



TVOC Club Meeting: Minutes Tuesday 21st July 2026

Meeting held online at 7:30pm.

Present: Peter Riches (Chair), John Dalton (Secretary, minutes), Jon Wheatcroft, Paul Eaton, Bob Beresford, Pattie Beresford, Guna Dubroska

Apologies for absence: Alun Jones, Chris Poole, Janusz Holender, Robin Bishop, Neville Baker

1. Matters Arising from previous Club Meeting

- a) Development Officer: Autumn night series on golf courses (Golf-O!)
This proposal is being progressed by Paul.
Ongoing
- b) Development Officer: TVOC Officers and Team Leaders
Hannah Redrup is planning to provide more information about the TVOC officers and team leaders (including photographs), either through the WhatsApp Group, or eNews.
Ongoing
- c) Controller Course (Peter Riches)
Peter believes another Controllers Course would be helpful.
ACTION: Peter will discuss with Katy Stubbs.
Ongoing
- d) Organiser Course (Peter Riches)
Peter believes that an Organiser Course may help support club members to feel confident taking on the role of Organiser.
Ongoing

Peter also intends to take the responsibility for permissions from Organisers. However, he hasn't been able to find a volunteer to take such a role on.
ACTION: Peter to progress. This will be within club activity.
Ongoing
- e) Proposal - free entries for juniors for TVOC events (Alun Jones)
We want to encourage juniors to join TVOC and to come to our events. They are the future lifeblood of the sport, and we need them if we want the club to perform well at YBT and CSC matches. Juniors will also bring their parents to events, many of whom will also then contribute to the club.
Decision: Free entries for TVOC juniors at TVOC events.
Action: Robin Bishop to look at how this is to be achieved.

2. Matters Arising from AGM held Wednesday 17th June

There were none.

No Further Action

3. Arrangements for CompassSport Cup Final weekend, Sunday 17th October 2027, Wendover Woods and Saturday 16th October 2027, Bicester Urban (Alun Jones)

- TVOC have offered to organise and plan this event
- TVOC, as Organising club, get an automatic place at the Final. This assumes that a full team enters a preliminary round
- TVOC have the opportunity to defer that Final place if we so choose

CompassSport Cup weekend (Alun Jones)



On the weekend of 16 and 17 October 2027, TVOC will be hosting two large events. The detail below is primarily for information, but there is a key question highlighted needing a decision.

Saturday 16 October – Bicester Urban

With the CSC Final on the Sunday, there are virtually no other events scheduled on this weekend. We should therefore expect a substantial turnout, maybe 500 competitors. We have therefore classified the event at a National event, to add some prestige to it.

Officials are in place – Jon Wheatcroft as Organiser, Roger Thetford as Planner and Clive Caffell (NGOC) as Controller. The map was drawn in October 2025 by Mike Hampton (OD) but is being reviewed and updated by Bob Beresford.

With competitors from all over the UK coming for the CompassSport Cup Final, the intention is for start times to be lunchtime to early afternoon to allow people time to travel.

Sunday 17 October – CompassSport Cup Final at Wendover Woods

This event is likely to attract some 800 competitors, or possibly more. The last (2025) CSC Final had almost exactly 1000 competitors. The 2026 Final will have 11 Cup clubs and 14 Trophy Clubs; estimated 885 competitors. The event may be a 'large colour-coded event', but it is a level A event, with timed starts, commentary, and a need that everything works properly.

Officials are in place – Alun Jones and John Dalton as Organisers, Mark Thompson as Planner and Hedley Calderbank (HH) as Controller. Rosie Walklin is updating the map.

As hosts, TVOC is guaranteed a place in the Final even if we do not qualify **provided** that we have fielded a full team in that year's qualifier.

Key question – *We are permitted to defer our place to the following year (2028 Final scheduled to be in or near Leicester) if we wish. Do we want to do so?*

TVOC is a large club. Nevertheless two large events on consecutive days will be a real strain on our resources. We need to ensure we can field event teams for the two days. My view is that it would be better to defer our place to 2028, to ensure we have sufficient manpower on the Sunday. This would also have the advantage that Roger, Nigel and the mappers, who will be non-competitive at Wendover, can also run competitively. Meanwhile, I hope that we can offer our helpers the opportunity to run on the day in any case. Planner Mark is considering offering a couple of separate courses for helpers and for other non-CompassSport Cup competitors.

Worth also bearing in mind that we might want to consider engaging helpers from other clubs in exchange for a free run – for example asking OD to help at Bicester, and either CSC competitors or other nearby clubs to help at Wendover.

Note that with controls being used in Bicester until late afternoon, we will need to hire in at least some controls for Wendover.

Peter proposed that TVOC defer their automatic entry into the CSC final until 2028 in Leicester.

This was AGREED unanimously

4. String Courses at TVOC events (Peter Riches)

Peter suggested the club should start to include String Courses again at future Level B and C events.

These were stopped some years ago for two reasons. Firstly, due to the significant effort needed to put them on (they need a map, a course laid out with string, a theme, registration, timing etc.). And secondly due to the low number of youngsters entering. Peter felt that getting youngsters running any course, with map in hand was worthwhile.



Others felt that we should encourage such youngsters around White courses which would be a better use of resources.

ACTIONS:

- **Peter Riches to raise the topic in eNews**
- **To be discussed at next meeting**

5. Competitor Code of Conduct (Peter Riches)

A number of clubs ask you to sign up to following a competitor code of conduct when you enter an event. Should TVOC do the same?

There are some examples we could adopt:

- The latest BOF newsletter includes a link to a Code of Conduct. This is quite long and goes into a lot of other areas as well as conduct for competitors.
- The BOF newsletter also links to another document, the Code of Ethics and Behaviour. It's not perfect, but it feels nearer to what we might expect people to sign up to when they compete at our events.

The following were proposed:

1. New members should be required to acknowledge that they have read and agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct
2. Anyone entering an event should be required to acknowledge that they have read and agreed to abide by the Code of Ethics and Behaviour.

The existing codes were considered good enough to adopt immediately. They should be reviewed after 6 months.

The above proposal was AGREED.

ACTIONS:

- John Dalton to discuss with Alun and Marie Anne respectively
- John Dalton to ensure a review in April/May 2027

6. Recent Club Successes

The club applauded the success of the juniors in the recent Yvette Baker Trophy, coming second to the mighty SYO.

The successes of both John Thompson and Jenny Thompson in winning the recent British Sprint Championships in their age class was also acknowledged.

7. Juniors Update (Paul Taylor)

Nothing further to report.

8. Past Events

- a) Selection Race, 21st June, Wendover Woods
The significant efforts of Roger Thetford (Organiser), Nigel Bunn (Planner), and the mappers were noted to ensure the success of this event. It was noted that only 9 competitors ran, with another 4 who were expected, did not compete
- b) Saturday Series, 11th July, Oxford Brookes
- c) Saturday Series, 13th June, University Parks

Both Saturday Series events were considered to be successful, with over 100 entries at each event.

9. Event Diary for 2026, 2027 and into 2028/29:

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>

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

Peter started by commenting that the 2026 programme is now very largely complete. The Mapping and Event Planning group will focus on 2027 at their next meeting. Peter said that he has had some welcome offers of help for planning and organising.

See below that the events tabled for RAF Halton have now been cancelled through failure to get landowner permission.

a) Any concerns or comments about the current TVOC Event Diary?

Alun Jones provided the following input into the meeting:

- **7 Mar 27 Shotover** – **Organiser is Rose Sheppard (OUOC)**. A Controller needs to be appointed. **Jon Wheatcroft is in contact with Rose.**
- **23 May 27 Hodgemoor** - needs a Planner and a Controller
- **11 Jul 27 Abingdon Urban (or Harwell Sprint)** - needs an Organiser and a Controller. And it would be good to know what the location will be!
- **20 Feb 28 Chiltern Challenge** - needs all three officials

And should the planning group start firming up plans for 2029 and sketching out 2030? Ideally we should be seeking land permission for CC2030 by now! Time doesn't stand still.

Please give additional feedback **DIRECTLY** to Peter Riches.

b) Feedback from Mapping and Event Planning Group (Peter Riches)
and

c) Update on status of Mapping (Bob Beresford)

Bob provided the following updates for some areas:

2026

- Didcot (now to be a Sprint event): Map has been extended to the area south of the railway line. However, it appears that this area may not be used for the event. The vegetation has changed significantly since the last mapping
- Witney: Updated map is now with the Planner, Michael Wright

2027

- Shotover has recently been remapped by Rosie Walklin. It will be updated before the event.
- Nettlebed and Bix has been updated. Next access will be after the shooting season in February. John Dalton has still not managed to obtain permission from a third landowner to use one small additional area. The meeting felt that this area could not be used without landowner permission.
- Hodgemoor needs significant updating
- Abingdon Urban or Harwell. Permission is proving to be a problem for Harwell

2028

- Permission granted to utilise Park Wood, Badenharn, Naphill Common, Downley Common and Hughenden for the Chiltern Challenge. Outline mapping requirements are being assessed

2029: Location for Chiltern Challenge to be considered by the Mapping and Event Planning group



10. Treasurer's Report (Janusz Holender)

Nothing reported given Treasurer could not attend meeting

11. Other Officers' Reports

- a) Chairman: Nothing further
- b) Secretary:
 - John Dalton has been asked to advise about mapping and setting a POC up at the Dorney Wood Scout Camp near Burnham Beeches
ACTION: John to liaise with BKO given the location
- c) Captain: Nothing reported
- d) Clothing Officer: (Rachel Banham is stepping in as Clothing Officer on an interim basis)
Paul Eaton proposed that the club order some V-neck full mesh O-tops for club members.
ACTION:
 - Peter Riches to discuss with Rachel Banham
 - Peter Riches to contact Heidi

12. SCOA (Peter Riches)

13. Any Other Business

- a) Update on plugging gaps in the TVOC teams (Peter Riches)
Peter provided an update of the work he is undertaking himself to encourage more of our members to become assigned into the TVOC Team structure. Several of our TVOC teams are short of resource. In addition, it appears that a number of club members have not yet been assigned to a TVOC team. This work is having some success already.

Peter also commented that a number of club members don't seem to be receiving eNews. Given the importance of eNews as a vehicle for club communication, Alun Jones is asking such people if they have unsubscribed intentionally. A number of people have unsubscribed accidentally.
- b) Status of TVOC Permanent Orienteering Courses (Peter Riches)
Peter wondered whether a review of the status of all our POCs was needed. All POCs are now accessed via the BO POC portal at Go Orienteering: <https://www.goorienteering.org.uk/>
ACTION: Peter will check how the TVOC web site refers to our POCs.
- c) Future strategy for POC (Paul Eaton)
Paul has now reviewed previous strategy documents developed by the club in the past. Paul now plans to create a discussion document to be shared around the club to stimulate feedback before developing a framework for the club's future development in the next period.
- d) Training (Chris Poole)
Chris has been asked to assist with some orienteering training of some youngsters that will take place on Naphill Common

Date of next meeting:

Meeting confirmed to be 7:30pm on Tuesday 15th September 2026.

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

Note that the meeting is open to all TVOC members.