and GPS. Version 10 of OCAD was released last year and many clubs have upgraded to this new improved version. Clubs are encouraged to provide their own technology training, particularly in the course planning element of mapping and event management.

There was an interesting debate in the course of the year on map scales and the appropriateness of using scales other than 1:15000 (e.g. 10,000, 7500, etc). While the matter is still one for debate, a common sense approach is recommended and the rules need to be up-dated accordingly.

The quality of printed maps continues to improve and weather-proof paper is now widely used for printing. This facility is available in Ireland although some clubs have used printing services in the UK and Germany.

The map registration process is also in need of review to reflect current practice and the new ways of producing maps. The IOA does not have an up to date register of completed maps and this hinders strategic planning and development in this area.

To support club mapping development the IOA also allocated over €9000 for 44 projects from the 2009 budget. Details of the allocation are published on the orienteering in Ireland website (information-mapping)

The IOA shared SportIdent kits continue to be used widely. The long-term viability of these arrangements is doubtful and clubs are encouraged where possible to invest in their own SI equipment in the medium to longer term.

Question from the Floor: Mary Healy (GEN) raised the issue of the supply and rental of SI cards. The existing number of SI cards is 250 and this is not sufficient for Schools Events. Reuse of SI cards is not workable in a Schools environment. She suggested that the income from the rental of SI cards at club events be reinvested into the SI kit. Brian Power will look at this issue.

Fixtures Secretary Report (Fergal Buckley)

Due to Volcanic Ash Fergal was delayed in Cyprus.

Junior Representative Report (Ruth Lynam)

The Juniors are just back from another successful JK, where Jack Millar took 2nd in M16A, Jonathan Quinn had a win in the M14 Sprint, and there were a number of top-10 placings. Junior result of the

year however must have been Nick Simonin's comfortable qualification for the Middle A Final at JWOC. This was followed by several notable Irish Junior Relay results - the JWOC team ran fast and aggressively to come in 19th country out of 34, while at EYOC the M16's were 14th of 23 & the M18's 19th of 27 &. At JHI Niamh Corbett was 2nd in W14, Aine McCann 3rd in W16. The 3 international competitions attended were JWOC (M/W20), EYOC (M/W18 & 16), and JHI (M/W14, 16, 18). The squad did not attend JEC (M/W20 & 18) this year as this competition has been attracting small numbers. JEC was replaced by training for JWOC 2010 in Denmark. The Summer Tour went to the Scottish 6-day, and the Spring Tour this year went to the Portugal O Meeting instead of the Danish Spring Cup. In general there is very good Junior interest in Training weekends & Tours. Results as always are mixed, but a good proportion of Irish juniors are consistently reaching the upper parts of results lists in competitions abroad.

International Representative Competitions 2009

Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC), Primiero, Italy, 5-11 July.

M20 Niall Ewen, Kevin O'Boyle, Ruairí Short, Nick Simonin.

European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC), Kopaonik, Serbia, 2-5 July.

M18 Sean Knight, Pdraig Mulry, Conor Short. M16 Cillin Corbett, Eoin McCullough, Jack Millar, Laurence Quinn

Junior Home International (JHI), Newborough, Wales, 5-6 Sep.

W14 Niamh Corbett, Cliona McCullough, Caoimhe O'Boyle, Jill Stephens; W16 Aine McCann LVO, Deirdre Ryan CNOC, Andrea Stefkova LVO; W18 Laura Cox WatO M14 Shane Hoare FIN, Harry Millar LVO, Jonathan Quinn GEN; M16 Cillin Corbett, Eoin McCullough 3ROC, Jack Millar LVO, Mark Stephens LVO; M 18 Pdraig Mulry CorkO, Kevin O'Boyle CNOC, Conor Short CNOC.

Training 2009-2010

23 May - Leinster pre-squad training

17 – 24 June - Training in Primiero, Italy, preparation for JWOC & EYOC 2009.

27-June-1 July – Pre-EYOC training, Serbia

18 – 22 Aug– Training in Denmark for JWOC 2010

10-11 Oct - 25 juniors - Training & Time Trials, Massey's Wood & Trooperstown.

28 -29 Nov - 16 juniors – International squad session, Fermanagh.

20-21 Mar - 32 juniors - Training & Time Trials, Dublin, Brockagh, Trooperstown

Squad Tours 2009-2010

2-8 Aug 2009 Scottish 6-day. (Niamh Corbett 3rd W14, Aine McCann 3rd W16, Ruairi Short 3rd M20.)

13-16 Feb 2010 Portugal O Meeting - 12 Juniors. (Niamh Corbett 4th W15)

2-5 April 2010 JK England.

Other Activities

Selectors

The current Junior Squad selectors are Ruth Lynam CNO, Greg McCann LVO, Mary Healy GEN.

Fundraising

The Quiz organised by Niamh O'Boyle at IOC 2009 raised €909.

Plans for 2010-2011

International Competitions:

- JWOC: 29 June-6 July, Aalborg, Denmark.
- EYOC: July, Soria, Spain
- JHI: 20-21 Sep Scotland

Squad Summer Tour: WOC tour in Norway in August.

Possible training for JWOC 2012 in Poland

Autumn training to include Training/Time Trial weekend late Aug/early September in Leinster, & autumn training in Munster.

Finally, thanks for the ongoing help & support of Greg McCann, Niamh O'Boyle, Darren Burke, David Healy, and the many parents who help with coaching, driving, catering, supervision & all the other jobs required by the Junior Squad. And thanks also to Aine Joyce for many hours of travel agent work.

Director of Orienteering Education (Ed Niland)

At the moment Coaching Ireland are in receipt a 50,000 word compliance document to get agreement to run a level One Coaching course for this year. It has taken over two years to get this far. We will also have two Instructor courses this year which are part of the Adventure sports Framework (members include the 7 Adventure NGB's & the two sports councils and Coaching Ireland). The 7 Adventure sports National Governing Bodies have agreed common modules & competencies and levels for instructors within the Adventure industry in the country.

Where I am at the moment is this:

Ability Awards: 6 levels with the first 4 being prioritised to be used with the Instructor and Coaching courses. Assessment forms completed, with supplemental sheets which need a little bit extra work; Standard Manual with Graphic Designer; Primary PE specific course drafted and lesson plans being added;

Instructor Courses: Two of the three courses of the Adventure framework - Orienteering Instructor and Advanced Orienteering Instructor - are with Coaching Ireland for final approval for delivery asap thereafter. The Third Instructor course will be developed in 2011. These courses originate from Coaching Ireland's Adventure Sports framework which aims to bring Adventure sport instructors under their remit and the remit of Irish Sports Council & Sport NI;

Coaching Courses Level one will build on the skills learnt in the two Instructor courses, which will shorten the time to qualify as a coach.

Tutor Training 5 Tutors have completed their Coaching Ireland tutor training course and need to complete another weekend to finish their training. This needs to be done before they start to deliver training courses. I have been trying to get them together since January without success due to their very busy schedules.

Tutor Assessors 1 Tutor assessor will be trained in June by Coaching Ireland so that tutor in training will be assessed for their readiness to lead courses.

Accrediting/Licensing of Instructors/Coaches/Tutors An accrediting/Licensing system is being developed so that Instructors, Coaches & Tutors will abide by the rules of the IOA and stick to the best practices available to them.

The Administration of the all above We have been allocated monies to Hire an administrator, as looking after the paperwork is a job all of it's own. This will need to be moved forward by the Exec, Irish Sports council and Coaching Ireland.

Other things being looked at:

Orienteering Training Apps; Utilising the paper version we are producing at the minute. Proven technical expertise required to progress this.

Orienteering Training Book, for Instructors, Teachers and Coaches; It has been quite a while since a decent Orienteering book has been written. Myself and my Ghost writer will progress this when time and resources allow.

Club & Adventure centres Accreditation; Being looked at in terms of an extension of the Adventure Sports Framework and adoption of Sport NI's Non-Statutory Scheme for Adventurous activities and the set up of Clubmark. If you think you can help me to speed all this up and get it all the above completed I'd love the extra help. It is quite difficult to keep all of the parts of the required system moving forward all at the same time. Movement has been slow forward because I want to make we have a system which will stand when I do stand back - I don't want to repeat of what happened before when we had a very good system but it died when Frank Ryan stepped back and most of his work was lost, literally. I have been trying to get all this back room stuff sorted at the

same time as getting the courses re-accredited which takes time when I'm basically doing it all on my own.

In advance of the new courses coming out I would like every club to facilitate me in identifying a map of theirs they are willing to allow to be used by the IOA in 2010 & 2011 for training purposes. I will be emailing every club in May with exact requirements and the consideration we are willing to enter into for the use of your map.

Development Officer (Andrew Cox)

A full set of schools results and fixtures is to be found on the IOSG blog www.irishschoolso.blogspot.com where Sport Ident has been used and where fixtures were officially ratified.

There have been 15 registered schools events since the start of the school year.

A number of reports and draft guidelines have been posted recently to the blog around the issue of safety and competition rules to help tighten up procedures.

The following documents have been uploaded:

- IOA letter to schools: IOSG Policy Document ; First Aid Equipment (IOA)
- Code of Ethics (IOA); Countryside Code; Event Safety (IOA)
- ISOC competition rules/draft ; Risk assessment/draft
- ISOC organiser guidelines/draft; Role Allocation/draft

A full meeting of the IOSG is planned for May 26th in Cahir at 7.30 p.m. All who are interested in schools orienteering are welcome to attend.

In February, I asked the following questions in my midterm report to committee:

What level of training is involved?

Most training takes place just prior to running or on a separate occasion. The most value is clearly seen where the school has prepared in some way for the school event. I have run three separate training sessions for schools in the SE prior to the Waterford schools. There is a need for a more unified approach.

Another area of training is via the Sports Partnerships and Youth Clubs. I have run two training sessions for Waterford Sports Partnership and have three more planned by July.

What technical standard should the courses be?

It is important to remember the fun element and that children are not out for hours. They will not come back if they have a negative experience. There has sometimes been a trend to cater for the regular club orienteer and forget that many of the rest do not go to club events. The solution has been to provide a Senior B course to cater for Transition Year students who have just moved up to the Senior age. Draft guidelines for the running of the Irish schools event have been circularised. These can be further adapted for Provincial and local events.

What level of support has been available from clubs?

Thank you to club members from Wato and Cork O in Munster and to all those who helped Mary Healy in Leinster.

Have there been adequate adult members to support the teachers?

This is linked to the level of training available and the standard of event offered. The idea of training Transition Year students to help train younger kids is one worth developing. Thank you to the numerous parents and teachers who gave a hand on the day at events.

At what stage should children be encouraged to run on their own rather than in pairs?

Depends upon how often the kids have been orienteering and if it is an area that has been used before. With Sport Ident it is easier to set them off at short intervals.

Is the cost of bus transport prohibitive?

This appears to be more of an issue in Leinster.

Are suitable maps available?

There are limited maps appropriate for schools orienteering. Parkland areas such as Doneraile (Cork), JFK (Wexford) and several Dublin parks are best. Maps have to be able to cope with high level of White/Orange level courses (Primary) with lots of tracks, need to be up to date (Coillte forest areas are a big problem) and available to the planners (current Munster conflict).

Developing links with Local Sports Partnerships is one channel for map production but this requires an IOA designated Map Maker with a specific focus on schools. None of the current event planners have the time to develop/update/produce maps. Areas have been identified which are suitable but a specific amount of money needs to be agreed and a Mapper found.

€2000 has been allocated towards mapping schools in the 2010 budget.

Can the IOA employ a full time mapper?

I would be interested in an update on which areas have been identified by Coillte for Permanent Orienteering Courses. This would help in planning schools events and training next year.

What Equipment is available to schools?

There is no doubt that Sport Ident has made dealing with large numbers of young people easier. Clubs have been very generous in loaning their equipment and expertise for which we are most grateful. I currently have 100 si cards that the IOA purchased to use at school events. Whilst it is possible to reuse cards, it has proved a little unwieldy on occasions. I would advise the purchase of a further 100 cards at least. There is definitely a need for a back up Download station as Wato found out. They have not purchased a second one.

Punching systems that are not being used by clubs could be donated/loaned to schools for training purposes.

High Performance report (Ivan Millar)

World universities orienteering champs.

We have encountered difficulties in the lead up to this year's competition to be held in Sweden in July. This has mainly been in dealing with the governing body of the Irish universities sports association (CUSAI). CUSAI are reluctant to send a full team of competitors to this year's competition and are very slow in finalising a team.

They are now in the process of appointing a team manager and selecting team members. There is the potential for a very strong Irish team to compete at this year's event however a number of athletes have withdrawn from selection due to CUSAI seemingly stalling the process.

The IOA will continue to support our Irish elites who intend to compete at this event despite the continued problems in dealing with CUSAI.

World Champs 2010.

This year's competition will be hosted by Trondheim, Norway. The competition runs from the 8th–15th of August and is this year's main focus for most Irish elites.

There have been some changes in the selection process for this year's competition. It is hoped that by having a selection race for each discipline (sprint, middle and long) we can select the strongest runners (including specialist runners) for each. So the first two in each discipline and one other chosen by the selectors will take part at WOC.

We are also moving away from the traditional Irish champs selection races and holding selection in more relevant terrains.

In 2010 the Middle and Long distance selection races will be held at the Craft cup in Norway from 2nd–4th July. The terrain is very relevant to Trondheim and will also be WOC selection for the Norwegian, Swedish and Danish teams so there should be a great atmosphere for the Irish squad hopefuls.

WOC in Trondheim will have the usual associated public races as part of the WOC tour. A number of Irish families are going out to support the team. It would be great to have as many Irish supporters in Trondheim as possible so why not go too!

Nordic tour / World cup events.

The 4th, 5th and 6th rounds of the 2010 World cup will be part of the upcoming Nordic tour held throughout Scandinavia in June.

The following Irish elites have been selected to represent Ireland at the competition:

Men: Gerard Butler, Darren Burke, David Healy, Nick Simonin.

Women : Niamh O'Boyle.

Squad weekends and fundraising.

Many thanks to the IOA for their continued financial support towards high performance orienteering. We were allocated 15K euro in the recent IOA budget. This proves that the IOA are committed to supporting the development of our elites both at home and abroad.

However, the elites cannot function on IOA assistance alone. One recent development is the introduction of 2 squad weekends per year. These weekends will mainly be for the purpose of a social/competitive get-together and to combine with a squad fundraising event.

The first weekend is only 2 weeks away and will run in conjunction with the Leinster orienteering champs in Carlingford.

The Saturday sees an event hosted by LVO at Slievenagore near Killeel followed by a MicrO event at Kilbroney park, Rostrevor on Saturday evening. All proceeds from the MicrO go towards the senior team as they take on the rest in Trondheim. Please make a special effort to go along and support your senior team.

2009 Results.

Irish elite orienteers competed at the following International competitions in 2009:

World cup/Nordic open, Finland

Colm Hill, Neil Dobbs, David Healy, Rauri Short, Niamh O' Boyle and Rosalind Hussey.

World cup/O-Festivalen, Norway

Marcus Pinker, Neil Dobbs and Ciara Largey.

World championships, Hungary

David Healy, Nicolas Simonin, Colm Hill, Rauri Short, Neil Dobbs, Shane Lynch, Rosalind Hussey, Ciara Largey and Niamh O' Boyle.

World Trail-O championships, Hungary

Alan Gartside, Wilbert Hollinger and Cian O' Reilly

Senior Home Internationals

The Irish team finished 3rd overall at the 2009 senior home international hosted by Fermanagh orienteers.

2009 Irish champions

Men: Marcus Pinker Women: Ciara Largey Trail-O: Stephen Gilmore

WOC 2010 team selection guidelines.

WOC 2010 selection races will be held in relevant Nordic terrain during June/July 2010.

Athletes will be asked to complete discipline preference forms (before 31st December 2009) so as to nominate their preferred disciplines. (It is intended that no athlete will run in more than 3 distances, including relay).

A selection race will be held for each discipline – sprint, middle and long.

Sprint selection: Irish sprint champs, Coleraine University, 23rd April 2010

Middle selection: Craftcup, Vuku Norway, 3rd July

Long selection: Craftcup, Vuku Norway, 4th July

Athletes finishing 1st and 2nd in these races will be automatically selected to run these distances at WOC 2010.

3rd place selections will be based on recent form from spring 2010, (by selectors)

Relay teams will be selected during WOC 2010 week based on WOC form, (by selectors)

If, for any reason an athlete cannot attend the WOC selection races, they must nominate 3 events they intend to compete at during spring 2010.

All athletes interested in selection for the WOC 2010 team are advised to compete at the Irish champs and the JK festival to help the selectors with 3rd place selection.

For more information on selection please visit: <http://irishliteorienteering.wordpress.com/>

Communications Officer (Finn van Gelderen)

For my first year as comms officer I focused on the following:

Re-Branding

I commissioned a refresh of the identity of the association. This involved a new logo, a poster campaign, promotional material and a refresh of the website which is still ongoing.



It was obvious to me that one of the main issues facing the sport is attracting new people to it. To this end I will be rolling out all the materials over the coming months so that clubs have sufficient material to assist in gaining new members.

I commissioned a brief for a simple ad that will sit on the website and can be used as promotional material for clubs and TV. It is 90 seconds long. I hope to go into production of this in the coming weeks.

I did a photo shoot at the Munster Champs which created enough high quality imagery for promotion, illustration materials and for use within the posters the art director created.

Dublin City of Sport 2010

This year is Dublin City of Sport 2010 and I nominated Ruth Lynam as Ambassador of Sport for Orienteering. She was accepted and is one of the 11 ambassadors selected to represent the city.

Nestle Get Set Go Free

I was approached by a company called Parallel promotions acting on behalf of Nestle who are running a promotion where members of the public get to try out a sport for free with vouchers they get after collecting tokens on nestle packs. There are many different sports involved in this promotion. After some weeks 6 clubs have taken up on this offer. They are Ajax, Bishopstown, Great Eastern Navigators, Curragh Naas, Fingal and Corko. One or two clubs expressed reservations of Nestle as a multinational. I had expected more clubs to take up on the offer, but as of yet they haven't sent me the forms. This promotion also takes place in the UK and is endorsed by BOF.

Upcoming Promotional Activities

There are a couple of opportunities for promotion coming up. The first is National Athletics day in the Phoenix Park. I will be investing in this event as it is an opportunity to showcase orienteering to the public. The second is Ireland's team in Trondheim at the World Championships. I plan to travel with the team and produce media to promote the team and the sport.

Report of the Controller of Technical Standards (Harold White)

The major event staged during the year was the Planning and Controlling Workshop that was held in December where 20 people representing 7 clubs attended. The main speaker was Dave Peel whose

presentation focussed on planning for elites across the disciplines of sprint, middle, and long distance events. He also contributed to the discussions on the guidelines for colour course and long distance championship events. It was noted that the primary focus for planners of colour course events was to have most competitors finishing in the 'time band' for most competitors. An analysis showed that in 11 colour course events held in 2009, only 61% of competitors finished within the recommended time bands for their courses. The discussion at the workshop focussed on how this could be improved.

For Championship events, the primary focus is setting courses that meet the recommended winning times. An analysis of recent Championship events showed that the courses for M/W 70 and over competitors were too long, as are those of most women's courses, but that the M21E course was too short. A discussion took place as to whether the target winning times should be set for the ability of orienteers in Ireland, or should be set by international standards. The conclusion was that for the classes where our orienteers are competing at the top level international events then the standards should be set by the international standards, but as we move away from the 18 to 21 age band, then the standards should be set more by the Irish experience.

Following the Workshop, further discussions have taken place with a number of interested parties on the standards for colour and championship events, and the recommendations will be considered at the next Executive Committee meeting.

With the significant number of changes that have been made to the Rules and Guidelines in recent years, I have incorporated them in an amendment document that has been posted on the IOA website this week. Also included are new guidelines for Sprint events, and the Subvention that is available to clubs organising major multi-day events. The previous set of Rules was published in 2002, and to bring certain sections up-to-date such as the definition of terms, I have incorporated the latest relevant parts from the IOF Rules that were published in March 2010.

The review process of the Rules continues, and I am very grateful for the contribution of the other members of the Technical Sub-Committee.

Election of Officers

Chairperson: Brendan O'Brien was happy to continue in this role. He was nominated by Martin Flynn and seconded by Colin Hill. There were no other nominations.

Treasurer: Mary O'Connell stood down from this office. Sarah ní Ruairc of Fingal was willing to accept a nomination. Sarah was nominated by Mary O'Connell and seconded by Finn van Gelderen. There were no other nominations.

Mapping Registrar: Brian Power was willing to remain in this job. He was nominated by Martin Flynn and seconded by Mary Healy. There were no other nominations.

Fixtures Secretary: Fergal Buckley was happy to continue in this position. He was nominated by Andrew Cox and seconded by Martin Flynn. There were no other nominations.

Junior Representative: Ruth Lynam was happy to continue doing this job. She was nominated by Bernie O'Boyle and seconded by Andrew Cox. There were no other nominations.

Coaching: Ed Niland was happy to continue in this position. He was nominated by Martin Flynn and seconded by Neil Dobbs. There were no other nominations.

Development: Andrew Cox was happy to continue in this job. He was nominated by Don Short and seconded by Senan O'Boyle. There were no other nominations for this position.

Communications: Finn van Gelderen expressed interest in continuing in this post. He was nominated by Martin Flynn and seconded by Colin Hill. There were no other nominations.

High Performance: Ivan Millar expressed an interest in continuing in this job. He was nominated by David Healy and seconded by Marcus Geoghegan. There were no other nominations.

Controller of Technical Standards: Harold White was interested in continuing in this job. He was nominated by Aonghus O'Cleirigh and seconded by Martin Flynn. There were no other nominations.

IOA Annual Award Scheme

Mactire Trophy: for *achievement* in orienteering competition by a member of an IOA affiliated club in the previous calendar year, in any age category, in any orienteering discipline, anywhere.

This was won by Nicholas Simonin of BOC.

Silva Award: for the *administration* of orienteering at a local or national level, or for involvement in the staging of a major event.

Awarded to Marcus Geoghegan. Also nominated was Pat Farrelly of DFO

Silva Trophy: for the *development* of orienteering – achieving something that will grow the sport. Some examples are: a new map; a new technology; bringing orienteering to a new part of the country; introducing a new group to the sport; revitalising a neglected area of the sport; enhancing the social aspects of the sport.

Awarded to Pat Healy. Also nominated were Danny O'Hare of CorkO and Marcus Geoghegan of AJAX.

Appendix 1: Attendance Sheet

IOA AGM 2010 - Attendance Sheet.

Jackie McCavana	Gen
Aoife McCavana	GEN
Catherine King	Ajax
David Quinn	GEN.
Andrew Cox	WATO
Stephen Dooly	GEN
Mary Kelly	GEN
Cathal O'Cleryh	AJAX
Aonghus O'Cleryh	AJAX
Jean O'Neill	FINCAL
Pt Mc Cavana	Gen
Mick Keel	fan.
Darren Burke	CORKO
Annamarie Lucey	
'Red' Rucey	Term O
Andrew Quinn	3ROC
Barbara Foley-fisher	MNAV
Digal Foley-fisher	MNAV
Harold White	3ROC
CHRISTIAN FOLEY-FISHER	GEN
AUDREY MARTIN	DUO
Liz Deane	CORKO
Brian Loibell	CORKO
GREG McCotnam	LVO.
Maura Higgins	SET
Eileen Hall	CNOC
John McElroy	3ROC
Colm O'Halloran	Cock O.
Mike Long	AJAX
EDWARD FOGAN	F.N

Jim + Sandra Hoare	FIN
Conor Short	CNOC
Oliver Clear	DFO
Colm Hill	DFO/CNOC
Ruairi Short	CNOC
Neil Dobbin	WATO
Finn van Gelderen	GEN
Ed Niland	BoRU.
MARTIN FLYNN	AYT+
Pearraie O'Boyle	CNOC
Clive Simonsen	BOC.
Niash O'Boyle	CNOC
Colm O'Boyle	CNOC
Clive O'Boyle	CNOC
Nedao Simonsen	BOC
JUAN MILLAR	LVO
WILSON McALISTER	LVO
DAVID HEALY	GEN
DON SMOET	CNOE
MARCUS GREGGHEGAN	ASAX
Seamus O'Boyle	CNOC
53 Mad Ewan	CNOE

plus committee

Aine Joyce
 Brendon O'Brien
 Mary O'Connell
 Brian Power

(5)

