



TVOC Club Meeting: Minutes - Tuesday 20th May 2025

Meeting held online at 7:30pm.

Present: Peter Riches (Chair), John Dalton (Secretary, Minutes), Janusz Holender (Treasurer), Chris Poole (Vice-Chair), Neville Baker, Jon Wheatcroft, Bob Beresford, Pattie Beresford

Apologies for absence: None received

Peter started the meeting by noting that a Summer Series event was being held at the same time as this meeting was scheduled. Peter assured the meeting that such a clash would not happen again.

1. Matters Arising from previous Club Meeting

a) Retirees from Orienteering (John Dalton):

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

John has been back in contact with Mike Shires. Between them, they have come up with a way that should preserve the quality of the OCAD maps as they are copied into a different document and printed. Mike has offered to try this himself.

ACTION: John will make sure that Mike has the necessary OCAD files to ensure that the excerpts taken from OCAD are in the best format for copying into Mike's software tool.

b) Identifying new Coaches (Peter Riches)

Peter continues to try to identify potential coaches and obtain their commitment to become coaches. Despite significant efforts, it is proving difficult to identify people interested in becoming coaches. Peter would be glad to hear suggestions of others he could contact to ask about becoming a coach.

ACTION ONGOING: Peter to continue

c) 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 has been in further discussion with Paul Eaton. They have identified one area for further consideration: the maintenance, upgrade and promotion of TVOC's Permanent Orienteering Courses. If considered to be appropriate, the next step would be to develop a proposal.

ACTION: Peter to consider further

d) Review of TVOC Safety Plan (Peter Riches)

John has now updated the Safety Plan Search and Rescue document into a format that was tested at the Chiltern Challenge. On the day, we had five or six people that we were starting to get concerned about. The document proved to be easy to use to document necessary details about these people. The clarity of the sequence of steps to go through, coupled with template into which key information can be written, worked very well indeed.

The only issue was that the document didn't provide enough space to document the necessary details of the five of six people that we started to be concerned about.

ACTION: John will update the document in light of the need to document details about several missing people during an event.

e) Update on maintenance of POC at Oxford University Parks (John Dalton)

John provided the following update:

Harry Stuart at OUOC has made excellent progress in organising the restoration and enhancement of the POC at Oxford University Parks. Ben Green and John have been consulted and involved at all stages. Harry is seeking permission to restore and repair the existing POC, and enhance it by adding a number of new controls within the area. The majority of posts need replacement, and a complete new set of control code plaques will be required.



The approximate budget for all this work is £1,200. Harry has already obtained funding for a substantial proportion of this cost from the Oxford University Sports Federation. Harry still needs to seek further funding from the Orienteering Foundation, and/or SCOA. TVOC may also choose to make a donation, given the usefulness of the POC to our own activities.

Harry is currently awaiting final approval for all the control site locations. He will then obtain the necessary "permit to dig" at the park. This is required to instal the replacement control posts. Then work can begin.

In addition, Harry is seeking further funding to purchase the necessary materials. Harry hopes that volunteers from OUOC and TVOC will be happy to undertake the necessary workings.

John thinks that OUOC may require up to £500 of additional funding for this work. Peter suggested that TVOC could offer £250 to OUOC to assist with this work. It was suggested that OUOC should approach SCOA for an equivalent donation.

ACTION: John Dalton to continue liaison with Harry at OUOC.

f) Matters arising from the Mapping Working Group (Bob Beresford)

Bob provided the following mapping report:

TVOC Meeting 20th May – Mapping update

Level B/C events

Wantage – complete and just awaiting any further comments from Roger Thetford-BobB/PattieB

Witney extension – desktop mapping underway- Bob B/Pattie B

Christmas Common – mapping completed early but Forestry England declined to give permission. Looking at Andrew Ingram area plus 2 Nat Trust areas across the road (Greenfield Copse/Howe Wood) – Mark T

Shotover – remap started with latest LiDAR data. A long way to go – Rosie W (Rosie has now purchased a Garmin Glo GPS and will contact the Treasurer directly about reimbursement)

RAF Halton – was awaiting permissions, then Robin B will do map. Chris P reported that permission has now been received.

Nettlebed – Access to the Bix Estate last used in 2010, looks promising. Shooting in Nettlebed estate reduces available mapping time. Mark T to lead but may need others to help, especially on the northern part (Bix).

Bicester – quote received from Mike Hampton to map Bicester (2xA3 sheets). Total will be £300 approx. (just charging for travel and other expenses). I recommend we accept this and go ahead. He can start the mapping In July this year.
This cost was **AGREED** during the meeting.

Level D – Sat Series/Park O

Hill End – updated, planned to have 2 Saturday Series events in 2026. Permanent course update underway. (Mark T)

Brill Common – updated (Mark T)



Oxford UniParks – map updated (Bob B).

ACTION: Bob to send latest version to Harry at OUOC

Deangarden/KeepHill – updates in progress (Bob B/Pattie B)

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

Peter would like to make some further changes to this policy that better reflects our support for juniors. An updated version is to be proposed for adoption at the next meeting.

ACTION: Peter R to update proposal for next meeting to consider

3. Recent Club Successes

Bonington Trophy Winner: Bob Beresford

Bob was awarded the Bonington Trophy. This prestigious mapping award is awarded annually by British Orienteering for the 'best contribution to mapping' which can cover a whole range of activities related to mapping. The trophy was donated to British Orienteering by its Honorary President, Sir Chris Bonington, the world famous mountaineer. The trophy consists of a piece of rock collected from the summit of Mount Everest on Chris' 1985 expedition, mounted on a wooden plinth.

JK 2025

Sprint

Our only Gold Medallist was Jenny Thompson who took the honours in W85. Nigel Bunn took Silver in M60, just 7 seconds off the leader; Alun Jones also took Silver in M70, just 2 seconds adrift of the winner. Meanwhile ex-member Fiona Bunn, who now runs for Edinburgh University, was second on W21E.

Middle

Nigel Bunn took the win in M60L; Alun Jones was first equal on M70L, but had an identical time to another competitor so shared the win. John Thompson was second on M90. Jenny Thompson was a distant third on W85, ten minutes behind the leader after a couple of disastrous legs.

Long (inc. overall result)

- Alun Jones won M70L by over 2 minutes, so ending as clear winner over the two days
- Jenny Thompson won W85 by 15 minutes, more than clawing back the deficit from day 2, and also taking the JK title.
- Nigel Bunn lost time at 2 controls hunting for the correct boulder in a boulder field, ending in third place, and finishing in Bronze medal position over the two days.
- John Thompson was again 2nd on M90, finishing in Silver medal position.

British Championships 2025

Jenny Thompson, W85 British Champion.

4. Juniors Update (Paul Taylor)

Nothing to report

5. Past Events

a) Saturday Series, Hill End, 22MAR25 and Cuttseslowe, 17MAY25

The Hill End event was well-attended. This is an excellent, secure area to introduce youngsters to orienteering. Hill End are very keen to have us back. The map was found to be a bit out of date. This has now been sorted by Mark T.

The Cuttseslowe event went well, too.

b) Chiltern Challenge, Hambleden, 06APR25

Organiser, John Dalton, reported the following:

I was very pleased with excellent weather on the day, and an entry of over 500. There were very few issues. As ever, the TVOC Team Leader structure worked very well indeed. Although some key



people were away (e.g. Nev / Marie-Anne, and the Turners), their deputies (namely Dave Kingham, and the Taylors) more than coped with their roles. Thanks to all.

We do continue to have problems with inexperienced entrants failing to recognise the Courses Close time. One group of four had to be contacted by telephone, and they still didn't return back immediately. How do we fix this? Jon W emphasised how the Courses Close time was communicated clearly to later starters at all our Level C and Level B events.

Janusz will later report a surplus of just over £2,000 for the event.

c) **Summer Series of events**

These have all been excellent, regularly with a good turnout. Recent successful events have been held from Kidlington and Princes Risborough.

Particular reference was made to the excellent Town vs. Gown event organised recently by OUOC. Peter is keen to foster closer relationships with OUOC in the future.

6. 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) **Chiltern Challenge 2026 (Christmas Common)**

This event has been hit by Forestry England providing some clear reasons why they cannot give us permission to orienteering in their woods at this time. Another landowner, Andrew Ingrams, continues to be very supportive of our event. Discussions are now underway with the NT about use of neighbouring woods they own. Initial conversations are positive. But they may decide to allow access to footpaths only.

A discussion was had about downgrading the event to a Level C event if the area was not large enough for a Black course. It was felt that the Chiltern Challenge name should not be associated with a Level C event.

A further problem is the limited amount of space available for car parking.

b) **Chiltern Challenge 2027 (Nettlebed).**

Peter commented that there is now an Organiser for this event.

John Dalton provided the following update:

The cost of laying tracking for 250-300 cars is expensive. And perhaps makes an event uneconomic if full tracking of a car park field is required.

John has now contacted Lord Alvingham, identified as the owner of the Bix woods, north of Nettlebed. Co-incidentally, Nev has identified a field near Lord Alvingham's house that might be used for car parking.

Lord Alvingham has given permission to use his Bix woods for the event. Unfortunately, the field is very wet in the spring, will be let for sheep farming, and therefore is unavailable for car parking.

Both Roger Thetford and Neville have been excellent in seeding possible car parking space that avoids bussing. However, another trawl for car parking is now needed if bussing is to be prevented.

ACTIONS:

- John to explore any other car park locations in the area
- John to explore bussing as an option
- John to contact the developers of the Sue Ryder home to determine whether there might be parking available there

7. Treasurer's Report (Janusz Holender)

Janusz reported that the finances of the club continue to be good.


The Hambleden Chiltern Challenge produced a healthy surplus of £2,000.

The Saturday Series, as planned, continues to break even, or make a small surplus.

There are no concerns.

TVOC financial summary May 2025

Janusz Holender



This year

Larger expenditures this financial year (not directly our event related):

- Software (OCAD, MapRun and OpenOrienteeringMap) - £1524
- BO/SCOA affiliation - £484
- Internet - £214
- SI kit - £248
- Club kit - £178
- Flags - £306
- Juniors - £60
- Training - £480
- Barclays have started charging us monthly fee-- about £100 per year

Income:

- kit hire £787
- Events surplus about £5679 see next slide

8. Other Officers' Reports

a) Chairman:

Peter shared the following comments:

He is finding that he can obtain more help for the club's activities by asking people for their help. Peter is pleased that the Summer Series seems to be attracting people who are not ordinarily orienteers. Thanks to everyone who is helping. Congratulations to Bob Beresford for winning the Bonington mapping trophy. Peter is pleased that the mapping group is starting to look further into the future for mapping into 2028 and 2029.

b) Secretary:

Nothing further to report

c) Captain:

Nothing to report



d) Development Officer:
Nothing to report

e) Clothing Officer:
Nothing to report

9. SCOA (Peter Riches)

A SCOA circular has recently been sent to all SCOA members. The next meeting is on the 19th June, and will include the AGM.

10. Any Other Business

None

Date of next meeting:

Meeting confirmed as 7:30pm on Tuesday 15th July 2025

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

Note that the meeting is open to all TVOC members.

Bob and Pattie will not be able to attend.