

North West Orienteering Club

CONSTITUTION

January 2003

TITLE AND PURPOSE

The Club shall be called the North West Orienteering Club, hereinafter referred to as NWOC.

STATUS

An open club under Rule 4.2 of the British Orienteering Federation, hereafter referred to as BOF. A constituent club of the Northern Ireland Orienteering Association, hereafter referred to as NIOA.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of NWOC is to encourage, promote and regulate the sport of orienteering in the North-West of Northern Ireland. _

RESPONSIBILITY

NWOC is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the constituent clubs (see section 7).

NWOC is responsible for undertaking training programmes.

NWOC is responsible for promoting competition events.

NWOC is responsible for the conduct of the sport in the northwest of Northern Ireland.

NWOC is responsible for approved NIOA events in the northwest of Northern Ireland.

NWOC is responsible for liaison with BOF, NIOA, landowners, government departments, sponsors as is deemed necessary.

NWOC is responsible for promoting its own publicity and public relations.

MANAGEMENT

The business of the club shall be conducted by a committee which shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and a maximum of six committee members. The committee shall have the power to co-opt up to four NWOC members as circumstances demand. All officers and committee members shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. If the post of any officer should become vacant the committee shall have the power to till the post until the next AGM. A quorum of the committee shall consists of not less than one-half of the total voting strength of the committee. The Chairman has the right to give a casting vote. The committee shall meet and act as required for the efficient management of NWOC but in any event not less than six times a year. The committee shall have the power to delegate its responsibilities to sub-committees. The Hon-Secretary shall maintain a minute book and record in it all the business of the NWOC together with the names of those present. All committee members shall be active in orienteering.

PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

A President of NWOC together with a Vice-President may be elected annually at the AGM.

CONSTITUENT CLUBS

Constituent clubs are bound by this constitution and the rules of NWOC. Constituent clubs shall be affiliated annually at the discretion of the committee. A list of all constituent clubs will be kept by the Hon-Secretary. Under rule 4.2 of BOF these affiliated clubs are closed clubs. Other clubs may be affiliated to NWOC at the discretion of the committee.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees for the year shall be determined at the AGM or at an EGM and shall be due on 1 January each year. Any member joining for the first time after 1 September shall be entitled to free membership until 1 January following.

Categories of Membership:

- (i) senior: this is available to competitors in M/W 21 and above age groups in addition to all persons involved in the non-competitive aspects of the sport.
- (ii) junior: this is available to competitors up to and including M/W20.
- (iii) family: to include parents and children up to M/W 20.
- (iv) non-specialist Groups or Schools.

It should be noted that membership is necessary for all club events including training. All members of the club shall also be members of NIOA.

VOTING

All members of the Club have the right to vote at any General Meeting as follows:-

- (a) individual - one vote;
- (b) family - one vote per subscription
- (c) group - one vote per group
- (c) no proxy or postal votes allowed.

FEES

- (a) The fees payable by each category of membership shall be decided at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (b) Fees are due on the first of January each year.
- (c) Part subscription may be granted at the discretion of the committee.
- (d) If not paid by the first of March, membership will be deemed to have ceased.

FINANCE

- (a) The financial year of the club shall run from 1 January to 31 December each year. The accounts of the club shall be balanced on 31 December each year and submitted for approval after independent audit, to the Annual General Meeting which follows audit.
- (b) All cheques written on club funds shall be signed by the Treasurer and one Committee member from a group nominated by the Committee.
- (c) The Committee may from time to time, set aside funds for specific purposes. All cheques written on such funds shall be signed by two members of a group nominated by the Committee.

RULES

The Committee shall be empowered to publish and enforce such rules as it feels will be beneficial to the affairs of NWOC provided that they are within the rules and constitution of BOF.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Association shall hold an Annual .General Meeting between the first of January and the thirty-first of March each year.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee or on application in writing to the Secretary which is supported by ten per cent of the total voting membership of the Club. This meeting must be held within ninety days of being called.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- (a) Notice of the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be sent to members one month before the date of the meeting.
- (b) Any amendments to the constitution shall be proposed in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (c) The agenda of any General Meeting 'shall be sent to all members at least seven days before the meeting.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Alteration to the constitution require a ten per cent majority at the General Meeting to which they are presented for decision.

DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution any monies or assets shall become the property of NIOA.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Both CHILD PROTECTION and ANTI-DOPING policies were presented to the Annual General Meeting in January 2002 and adopted.