



East Midlands Orienteering Association Development Plan 2025/26

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 EMOA Constitution

The Constitution states that the objectives of the EMOA shall be to:

- co-ordinate and develop the sport of orienteering within the East Midlands
- further the development of and participation in the sport of orienteering generally
- represent the interests of members on representative bodies and support their activities within the sport.

1.2 British Orienteering Strategy

The 2021 “Thriving Clubs for a New Generation” strategy identifies four main themes as part of the national strategy. These themes are:

- Change the perception.
- Create engaging experiences.
- Strengthen lifelong pathways.
- Provide foundations for success.

Specific strategic actions relevant to regional associations include:

- Strengthen participants’ commitment to orienteering through series, leagues and club competitions.
- Increase the prominence of associations, regions and areas to provide stepping stones between local and national orienteering.
- Collaborate effectively with home nations and regions to support the sport.

1.3 Implementation

EMOA will meet its objectives and support the national strategy by performing a range of activities including:

- Regular activities carried out each year.
- Occasional activities carried out as and when required.
- A background programme of development activities.

2 REGULAR ACTIVITIES

2.1 Co-ordination of the regional fixtures programme.

This includes liaison with the club fixtures secretaries and representing the region on the national Event Scheduling Group.

Responsibility – Fixtures Secretary

2.2 East Midlands Championships, League and Urban League.

Responsibility – League co-ordinator and Urban League co-ordinator. There is also an officer responsible for the East Midlands Championships trophies.

2.3 East Midlands Junior Squad

This includes staging training sessions and weekends for the juniors, representing EMOA at the Junior Inter-Regional Championships and developing junior coaches.

Responsibility - Junior Squad co-ordinator

The juniors also contribute towards training sessions and weekends. The Junior Squad may also raise additional funds through other activities such as staging events and cake stalls, and any such income will be used at the discretion of the Junior Squad co-ordinator.

2.4 Support for talented orienteers.

Grants may be awarded to EM club members who have been selected for talent squad or national squad training camps or tours, or selected for the GB team, or selected for their nation's team at a Home International.

Responsibility – Financial Secretary and Principal Officers.

2.5 Regional Newsletter.

A Newsletter containing details of fixtures, League and Urban League rankings, and other relevant news will be produced in electronic form for dissemination via the clubs to their members.

Responsibility - EMEWS editor

2.6 Website

The EMOA website holds information including current East Midlands League and Urban League standings, newsletter archive and the EMOA constitution.

Responsibility – Webmaster

2.7 Coaching.

Training and development of coaches is in general a responsibility of the clubs rather than EMOA, but EMOA will fund training of coaches with regional responsibilities, eg with the East Midlands Junior Squad, and will co-ordinate coach development throughout the region.

Responsibility – Coaching co-ordinator

2.8 English Orienteering Council affiliation

EMOA will maintain its affiliation to the English Orienteering Council and support the Home International events.

Responsibility – Chair

3 OCCASIONAL ACTIVITIES

3.1 Regional Training Days

EMOA will arrange regional training days for various groups of volunteers. The nature of the training to be provided may vary depending on demand, but will typically involve training for event organisers, planners, controllers and mappers.

Responsibility – Development Co-ordinator

3.2 Regional Development Conference

The Regional Development Conference will update experienced event officials on recent developments such as rule changes, environmental good practice and event safety management.

The Conference will also provide a forum for discussion about developments within the region.

Responsibility – Development Co-ordinator

3.3 External Conferences

Where appropriate, EMOA will nominate delegates to conferences arranged by British Orienteering or other relevant organisations. Travel expenses will be paid, although many conferences are now held on-line.

Responsibility – Chair

3.4 Major Events

Although EMOA does not have suitable terrain for certain major events such as the British Championships and JK long individual race, it is able to stage most of the major middle distance and sprint events.

EMOA will continue to stage a fair proportion of such major races,

There have been many changes to the financing of major events over the years and further changes in future may be reasonably expected. At present financing is generally the responsibility of the lead organising club, with a guarantee from British Orienteering that the club will not be responsible for any loss provided that it has complied with any directives from British Orienteering. However this arrangement does not apply to certain weekend competitions such as the Home Internationals or Junior Inter-Regional Championships (JIRCS). EMOA will be staging the Veteran Home International in 2028 and the JIRCS in 2030. For these weekends there is no guarantee against loss and it is often necessary to commit significant expenditure eg accommodation deposits well in advance of the event.

To support staging of these competitions, EMOA should maintain a significant reserve.

Responsibility – Chair

Budget – the major events should be budgeted to break even, but as explained above a significant reserve is required - £9,000 is suggested.

4 BACKGROUND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

4.1 Introduction

For the purposes of this Plan, a development activity is an activity which includes some novelty or innovation, for example:

- Introduction of new event formats.
- Activities targeted at particular groups.
- Use of new technology.

4.2 Club and EMOA Roles

The primary responsibility for development activities and projects lies with the clubs.

The clubs are encouraged to keep the EMOA Development Co-ordinator informed of existing development projects being funded by the clubs. This will enable the Co-ordinator to:

- bring together members of different clubs working on similar projects.
- identify gaps where EMOA would welcome developments but currently no-one is working on them.
- encourage applications for funding from projects involving more than one club.

EMOA may provide some funding for development projects, particularly where the projects are aligned with the EMOA priorities outlined below. Applications for grants should be submitted to the Development Co-ordinator, preferably using the application form which has been circulated to clubs. The applications will then be considered by the EMOA Committee.

4.3 EMOA Development priorities

EMOA would like to give priority to:

- Activities targeted at recruitment of families.
- Activities targeted at recruitment of participants in related sports.

4.4 Funding Principles

- Grant applications should preferably be submitted before the start of the development project. However it is recognised that occasionally an agile response to external changes may be required.
- Grant applications do not need to demonstrate that the club could not afford to proceed without the grant.

- Grant applications should clearly state how much funding the club is providing for the project. In most cases the club should make some contribution, but there is no specific percentage required.

APPENDIX A EMOA Funded Projects

Grants

No grant awards have been made in 2024/25

Preliminary Expressions of Interest

DVO/25/1 Club Development Officer new role – awaiting more details.

Plan for 2025/26

DVO/25/1 will be progressed in due course subject to EMOA Committee approval.

No other grant applications for 2025/26 are currently anticipated.

APPENDIX B Club Funded Projects

DVO/24/3 MapRuns 2024/25/26. DVO have been awarded a Sport England grant of £5,050 which will fund most of the costs of 36 MapRun events over the next two years, which are to be co-ordinated by the Club Development Officer with the aim of attracting new participants from running and other sporting clubs.

DVO/24/4 MapActive courses and level D events 2024/25. DVO have been awarded a grant from the Orienteering Foundation of £3000, delivered in 2 tranches, the second conditional on demonstrating delivery of phase 1. This grant covers :

- 2 MapActive courses
- a Level D programme of 10 events, aiming to provide a stepping stone from MapRun to traditional orienteering
- a Navigation festival for newcomers at Hardwick on 5/7/2025 in partnership with the National Trust, combined with a relaunch of the permanent course.

NOC/24/1 MapActive. NOC's 5th MapActive course for newcomers finished at the December 2024 Walesby event. 5 people (2 adults and 3 juniors) did Stages 1 and 2, and 4 adults joined them for Stage 2. All but two of the group of nine are now NOC members and 2 of the juniors went to the EMJOS Training in January 2025.

NOC/25/1 Club Coaching. Training for 20 NOC members on 18/1/2025. (Joined by 7 from DVO).

LEI no information supplied

LOG no information supplied