

## East Midlands Orienteering Association Executive Committee Meeting – 26 January 2026

Item No	Description	Action
<p><b>Present:</b> Trudy Crosby (LOG), Ann-Marie Duckworth (DVO), Mike Gardner (DVO), John Hurley (DVO), Andy Nicholls (LEI), David Olivant (NOC), Pauline Olivant (NOC), Hilary Palmer (NOC), Iain Phillips (LEI), and Ursula Williamson (LEI).</p>		
	Meeting held via Zoom	
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> John Woodall (NOC)	
2.	<p><b>Approval of Minutes of Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b> – The minutes of the November meeting were approved unanimously by all attendees.</p> <p>Proposed: Ursula Williamson; Seconded: John Hurley</p>	
3.	<b>Website version of minutes</b> – The minutes were accepted with no further amendments for publication on line.	<p><b>Mike Gardner</b> to inform webmaster to publish minutes. They are now available at <a href="#">minutesexec251110.pdf</a></p>
4.	<p><b>Actions Outstanding from previous minutes (not covered elsewhere)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Item 3</b> – <b>Mike Gardner</b> had webmaster publish approved minutes for November 2025.</li> <li>b. <b>Item 4 - Club Reps</b> to ask around to see if we can find a new Vice-Chair – no volunteers have come forward at this stage (needs to be someone not from DVO as have Chair, Devt Officer and Secretary already).</li> <li>c. <b>Item 4 – Club Reps</b> to ask if it would be OK to host the EMOA AGM on Zoom (given we needed to do EGM on Zoom last year). The club reps reported that it would be OK to host EMOA AGM on Zoom. (It may still be appropriate to host the first committee meeting after the AGM face-to-face in order to introduce any new members of the committee).</li> <li>d. <b>Item 6 – John Hurley</b> arranged for the answers to Ranald’s rules quiz to be posted on the EMOA website at <a href="#">link</a>.</li> <li>e. <b>Item 6 – Club Reps</b> had shared the Environmental Impact Assessment. So far the only feedback had come from LOG who were reluctant to complete another form. John Hurley pointed out that the aim was simply to share any learnings on access and environment among EMOA clubs and not create anything bureaucratic. Trudy Crosby to take this back to LOG committee.</li> <li>f. <b>Item 6 – Club Reps</b> encouraged to liaise with local universities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. LEI reported that they were joint hosting an event on 31<sup>st</sup> January with Loughborough University (Aimee Darley of University is planning). Looking to continue liaising with members of university though Aimee is in her third year).</li> <li>b. NOC reported that Gracie Grant (BOF) had been working with Nottingham University and were putting on an event on university campus next Thursday.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Club Reps</b> to ask around to see if we can find a new Vice-Chair.</p> <p><b>Trudy Crosby</b> to take back need for environmental impact assessment to LOG committee.</p>

	<p>g. <b>Item 6 – Club Reps</b> had consulted clubs and the consensus seems to be that if we put on a course then the clubs would find members who need to attend (in particular for a planners courses). We should put on at least a planners course in the autumn. John Hurley to arrange as part of Development day in September.</p> <p>h. <b>Item 10 – John Hurley</b> arranged with the organiser of Matlock event for the Urban League prizegiving to take place before the event (and this has now happened).</p> <p>i. <b>Item 6 – Iain Phillips</b> worked with Ann-Marie Duckworth to ensure the agreed course / class combinations were in place for the EMOA Champs at Longshaw (courses and class entries now open).</p>	<p><b>John Hurley</b> to arrange a planners course as part of Development day in September.</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Financial Secretary’s Report</b></p> <p><b><u>Income</u></b>  This is the key period for membership fees income with £965 being received for 2026 memberships plus a further £6 for 2025. Another busy period event-wise with event levies received for Shipley &amp; Cromford Moor (DVO), Wellow &amp; Strawberry Hill (NOC), Beacon Hill, Grey Lodge &amp; Cademan (LEI) - £403 in total with amounts for Matlock (DVO) still to come (Matlock now been received).  EMJOS receipts of £366 covered contributions for South Wales, Hawkshead, JIRCS and Hartshill Hayes.  Finally we received £28 in bank interest.</p> <p><b><u>Expenditure</u></b>  The only payments were for EMJOS costs - being £255 to JROS for Hawkshead, £465 for JIRCS (minibus hire and petrol), £140 to WMJS for South Wales (food and map printing) and £531 for South Wales (minibus hire, petrol and access charge).</p> <p>Current bank balance = £13,692.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Development</b></p> <p><b><u>Development Projects</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Firm applications for EMOA funding</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None currently in progress.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Preliminary expressions of interest</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVO/25/1 Club Development Officer marketing &amp; publicity role – details still under discussion with DVO.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Club-funded development projects</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVO/26/1 MapRuns 2026/27. DVO plan to hold 16 evening MapRun events in 2026/27 including a block of events in the Chesterfield area, with the aim of attracting new participants from running and other sporting clubs, and will be applying for a Sport England grant</li> <li>• DVO/26/2 Fun and memorable level D events 2026. This will be a series of 4 events in 6 weeks with prizes and other incentives in line with BO “Changing Perceptions” initiatives.</li> <li>• DVO 26/3 Another Navigation festival for newcomers at Hardwick on 11/7/2026 in partnership with the National Trust.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOC/26/1 NOC will be holding an updated MapActive course comprising 3 sessions.</li> </ul> <p>John Hurley encouraged all clubs to share their development activities with him so could ensure all clubs could learn from each other.</p> <p>John Hurley has been attending some of the sessions of the British Orienteering Development Conference – available at <a href="#">Development Conferences</a>. In particular John had attended the session on Orienteering Foundation Funded Club Development Officers (recording at <a href="#">Orienteering Foundation-funded Club Development Officers: A look back and a way forward</a>). He found there were a lot of hard truths on getting the role up and running in the session that would be useful for anyone interested in having the role in their club.</p> <p>John had also attended the session on British Orienteering Recognised Partner Update (<a href="https://youtu.be/FDKK8h_d2fU">https://youtu.be/FDKK8h_d2fU</a>). John had been surprised I was surprised to learn that during 2025 the partners between themselves delivered orienteering activities into 1947 schools with 434,000 pupils taking part and suggested that it might be useful to follow up with schools in the region. Discussion followed on how easy this has been where followed up in the past as had rarely resulted in any new members. It was felt the best solution would be if when these partners were delivering to schools they included contact information on local clubs.</p> <p>John Hurley will look to develop a recap on some of the key sessions at the National Conference for the regional development day in the autumn.</p>	<p><b>Club Reps</b> encouraged to get clubs to share their development activities with John Hurley</p> <p><b>John Hurley</b> to look at putting together a summary of some of national development conference sessions for regional development day in autumn.</p>
7.	<p><b>Coaching</b></p> <p>Hilary Palmer reported that as part of the Development Conference there will be a session on 9th February on the Orienteering Instructor Qualification for Clubs. This will be a new qualification which will take a full day and a half day face to face sessions along with some e-learning. There is a continuous assessment element. The instructor is then able to lead sessions up to Orange standard (lead beginner sessions or sessions for newcomer improvers), so it is not a full coach qualification. Hilary would be happy to tutor a pilot course in our region (and has had some discussions with DVO on this already). She would need an indoor venue close to (ideally on) a mapped area. Andy Nichols confirmed we did have funding in our budget for coaching qualifications.</p> <p>Hilary is also looking to deliver some small coaching sessions in NOC. They have found that new members often find it difficult to progress in orienteering, so she has made a start on providing some coaching sessions which constitute a number of short loops focusing on things like pacing, compass use and route planning. The idea is that they should provide fun and be sociable for the new members and help to keep them in the sport.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>EMJOS November 2025 to January 2026</u></b></p> <p><b><u>JROS Camps</u></b></p> <p>Thank you to Andy Simpson for taking 2 EMJOS juniors to the Hawkshead weekend (M/W15/16) at the end of November (Eoin and Isabelle). The weather was kinder this year (no snow &amp; ice) and the fun aspect was still very high and important. With 3 classic Lakeland areas for training – Tarn Howes, Great Tower and Haverthwaite, the variety and quality of the training was superb.</p>	

	<p><b><u>Training events</u></b>  <b><u>Hartshill Hayes 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025</u></b>  We joined the West Midlands squad for their Christmas training session. Three juniors from EMJOS (Ben Jessica and Bodie) were coached by 3 coaches, Dai, Karen and Matt. They practiced planning and then executing the route through terrain. But the coaching day was also an opportunity to meet friends in the other clubs.</p> <p><b><u>Future Training</u></b>  31<sup>st</sup> of January 2026 EMJOS are hosting training on Cromford Moor (DVO) for Yorkshire and Humberside and West Midlands squads - so there will be 60 juniors going mad on the slopes of the Derwent valley. The planning of the exercises by Andy, has been very challenging given the steep terrain and restrictions of fence crossing and bramble under growth.</p> <p>Dates in March/April are also being finalised to work with WMJS to train on the areas near Cannock Chase and further west.</p> <p>Early notice of the Orienteering Foundation November 2026 training – NGOC weekend 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> Nov to be held in the Forest of Dean; with night and regional events also planned.</p> <p><b><u>Other things to note:</u></b>  The review of safeguarding requirements for coaches and helping parents associated with EMJOS is still under way. For some it may require taking the 1 hour e-Learning course or the 3 hour computer based training.</p> <p>Ann-Marie Duckworth EMJOS coach and coordinator</p>	
9.	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Mike Gardner had received the following emails (only those not covered elsewhere in the minutes are shown):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Safeguarding Newsletter from British Orienteering</li> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> Dec – BO Insurance Letter from British Orienteering (sent to all clubs as well)</li> <li>• 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – British Orienteering Access &amp; Environment Newsletter</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>Fixtures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. EMOA League 2025 – Prizegiving took place at Cademan Woods</li> <li>b. EMOA League 2026 still to take place (2 events so far): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8<sup>th</sup> February – LOG – Harlaxton Manor</li> <li>8<sup>th</sup> March – LEI – Aylestone Meadows</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> March – NOC – Watchwood &amp; Calverton</li> <li>22<sup>nd</sup> March – DVO – Bow Woods &amp; Lea Woods</li> <li>26<sup>th</sup> April – LEI – Castle Hill (It was agreed this would be the nominated YBT round in EMOA)</li> <li>21<sup>st</sup> June – DVO – Allestree Park</li> <li>27<sup>th</sup> September – DVO – Longstone Moor</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> November – LEI – QEDJW TBC</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> November – NOC – Clumber Park North TBC</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

22<sup>nd</sup> November – DVO – Linacre  
 6<sup>th</sup> December – LEI – Outwoods  
 20<sup>th</sup> December – NOC – Walesby  
 With 14 planned events, 8 will count (half the events, plus one)

- c. EMOA Urban League 2025 – Prizegiving took place at Matlock event on 1<sup>st</sup> January
- d. EMOA Urban League 2026 still to take place (1 event so far)
  - 7<sup>th</sup> June – NOC – University of Nottingham - UKUL
  - 5<sup>th</sup> July – DVO – Swadlincote
  - 12<sup>th</sup> July – LEI – Hinckley (jointly hosted with OD) – UKUL
  - 9<sup>th</sup> August – NOC – Bilborough
  - 16<sup>th</sup> August – LEI – Wellingborough
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> August – LOG – Lincoln – UKUL
  - 11<sup>th</sup> October – LOG – Sleaford
  - Scoring will be the best 4 events of the 8 to count.
- e. Future Major Events in EMOA -
  - i. **15 Feb 2026 – East Midland Champs** – DVO - Longshaw
  - ii. **10 Oct 2026 – British Schools Score Champs** – DVO – Shipley Park
  - iii. **7 Feb 2027 – CompassSport Cup Heat** – DVO – Stanton Moor (tbc)
  - iv. **5 Feb 2028 – British Night Champs** – LEI – Irchester / Cademan
  - v. **6 Feb 2028 – Midlands Champs** – LEI – Cademan / Belvoir
- f. Future Possible Events
  - i. EMOA Champs 2027 (NOC scheduled to host)
  - ii. EMOA Champs 2028 (LOG scheduled to host)
  - iii. VHI 2028 - Ant Squire is looking at how this can be achieved. DVO may be able to support. DVO fixtures team may need to chase up Ant Squire as to current status of this. (John Hurley to ask them to do so).
  - iv. EMOA Champs 2029 (LEI scheduled to host)
  - v. CompassSport Cup heat 2029 (LEI or LOG scheduled to host)
  - vi. JIRCS 2030
  - vii. EMOA Champs 2030
  - viii. Midland Champs 2031 (EMOA scheduled to host)
- g. The next ESG meeting is scheduled for March. If any clubs have plans for level B events for 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2027 and all of 2028 (that have not already been registered), then let Ursula know before the meeting.
- h. John Hurley reported that the controller for the EMOA Champs is from outside the region and had been concerned that we had different course/class combinations to the standard level B events. He had raised this with various bodies but agreed to stick to what had been agreed by EMOA for this event. It is thought that there might be an attempt to impose these course/class combinations for all level B

**John Hurley** to get DVO  
 Fixtures lead to chase up Ant  
 Squire on progress on VHI  
 2028.

**Club Reps** to let Ursula know  
 of any level B events for late  
 2027 and all of 2028 before  
 she goes to March ESG  
 meeting.

	events in the future. The committee agreed that if that were the case, then we may just need to make all EMOA Champs on level C events.	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Reports</b> There were no reports presented at this meeting. The next O Foundation meeting is in a week or so.	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Sharing Best Practice</b> 1) Mike Gardner reported that for the EMOA Urban League event at Matlock, he had imported the entries from Startkite into SI Timing and that a number of competitors ran out of age class and had N/C against their names in the results. This resulted in a lot of (particularly out of region folk) complaining and saying they were competing in course and did not want to be shown as N/C.  When Mike amended the results to make these competitors “competitive” in results, he then had a number of people complain that people who were not really competitive were shown above them in the results (e.g. Course 3 WV MSV is won by a M45 from outside the region). So, whichever way you go, you do get someone not happy. Note: Either way this does not impact EMOA Urban League scores as the software takes account of these folk).  2) Trudy Crosby reported she enjoyed the mass start of the Madeira race where 400 competitors all started at same time in the city race.	
<b>14.</b>	<b>EMEWS:</b> The closing date for next EMEWS is 1 <sup>st</sup> February. He hopes to have EMEWS 300 out in mid-Feb at latest.	
<b>15.</b>	<b>Any Other Business:</b> 1) Trudy Crosby has been chasing up some of the EMOA Trophies ready for EMOA Champs. She still has a few to get and will provide the details to the club reps who can then follow up with those members who have not yet passed the trophies back. 2) Trudy also mentioned that we do not have a W85 trophy. It is probably not required for this year but we do have one or two members nearing this age, so will need a new trophy shortly.	<b>Trudy Crosby</b> to provide names of members who have still to return their EMOA Trophies to club reps who can then chase them up (to ensure returned for/at Longshaw).
<b>16.</b>	<b>Dates and venues for future meetings:</b> The next meeting will be the April meeting on 27 <sup>th</sup> April. It will be held on Zoom. Iain Phillips believes the details we used this time should be usable for that meeting as well.	

Meeting closed at 8:52pm