



**Oxford University Orienteering Club
Annual General Meeting
Christ Church, Tuesday 24th April, 2007, 8 PM**

Chairman: Stephen Granger-Bevan

Minuter: Ekaterina Orekhova

Present: Tim Beale, Scott Collier, Emma Dahlstedt, Helen Gardner, Benjamin Grandey, Stephen Granger-Bevan, Ruth Holmes, Ezra Lutton, Cerys Manning, Luke McNeil, Joe Mercer (arrives 20:51), Chris Millard, Anja Nylander, Ekaterina Orekhova, Vaclav Potesil (arrives 20:58), Ian Webb, Chris Wroe

Apologies: Received from Alison Crocker, Katherine Millard, and Olli Hughes.

Meeting opened 20:17

Rumour is that Mr. Mercer is playing pool.

Everyone present is a bit shocked at the length of the first three motions.

Chris Wroe throws jelly beans at the secretary.

Adoption of minutes from previous AGM

Luke proposes and Scott seconds. Last year's minutes are duly adopted.

Speeches by outgoing committee members

I. President: Stephen Granger-Bevan

- "Pleasure to be involved... We are a big name – be proud ..."
- Trinity 2006: Organized social with Cambridge, unfortunately missed the highlight of the term when Cerys fell into a pond.
- Summer tour: Czech was great, Chris Wroe organized summer schools orienteering
- Michaelmas 2006: Recruitment disappointing, but on the bright side Scott became involved, Per ("legend") came to Oxford, and Ezra began showing up to sessions. Then "we" (*Chris Wroe objects*) invented the real-time splits game and took eleven people to the Lakes training tour
- Hilary 2007: Joe won the men's race at the VM, OUOC was successful at Teddy Hall Relays– beat Warwick Cross County Club, outreach going well, became more involved with TVOC
- Projects: SI kit, colour printer, minibus, financial endowment
- Challenges for future: Need to focus on recruitment and publicity. Need more sponsorship – we are in a good position because City Race is a high-profile event. Should try to work with TVOC and other university clubs more.
- Thanks to everyone else on the committee, drivers, and others (Ian W, Chris M, Kat M, Luke M, etc.) for their help

II. Secretary: Ekaterina Orekhova

- “Don’t have much to say. I have been frantically trying to put the AGM agenda together after some last-minute changes...”
- Grateful for being given the chance to do this job, learned a lot (such as the location of Wales) and really enjoyed doing it
- For the record, entered lots of people for events

III. Treasurer: Benjamin Grandey

- *See file titled “Summary of Accounts 2006-2007” for account details.*
- “Usually treasurer gives a short speech, but...” *Benjamin pulls out a long scroll of paper.*
- Helicopters: We have applied to the Ministry of Defense and they said it is possible for us to obtain a helicopter, but currently no insurance company specializes in Chinooks. *(Cerys interrupts to say she has founded such a company. Problem solved!)*
- Accounts: Designed new accounts system that is similar to old one, but is easier to use *(and gives a wonderful break-down of expenses for each member)*
- City Race: Big success, made a profit of £308.96 *(People point out that Benjamin’s arithmetic is a bit screwy. The actual number should be £308.98.)*
- Have lined up our accounts with the financial year (which starts on April 5th)
- People owe money for last term and also for the training tour. *Ian W and Chris M hand Benjamin their cheques. Benjamin then explains how to write a cheque, in case some people might be having trouble.*
- In Michaelmas, Sports Fed did a major review of funding and decided OUOC gets a lot of money for its size. They cut our grant by £700, but stressed that it wasn’t because we had done anything wrong. OUOC wrote a letter of complaint and received a £500 supplementary grant. Now we are back on a first-name basis with Sports Fed. *(Sports instead of Mr Fed.)*
- OUOC only spent £45 on refreshments for the last year (not including club lunch), compared with £300 the previous year. “We are not eating enough...”
- Benjamin admits he was not serious about the helicopters.
- SGB: “What?!?”
- Cerys: “I’ll TASS one.”
- Benjamin: “Any questions?”
- Ian: “Can you sit down now?”

IV. Women’s Captain: Helen Gardner

- Past year has been a success – won Varsity (due to faster punching?) and relay teams came 4th at BUSA and 9th at JK
- Women have been great. Emma wins every race she runs, Ruth has First Year Oxford Orienteer Syndrome, but still produced good results, Ali came 8th at BUSA, Anja adds to our collection of pretty blonde Swedish girls, Katy came to Varsity after only going to two OUOC events, Cerys has not yet collected her TASS welcome pack (BOF still thinks she is amazing), Kat O. keeps Helen on her toes by running either in front of or directly behind her.
- Thanks to Ali, Boris, Kat for conversations about sheep
- Good job to all the girls – keep on giving the guys a run for their money

V. Social Officers: Chris Wroe and Cerys Manning

Chris Wroe:

- Roving meal was the biggest ever (about 25 people, including new ones)
- Pub meet has gone up in attendance (SGB objects – Chris Wroe has only come twice this term). Move to Turf has been a good one.
- Club lunch: low attendance, big effort for social officer. Might need changing.
- Ideas: Combine club lunch with outreach or training, socials should not be “clique-y”, should have a good City Race party next term

Cerys Manning:

- Thanks to Chris W for his help and to Benjamin and Kat O. for use of their rooms

Joe calls (8:49) and asks someone to “come and let me in...”

Kat: Scott, do you want real food? There’s turkey, bread, spinach...

Joe arrives (8:51) and is immediately told to give a speech.

VII. Training Officer: Joe Mercer

- “Training has been good”
- Continued to do last year’s sessions, but added a few new ones
- Monday circuits: have grown in attendance throughout the term
- South Park hill reps: we had a great session last Trinity, but haven’t had one since because of the weather. Next training officer should try to have more of these
- Training tours: went well, lots of OCAD files to pass on to the new information officer
- Enjoyed being training officer

VIII. Information Officer: Scott Collier

- Website exists
- Thank you to other members for amusing ways of altering the front-page photos
- Biggest achievement was inventing the Finish Splits League
- Chris M: “Can you tell us how it works?”
- Scott: “No.”

Distribution of Half-Blues and Team Colours

Half-blues are awarded to Chris M, Ian W, Helen, Ruth, Kat O, and Joe (who may be upgraded to an extraordinary full blue)

Team colours are awarded to Benjamin, Chris W, Ali, Kat M, and SGB (“for being a man”)

Vaclav arrives (8:58).

Constitutional Motions (See file titled “Constitutional Motions” for full details.)

I. Constitutional Amendment (regarding committee positions)

- proposed by Scott, seconded by SGB
- Some punctuation changes are made
- Nominations will no longer be made by the committee
- Role of the second captain will be expanded
- President will liaise with JOK instead of a separate officer
- Treasurer will provide accounts in case of club dissolving
- Training officer will organize at least one training day per year during term time
- *Scott makes a strange sound. SGB orders Kat to “minute that.”*
- Chris M: Is the second captain’s job now one of the biggest positions?
- SGB: It is an expanded role, but still below the three executive positions.
- Joe: Is there any obligation for the second captain to anything different as a result?
- SGB: Yes, to assist the president in the running of the club.
- Vote: Unanimous

II. Constitutional Amendment (regarding membership)

- Proposed by SGB, seconded by Scott
- Sports Fed does not allow more than 20% of a club to be comprised of non-university members. Hence, this motion states people who are students get priority first, then others (guests, randoms, etc.) get priority according to Appendix A.
- E.g. Emma is a university employee, Luke M is a random, Timmeo is a random from the “fake university across the road”
- Sports Fed wants us to encourage Brookes students, but cannot subsidise them. At least OUOC can charge them somewhat less than guests.
- SGB: “If you are not a genuine person, you pay slightly more”
- Amendment: Free first trip is available to Brookes students, but not to randoms.
- Vote: Unanimous

III. Constitutional Amendment (regarding endowment)

- Proposed by SGB, seconded by Benjamin
- Luke M: Should there be a definition of how many trustees need to agree to release funds?
- SGB: It should be by mutual consent
- Amendment: “The funds should only be made available to the club once all members of the committee of trustees have provided written consent.”
- *Jaffa cakes are passed around.*
- Chris M: “Why not put (8) into (7)?”
- It is decided to make publicity (8) the top priority on the list (7) of expenditures.
- Scott: “Two-thirds must be hyphenated...SGB, this is your most annoying feature: you never hyphenate things.”
- A few other small changes are made.
- Scott comments: “Motions agreed to, subject to proofreading.”
- Chris M: What happens to the endowment if OUOC ceases to exist?
- SGB: We can make a suggestion, but it is not our decision. The money will go to the university.
- Vote: Unanimous

Election of new committee members:

I. President

- Ian W nominated by Benjamin and proposed by Scott
- Ian says nothing at first, prompting SGB to say, “Those in favour of a mute president...”
- Ian: SGB did a very good job, but there are things which can be improved upon. Aims will be City Race, Varsity, BUSA, recruitment (summer series, inviting friends to try it), keeping the club open to everyone, not just established orienteers.
- Benjamin: First, Ian has a lot of experience as secretary and then training officer. Second, he was very involved this year despite not being on the committee and he helped out a lot (for example, Ian pointed out that Benjamin had mixed up the SI and BOF numbers in the entries for the 2006 summer tour). Third, he is passionate about orienteering.
- Scott stresses the importance of reading Nopesport
- Chris M: Will you turn your bed into a filing cabinet?
- Ian: No.
- SGB: How will you provide leadership and bring new people in?
- Ian: The president should always be present, be the public face of the club.
- Joe: As men’s captain, what type of selection policy will you apply?
- Scott: This was discussed at the committee meeting you [Joe] were not present at.
- Ian: It is not possible to decide based on one race, need to look at other factors.
- Chris M: Is potato salad going to feature?
- Ian: Yes.
- Vote: Unanimous
- *Note: Olli’s nomination for president not accepted – dismissed on a technicality.*

II. Secretary

- Ali proposed by Ian and seconded by Scott
- She is currently in Japan doing research, so SGB reads her speech instead
- SGB (as Ali): I became very active in the club and convinced astrophysicists to come to an event. I was in charge of something similar to a walking club as an undergraduate at Dartmouth, so have experience organizing trips. I will be quite busy being both OUCCC vice captain and OUOC secretary, but should be able to do it with careful time management.
- Ian: Ali has lots of enthusiasm, will be around for a while, good asset to the club
- Scott: “Tradition of having American women as secretary should be continued.”
- Vote: Unanimous

United won.

III. Treasurer

- Scott proposed by Ian W, seconded by Benjamin
- Scott: I can count to ten and sign my own name. Will try to add to what Benjamin has done in making the accounts easier to deal with, perhaps introduce electronic payment. Could potentially defraud the club of lots of money by being both City Race organizer and treasurer.
- Ian: Scott is not a mathematician, so he should be able to count
- Benjamin: He will do a superior job because he is so good with computers
- Chris M: Can Scott calculate the profit for the 2006 City Race on the board?
- *Scott takes a long time to subtract expenses from income, as he is constantly bombarded*

with food, but finally comes up with the correct number

- Luke M: Will you get free Planet Fear tops as sponsorship?
- Scott: This is a City Race issue. We shall see.
- Vote: Unanimous (*Ian raised two hands and Ruth voted against*)

IV. Women's Captain

- Cerys proposed by Joe, seconded by Ruth
- Kat O proposed by Scott, seconded by Helen

Cerys

- Cerys: I have a wealth of experience within the club after being involved with the City Race and also having been former women's captain and social officer. I would really like to help Ian with the forward momentum that SGB started this year.
- Ruth: Cerys has a lot to give. She is motivational and helpful to newcomers.
- Joe: Cerys is Welsh, which is a good thing. I agree with what Ruth said.
- Scott: How could you cope with not picking yourself?
- Cerys: Fairly easy. I have good knowledge of newcomers, this will help in picking teams.
- Helen: Will you attend blues committee meetings this time?
- Cerys: Absolutely. I actually enjoy them now.
- Joe: Can you give an example of how to get more people into the club?
- Cerys: Have an outlandish freshers fair stall in which Helen wears a bikini.
- Scott: I want to wear one too!
- Cerys: You can wear Speedos.
- SGB: How differently will you fulfill the role this time around?
- Cerys: I definitely want to have a more active role than in my second year. I want to help Ian and get involved with the City Race.
- Ruth: Can we get cool, girly kit?
- Cerys: Yes.
- Joe: How is your running at the moment? Are you running?
- Cerys: No, but I am going to Slovenia.

Kat

- *Kat comes back – grows two feet in size. It must be “spin-age”.*
- Kat: I have given this some thought and want to get even more involved with the club than I did as secretary. Some good people are coming next year like Anne and Jo and we will have a very strong women's team. Anja has a lot of potential, Ali is improving rapidly, Cerys is trying to get back into orienteering, Helen, Kat O, Ruth are all solid, so next year should be great. The guys get excited about VM and BUSA, and next year it should be exciting for the girls too. I feel I can be a good leader. I am not yet very fast, but I have improved a lot since I started a few years ago and I am serious about orienteering. I want to help make training in Oxford effective even for the really good British squad girls and encourage them to come to OUOC events.
- Scott: Kat is very enthusiastic and she will do a good job. But I'm not a woman, so will pass on to Helen, who can say a bit more about “women's things”.
- Helen: Kat is very friendly and open, can talk to newcomers easily.
- Joe: How can you make training more effective?
- Kat: I am hoping to be women's captain in conjunction with training officer, or at least collaborate closely with the training officer if somebody else wishes to take on the role.
- SGB: Just to make it clear, there is nothing in the constitution against Kat being both women's captain and training officer.
- Joe: Good training areas are far away, how would you organize technical training sessions

regularly?

- Kat: I don't think it is necessary to go far from Oxford to do worthwhile technical training, although training day trips are great. It isn't easy, but I think I can make the best of what there is Oxford. Jogging around University Parks while studying technical maps, doing line-Os in Shotover, doing hill reps with maps at South Parks, and doing various armchair orienteering exercises are all good training.
- SGB: This is really a training officer question. Let's leave those for later.
- Ruth: What type of selection policy will you use for teams?
- Kat: It depends on many factors. I don't think a single selection race is enough of an indicator. This is another reason I want to get the girls out to most events next term – the more events they do together, the easier it is to see how they compare against each other. Also, if the VM is in Sweden, then past experience (such as amount of training done in Sweden) may mean a lot. If there are five girls that I think will do better than me at the VM, then I will have no problem choosing them above myself.
- Ruth: How do you plan on getting new girls to come to events?
- Kat: I cannot force them to come if they do not want to, but I can certainly encourage them - it is much more fun to go to an event if there are others doing your course so you can compare splits and route choices afterward.

Both Kat and Cerys wait outside while voting takes place.

- Vote: 8 Cerys, 5 Kat, 1 abstention

V. Information Officer

- Scott says he will do it if no one else will
- Joe says he is interested. He is quickly proposed and seconded by Scott and Chris W
- Vote: Unanimous

VI. Training Officer

- Both Joe and Chris M offer to do it for Trinity term if no one else will
- Several people try to convince Kat to do it, but she says she needs time to think
- Luke M proposes Joe, Scott seconds
- Luke: "He was great last year, he'll be great again."
- Scott: "I like Joe."
- Vote: Unanimous

VII. Social Officer

- Scott nominated by Benjamin, seconded by Kat
- Scott is told to say exactly three words. He says, "Uh... Smartie cookies."
- Vote: Unanimous

Appointments of representatives

- Safety/First Aid Officer - Joe
- Sponsorship Officer - Helen
- Publicity Officer - Olli
- Outreach Coordinator - Helen
- City Race Organizer – Scott
- Alumni Officer – Scott
- Kit Representative – Joe
- POC Officer – Ian W

VII. Senior Member

- Scott realizes that we have to re-elect Steve Fisher as our senior member
- SGB proposes Steve, Chris M seconds him
- Steve is approved

Ordinary Motions

I. This AGM notes that:

- a. Many members will be voyaging to Slovenia for this year's summer tour.
- b. Slovenia will be warm, sunny and extremely good fun.
- c. The Tabs are joining us (for the first time in a blue moon), as are some of the JOKers, so there will be about thirty of us out there.
- d. We should all have something to remind us all of this wonderful event when old and infirm.
- e. That many of us are once again running on the same course

This AGM resolves:

- a. To appoint a club member to oversee the design and ordering of a tour O-kit (after consultation with the Tabs/JOKers).
- b. To try to ensure that it arrives before we go on tour
- c. To create appropriate identification for the overall leader, run-in leader, king of the mountains, etc.
- d. To have some degree of O-top personalisation (so that people can tell us apart from the filthy Tabs)

Proposed: Ian Webb

Seconded: Stephen Granger-Bevan

Somebody proposes that we have personalized headbands instead of personalized O-tops. The girls think it will be gross to swap sweaty headbands. Joe is told that if he wants to receive this kit before the summer tour, he will have to send out an order within a week.

Vote: Almost unanimous (*Joe voted against, at least half-seriously*)

II. This AGM notes that:

- a. *The Society Against Natural Tree Attrition* is a worthwhile society engaged in many important activities relating to the preservation of natural trees, work of critical importance to the orienteering community
- b. Our support for this group should be enshrined in our constitution so that future committees will realise the vital importance of preventing tree loss

This AGM resolves:

- a. To add a clause to our constitution to this effect
- b. That the content of this 'S-A-N-T-A' Clause should be decided by the next committee but should include references to reindeer and, of course, Christmas trees (which are in vital need of protection)

Proposed: Chris Wroe

Seconded: Stephen Granger-Bevan

People are not very impressed with this motion.

Vote: None in favour, 5 against.

III. This AGM notes that

- a. Per Forsberg, as well as being a living legend, was a valued and popular member of the club throughout his short stay with us
- b. That Per also deserves recognition for his skills, which included (but were not limited to) orienteering better than us, fighting Barmen, playing musical chairs better than us, being bigger than us, being Nordic, being stronger than us, running faster than us, being rude to us, etc etc.

This AGM resolves:

To immortalise Per through one or more of the following methods:

- a. Painting several life sized replicas of Per onto our new minibus, each showing him skillfully pursuing one of the many activities he engaged in
- b. Making a life sized model of Per and making it a constitutional requirement that this model be present at every single OUOC activity, ever
- c. Renaming the club 'PEROCOX' (Per Orienteering Club, Oxford)
- d. Renaming the course in parks as the 'PERmenant orienteering course'
- e. Naming our best-improved trophy the 'Per Forsberg trophy for best improved orienteer', possibly with the subtitle 'Because even though we'll never be as good as Per, we should still try'.

Proposed: Chris Wroe

Seconded: Scott Collier

An amendment is proposed to create Per Forsberg's Finish Split League Trophy. Those present discuss what object can be used as a suitable trophy. Somebody suggests stealing Per's shoe and then awarding it to him, but the idea is shot down because it copies the Tabs.

Vote: Unanimous

IV. This AGM notes that:

It is good practice to take regular breaks when engaged in a long period of intense concentration.

This AGM resolves:

To play a brief game of Mornington Crescent.

Proposed: Stephen Granger-Bevan

Seconded: Benjamin Grandey

Luke M: "Kentish Town"

Scott: "Aldgate East"

Timmeo: "Mornington Crescent!"

Ruth: "What was the game?"

There is no vote. SGB is trying to hurry.

V. This AGM notes that:

- a. The OUOC club flag is a Good Thing because it allows us to distinguish ourselves from our enemies and is infinitely more cool than the sail-type banners owned by most other clubs because it is unique.
- b. The flag has not been seen by the general public all that often in the past few months.

This AGM resolves:

- a. To create an Officer of the Flag who is responsible for storing the flag, grooming it, and taking it to events
- b. To mandate the Officer of the Flag to find some way of attaching the Flag to the minibus in a Tab-proof fashion and ensure that it is flown at each event OUOC attends.

Proposed: Stephen Granger-Bevan

Seconded: Ian Webb

Chris M nominates Benjamin to be the flag officer. Benjamin agrees to take on the role, as long as he can delegate to others.

Vote: Unanimous

VI. This AGM notes that:

OUOC's constitution states that the OUOC committee should comprise no more than nine people. This is not particularly interesting.

SGB reads the two lines above and says, "No, it isn't." No voting takes place.

This AGM resolves:

That the incoming OUOC committee should compromise at least nine people, preferably in nine different ways, and provide an account of its actions via the craplist.

Proposed: Stephen Granger-Bevan

Seconded Scott Collier

VII. This AGM notes that:

Many people have finals or prelims/mods/other exams this term.

This AGM proposes that:

All those who fall in the above category should notify the crap list so that those of us with nothing better to do can come and throw glitter / spray shaving foam / block the High Street / clap politely (all of the previous suggestions having been banned within six miles of Carfax by the university).

Proposed: By tradition

This motion is not even read aloud. It is getting late.

VIII. This AGM notes that:

This meeting has gone on for far too long.

SGB says, "Yes, it has. Let's go to the bar!"

This AGM therefore proposes that

- a. We decamp to an excellent drinking establishment.
- b. In accordance with club tradition, all incoming committee members should buy their outgoing counterparts a drink.

Proposed: By tradition

*People are excited to leave. This meeting **has** gone on for far too long.*