



TVOC Club Meeting: Minutes Tuesday 18th March 2025

Meeting held online at 7:30pm.

Present: Peter Riches (Chair), John Dalton (Secretary, Minutes), Janusz Holender (Treasurer), Jon Wheatcroft, Neville Baker, Robin Bishop

Apologies for absence: Bob Beresford, Pattie Beresford, Yvonne Hodson, Paul Taylor

1. Matters Arising from previous Club Meeting

a) Retirees from Orienteering:

John Dalton worked with Mike Shires to produce an appropriate graphical design for Martin Ricketts. This contains some text, along with maps. Unfortunately, the quality of the map images has not been preserved during this process.

ACTION: John Dalton to review once more

b) Update on feedback to Working Group following production of the Strategic Plan for Events and Mapping (Peter Riches)

Peter has received some constructive feedback and input. Most notably from Paul Taylor. All feedback has been very positive. Feedback has now been shared with the Working Group.

ACTION COMPLETE

c) Identifying new Coaches (Peter Riches)

Peter continues to try to identify potential coaches and obtain their commitment to become coaches.

ACTION ONGOING: Peter to continue

d) Octavian Droobers (OD) grant for appointment of a Development Officer (Peter Riches)

TVOC are considering application for grant money to employ a Development Officer to support the development of the club.

Peter and Paul Eaton have discussed this further. Their conclusion is that any such application would require a well-structured proposal. More importantly, any activities of a development officer would undoubtedly increase the load on TVOC volunteers to implement. One suggestion being considered is whether a Development Officer could support the promotion and development of Permanent Orienteering Courses.

ACTION: Peter to consider further

e) Defibrillator location at events (Alun Jones)

The following was **AGREED** at the previous meeting: A selection of laminated signs would be made to be laid out / put up at each event stating where the defibrillator is sited for each event.

Pattie Beresford and Jon Wheatcroft have now written and laminated suitable signs to be deployed at future events. Such signs state where the Defibrillator is located for the event. Duplicate pairs of signs have been produced to be held with:

- Finish kit
- Download kit
- Start/Finish bag used for Saturday Series

ACTION COMPLETE

f) Review of TVOC Safety Plan (Peter Riches)

Peter and Jon Wheatcroft have discussed this further. Jon has gone on to review the Search For Missing Competitor plan. Subsequently, Jon, Chris Poole and John Dalton have met up to discuss whether a further revision is necessary. After an excellent meeting, Jon has revised the documentation further. John Dalton is now modifying the layout of the document into an easy-to-follow format to be available before the Chiltern Challenge in April.



- g) Update on maintenance of POC at Oxford University Parks (John Dalton)
Since the last meeting, Harry Stuart (OUOC), Ben Green (TVOC's POC Officer) and John Dalton have been in discussion about restoring the Oxford City Parks POC. A number of control code plaques and several posts are missing. In addition, this may be an opportunity to enhance the POC by adding more control sites. This would benefit TVOC as we are not allowed to use stakes in the ground at this site for our events. Being able to hang controls on a wider choice of POC posts would be of benefit to our Planners.

OUOC are seeking one source of funding. John and Ben are helping Harry put a budget together for this POC restoration. John considers that TVOC might consider assisting financially, too.

- h) Club Logo: Clarification of colour to be used in logo (Chris Poole)
At the previous meeting, it was **AGREED** that, in future, the logo should be black and orange.

John Dalton has informed Adam Poole (Webmaster) of this decision. Adam has subsequently

- Re-coloured the logo using orange
- Developed a png version of the logo that mappers can use on maps in the future
- Replaced the old logos on the web site Downloads section with the new logos
- Documented the RGB mix of the orange colour

In addition, Bob Beresford has propagated the new logo to all mappers for use on future maps.

ALL ACTIONS COMPLETE

2. Proposal to update TVOC Grants and Awards Policy (Peter Riches)

(See Appendix 3 below for proposed updated policy)

Peter explained that he felt our policy needed updating to enable inclusion of TVOC members who are called to represent their home countries where these countries are outside the UK. In addition, Peter felt that attendance at conferences and other such activities (e.g. coaching courses) should also be included explicitly in the policy.

One change was proposed (see in **red** in Appendix 3 below).

ACTION: Peter to formally present an updated policy for formal agreement at the next meeting.

3. Report and Request for Investment from the Mapping Working Group (Bob Beresford)

Bob provided the following report for the meeting:

- A further meeting has been held to update and refine the mapping plans.
 - We have identified mappers for a number of events in the plan – but no other new mappers have offered to help.
- I have sent the new TVOC logo to the mappers (with instructions) so they can use it on all their maps.
- I have sent details to the mappers of how to extract OS MasterMap files into OCAD – this provides detailed maps of the terrain, more useful in Urban maps.

Bob also provided these requests for investment to be considered at the meeting:

- We have identified Bicester as a potential urban area, but we do not have enough resource to do it ourselves.
 - We would like to seek external help to get a quote to map it.
 - We would prepare a specification and invitation to quote. It would highlight the area to be mapped at 1:4000 ISSprOM 2019-2 in OCAD.

It was **AGREED** that the Mapping Group could proceed to seek a quote from third parties to map Bicester

- As we move to using more technology we want to improve mapping in the field using OCAD and the Sketch App (which we have), but would like to increase GPS accuracy using external GPS Devices.



- We would propose that TVOC pays for individual mappers to purchase a Garmin Glo 2 GPS device (typically £90). This links by Bluetooth to a phone or tablet for use in the terrain.

The following were **AGREED**:

- The purchase of such GPS devices for TVOC mappers has now been pre-agreed
- Specific requests for the purchase of each GPS device should be made via the Chair and the Treasurer
- That only sufficient GPS devices be purchased as are needed for the club mappers, and they be shared between mappers where this is feasible

4. Recent Club Successes

Southern Championships, Great Ridge, 9th March

- 1st, Alun Jones, M70
- 1st, Nigel Bunn, M60
- 1st, Roger Baker, M90
- 2nd, John Thompson, M90
- 2nd, Matvei Dnestrovskii, M14

British Middle Championships, Holmbush and Buchan Country Park, 15th March

- 1st, M90, John Thompson
- 2nd, W40, Nicola Elder
- 3rd, M60, Nigel Bunn

5. Juniors Update (Paul Taylor)

The TVOC Junior Squad will be attending the HOC event at Arrow Valley Country Park, Redditch, this Sunday (23rd March) to try to qualify for this year's inter-club Yvette Baker Trophy Final, which will be held in July.

6. Past Events

a) Thame Urban, Sunday 05JAN25

Peter and Neville have now discussed the regular scheduling of an event post-New Year. As a result:

- The pre-Christmas event for 2025 has been moved to very early 2026
- From 2026 onwards, we will organise an early January event

b) Ensuring lessons learned from Past Events are actually recorded correctly and put into action (Alun Jones)

It was felt that the following TVOC documentation should be updated to reflect lessons learned from previous events:

- The appropriate documentation and guides for Organisers and Planners available from the TVOC web site here: <https://tvoc.org.uk/organising-and-planning-events/>
- If associated with a specific area, the appropriate Dropbox folder for the area concerned (A sub-folder exists for most TVOC areas under the Dropbox folder "New Organisation". Each sub-folder contains specific notes about the area)

ACTION COMPLETE

c) Saturday Series: Kings Wood, 01MAR25

Very successful event. Good attendance. Great weather.

7. Event Diary for 2025, 2026 and into 2027:

See the TVOC web site for all events being publicised by TVOC:

<https://tvoc.org.uk/events/>

See the following new document for a list of all TVOC events planned:



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yE9dOTLr5WVte8rTLBBYlaKaPkAhkG57SiN7TguBd2s/edit?usp=sharing>

NOTE: The meeting should now be reviewing newly appointed Planners and Controllers for Level C events. (Level B events are reviewed by SCOA).

- a) Registration of events with BO
Neville reported that all 2025 and 2026 events are formally registered with BO. The two final events of 2027 are shortly to be registered.
- b) Wantage Urban event date change
Neville reported that it may be necessary to change the date of the Wantage Urban event because of a clash with the UK Urban League event at Castle Vale, near Birmingham on the same day.
- c) Chiltern Challenge 2027 (Nettlebed). The general consensus of club members is to avoid bussing if at all possible
ACTIONS ONGOING:
 - Neville offered to visit the site to look at one possible area of car parking
 - John Dalton plans to look into the logistics of providing car park tracking to protect any car parking field
- d) Documentation of Developing Event Programme
ACTIONS CARRIED OVER:
 - Neville will update the above spreadsheet with all changes to locations and dates of future planned events
 - Neville will ensure any relevant event-related outputs from the Strategic Workgroup also be documented in the above spreadsheet

8. Treasurer's Report (Janusz Holender)

Janusz reported that our finances continue to be good, with nothing to worry about. Janusz stated that some Saturday Series events make a surplus. Some don't. But this is entirely as expected. We have our largest event of the year, the Chiltern Challenge, coming up in April.

9. SCOA (Peter Riches)

Unfortunately Peter was unable to attend the most recent meeting.

Peter did provide an update on the aftermath of the Concorde Chase event (BKO) where getting cars off the car parking field became very difficult after heavy rain. Peter stressed the importance of apologising promptly to competitors affected by problems encountered at any event.

Neville Baker emphasised the importance of ALWAYS having cars leave any field car park by going downhill

A discussion was had about how to inform competitors that an event has been cancelled at short notice. The following methods were summarised:

- Publicise on TVOC web site
- Email all entrants via SI Entries
- Send text messages to all entrants (Alun Jones is aware of the process to do this)
- Put up a large notice at the car park entrance, "Event Cancelled"

SCOA are planning to issue a Newsletter to all SCOA members in due course.



10. Other Officers' Reports

- a) Chairman: Nothing further
- b) Secretary: Nothing further
- c) Captain: Nothing reported
- d) Development Officer: Nothing reported
- e) Clothing Officer: Nothing reported

11. Any Other Business

- a) Minor updates to TVOC Volunteers Conduct Policy following input from BADO (Peter Riches)
Peter reported that he had been contacted by BADO about our Volunteers Conduct Policy. BADO asked if they could use our Policy to support their activities with Forestry England. They have improved our Policy, and we have updated our Policy to absorb the sensible additions from BADO. This policy is available from the TVOC web site, here:
<https://tvoc.org.uk/volunteers-conduct-policy/>
- b) Waddesdon Manor In-Tentz weekend, 05JUL25 (Yvonne Hodson)
Waddesdon Manor are repeating their weekend for Scouts and Guides in July and we have again offered to put on Orienteering as one of their activities. It's on Saturday July 5th and this year we are giving them a score event. There are 5 sessions during the day. They are expecting 150 participants this year, so we'll be busy. Yvonne will be calling for helpers in due course.

Date of next meeting:

Meeting confirmed as 7:30pm on Tuesday 20th May 2025

The meeting will be online. Login to be provided later.

Note that the meeting is open to all TVOC members.



Appendix A: Updated, proposed TVOC Grands and Awards Policy

TVOC Grants and Awards Policy

This policy outlines the process and the applicable events to be able to apply for a grant or award from TVOC. Each case is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. This outline in no way commits the club to provide support.

TVOC members who have been first claim members of the club for a continuous period of at least 12 months may claim for grants towards representation at national or international level as set out below.

Note that TVOC's policy on grants is dependent on TVOC continuing to have a healthy financial position. This policy can be changed, without notice, at any time.

Representation for National Teams

Juniors representing National teams in a major competition are eligible for a grant from SCOA. Juniors are expected to claim from SCOA in the first instance.

In respect of junior members only, there is no annual cap (as below) as there is for senior members. The club would expect a commitment to club events before and after any grant is awarded.

If a senior member of TVOC is selected to represent a National Team for a major competition* (see below), they may claim for the costs they will incur (less any grant from SCOA) up to a maximum of £250 per year. In exchange, they need to contribute to the club in all of the following ways:

1. competing for TVOC regularly in relays / CompassSport Cup
2. planning, organising, mapping or coaching
3. writing an article on their experiences for e-News

International Representation

Those representing their Country are already able to claim 50% of the athlete contribution from SCOA (see below).

TVOC does not contribute to TVOC members who are **veterans** representing their Nations. However TVOC does support **juniors** and **seniors** (W/M21's) at the following competitions:

- Interland
- Senior Home International
- Junior Home International
- Worlds Schools Orienteering Championships (British Schools events are supported by individual schools).

Junior members may well be invited to training camps or courses and the club would consider applications for assistance in the same way, always on a case by case basis.

Courses and Conferences

If you represent TVOC at an recognised event, you will be entitled to claim back your expenses. This should be agreed with the club beforehand



Exceptional Circumstances

There may, in addition, be exceptional circumstances of hardship where the Club would consider offering support for athletes representing their country.

Applications for Funding

To apply for funding please email: chairman@tvoc.org.uk

* Eligible competitions are WOC, JWOC, WORLD GAMES, EYOC, JEC, WORLD CUPS, EOC, WUC, WTOC, ETOC.

Please note: it is also possible for individuals to apply for funding from SCOA. For athletes selected to represent one of the home countries in orienteering competitions, SCOA will fund 50% of the fee paid or corresponding England fee (whichever is the lower). For juniors competing at GB level, SCOA will again contribute, decided on a case by case basis. More details of SCOA's grant policy and the application form can be found at:

<https://www.scoa-orienteering.org.uk/content/scoa-grants>

Total funding support is not to exceed actual incurred costs, this relies on individual honesty, but any activity deemed to not to meet this criteria will exclude the individual from any further grant support.