SOUTH EASTERN ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the SEOA Committee meeting held on Thursday 7 March 2024**

**as a virtual meeting using the ‘Zoom’ software**

**1 Attendance**

1.1 Present

Graham Batty HAVOC

Sarah Brown SLOW SEOA Chair

Ray Curtis CHIG

Angela Darley GO SEOA Junior Training Officer

Jon Darley GO

David Dawson DFOK

David Dixon HH

Mike Elliott MV

Catherine Galvin LOK

Philip Gristwood MV SEOA Fixtures Secretary

Alan Leakey SLOW

David Rosen LOK British Orienteering Director

Alison Saunders HH SEOA Secretary

David Saunders HH SEOA Treasurer

Alan Wallis SN

1.2 Apologies received

Neil Crickmore SO SEOA Competitions Officer

**2 Minutes of previous Committee Meeting**

The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 14 December 2023 were accepted as a true record. It was agreed that the minutes should be amended to make it clear that the amendments to rules referred to in item 4 related to changes to winning times.

**Action AS**

**3 Matters arising**

3.1 SB reported a positive meeting with Simon Errington (SE) regarding the updating of the website, in particular the home page. In order for SE to access the website, he needs a login from Paul Frost. Paul had expressed some concerns about the request, but it seems possible he misunderstood the role the committee would like SE to play, building upon the efforts of other committee members who update information relevant to their role and making it more current and helpful. It was confirmed that the existing annual contract with Paul was for site hosting and management support (£130) plus a payment for the annual domain registration (£17). It is not intended that SE will alter the structure of the site. It was agreed that this seemed reasonable, and that SB would go back to Paul so that Simon is given a login. **Action SB**

[Post meeting note: this has been completed]

3.2 In connection with DBS, SB reported a meeting with Don. He has volunteered to continue to check DBS documentation on behalf of SEOA. Members of the committee were asked to encourage their clubs to seek a local volunteer; a letter from BOF will be circulated by SB explaining the role. The volunteer must be a committee member of the local club (and SEOA). Whilst it is not mandatory, it may be beneficial if the person has an existing DBS themselves through their work supporting young people either through sport, education or in another voluntary capacity.

 **Action SB**

3.3 ME reported that there had been no further discussions on the future use of the Lynchmere map and that this was an ongoing matter.

**4 Update from the Board of British Orienteering (DR)**

4.1 A Board Meeting was held on 5February in Birmingham. As the minutes had yet to be circulated, DR stressed that the points from the meeting listed below were drawn from his memory.

4.2 The 2024 AGM will be on Saturday 5 October in association with the Club & Members Forum. There is no suggestion that the AGM should move permanently to the autumn and the Chair said he would definitely like it to be earlier in 2025.

4.3 Tom Bray had given an update on the Performance Programme. The post of British Orienteering Performance Manager (to replace Bernie Dietzig) is currently being advertised.

4.4. Ruth Beale has been appointed as Chair of the Performance Pathway Steering Group (PPSG), taking over from Bob Dredge. She starts in September 2024.

4.5 The level of BOF Public Liability Insurance will be raised to £15M.

4.6 WOC 2024 in Edinburgh is now proceeding with much work remaining but no red flags.

4.7 Negotiations with the Forestry Commission are still ongoing, but JK 2024 has reached an agreement which means it is able to proceed.

4.8 *Enrich Education*, which is based in Liverpool, is partnering with the International Orienteering Federation on orienteering for schools, while *The Outdoor Classroom* (Josh Jenner) is partnering with British Orienteering.

4.9 MDOC have asked whether their New Year's Day Charity Event can be exempt from levy. The answer is probably "No", as British Orienteering wants to have a consistent policy without exemptions. It will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Questions were taken. Members asked about *The Outdoor Classroom* and what partnership with BOF entailed. Committee members spoke of Josh’s engagement with the sport, and particularly a historical link with the SEOA. Josh was a member of the junior squad, and it was noted that he has recently re-joined a SEOA club. It was acknowledged that Josh is running a business, but questions were raised as to how he might better liaise with local clubs over such matters as maps, land use, etc. There were questions about the nature of partnership with BOF and how this might work. DR agreed to find out more from BOF on their partnership agreement with *The Outdoor Classroom* and, if possible, about the relationship between *Enrich Education* and IOF, in particular why the national body (BOF) was not involved.

 **Action DR**

It was agreed to invite Josh to the September meeting to explain to committee members how the partnership will work and benefit the sport.

 **Action SB**

**DR then left the meeting**.

**5 Funding of SEOA from 2025**

5.1 DDi first fed back on the response he had received from BOF regarding the proposal from HH that there should be uniformity in the way in which regions collected membership fees. The view from BOF was that this should be decided at a regional level. DDi welcomed the paper from the SEOA treasurer on future funding models as this relates to the previous discussion and will give the region’s clubs information on which to base their preference going forward.

5.2 DS summarised the options for future funding of SEOA outlined in a paper circulated before the meeting (attached as Appendix A). While five options were presented, some are more practicable.

Option A.1 Advocates no change to the system of membership fees. This was dismissed as some change was felt to be needed in the light of the new membership categories introduced by BOF.

Option A.2 SEOA would update their membership categories to be in line with the new BOF practice. SEOA would not offer part year membership reductions for new members.

Option A.3 Would update the membership categories and introduce part year memberships. Preliminary analysis of the pattern of new membership shows that the latter change would affect only a handful of people and would have little effect on the sums collected from clubs by SEOA. It was agreed that this would be unwieldy to operate.

Option B Would reintroduce a system in which SEOA membership fees were collected by BOF. It potentially makes matters less arduous for club and regional treasurers, as the complexity of the new membership system is handled by BOF. This was the system advocated in the proposal produced by HH and used before 2020. It was acknowledged that the old system had been inconvenient for SN, which has members in two regions that operate different membership system.

Option C Membership fees would be set to zero and the region’s activities financed through increases in levies on events.

5.3 Following a lengthy discussion, the Chair (SB) asked club representatives for their initial preferences, acknowledging that in most cases the matter would need to be discussed by club committees.

5.4 AW asked DS about the practice in other regions. DS had carried out some research. Only East Midlands and the national organisations (SOA, WOA and NIOA) use option B; i.e., rely on BOF to collect membership fees on their behalf annually. All the other English regions raise funds from per capita charges to clubs and levies (occasionally supplemented by income from major events). It is difficult to draw conclusions as it is not always clear from available documentation how regions raised their income.

5.5 Several members of the committee gave an indication of their club’s preference, but it was agreed that as not all club committees had yet had the opportunity to discuss the matter, a decision could not be made. It was agreed that each club would indicate their preference(s) to SB by 25 April. This timescale is necessary in order to prepare the necessary changes to the constitution, membership structure and 2025 fees before the deadline for sending out papers for the AGM in early May.

**All clubs to discuss these proposals and report their preferred option to SB (Chair) before 25 April 2024 in order for a proposal to be put forward at the AGM.**

 **Action All clubs**

5.6 It was pointed out that there was no representation from SO and SAX. When offering his apologies for the meeting NC had said that he would take the paper to the club committee. AS will make contact with SAX to ensure that the club has the opportunity to discuss the paper and report back their preferred option by 25 April.

 **Action AS**

**6 Safeguarding and Welfare for SEOA and SEJS**

6.1 It was noted that SEOA needs to appoint a Safeguarding and Welfare Lead for SEOA, and that this needs to be mentioned on SEOA’s webpages. Carol Lovegrove (CL) has volunteered to fulfil this role as she has received appropriate training through her work with SEJS. The committee thanked Carol and agreed her appointment.

6.2 It was pointed out that any safeguarding issues that occurred should be referred to BOF. The committee welcomed the suggestion, however, that a member of the SEOA committee should act as a second Safeguarding and Welfare officer, to support Carol, and to be a point of contact if Carol cannot be contacted or if an allegation is made against her. AS volunteered to be this second point of contact as she has DBS clearance and has undertaken appropriate training. Alternatively, the Safeguarding and Welfare Leads in the region’s clubs could be contacted if an issue arises.

6.3 AS agreed to speak to CL and AD about how this information might best be presented on the SEOA website.

**Action AS**

**7 Wheelchair accessible courses at urban events.**

AL fed back some very positive comments from urban events where courses had been planned for wheelchair users (as opposed to “Trail O” courses). AL asked Committee Members to take this back to their clubs and provided some Guidelines (attached as Appendix B).

**8 Online training course for urban planners**

AL informed the Committee of an online training course for anyone interested in planning an urban event. The zoom training will consist of 2 x 70 mins sessions (over two nights). Could anyone interested please email Alan.

**Action All**

**9 Officers Reports and updates**

9.1 Chair

The chair had no formal report.

9.2 Treasurer

The Treasurer had presented a report with interim accounts for 2024 (Appendix C).

9.3 Membership

The SEOA membership secretary had provided an update to the end of February 2024 (Appendix D).

9.4 Training and Junior Development

AD had provided a report on the SEJS (Appendix E). AD drew attention to the need for those working with the squad to renew their safeguarding and first aid qualifications.

9.5 SEOA Fixtures Secretary

PG reported that the Event Scheduling group has expressed concerns about both timing and location for some future events. For example, questions have been raised concerning the British Championships and Relays after 2025 – indeed PG posed the question as to whether SEOA could now put on the event two years earlier than scheduled- 2029 rather than 2031?

It appears that many clubs are not wanting to commit – for example from 2025 no one has agreed to organise the CompassSport Cup finals. No conclusion was reached, and although it was recognised that regions need to take their turn, they should not be expected to have the capacity to organise major events when these were only 12–24 months apart. It had always been intended, when setting future major events, that they would be more evenly distributed, but changes to the calendar had created these anomalies.

DDa asked the Committee members for their views on interest for a SEOA score event or relays. It was noted that members felt that this was simply dependent upon the quality of the terrain.

**10 Dates of next meetings**

6th June 2024 @ 19.30 (with AGM)

12th September 2024 @19.30

12th December 2024 @19.30

13th March 2025 @19.30

12th June 2025 @ 19.30 (with AGM)

**Please note that papers for the AGM will need to be circulated by mid-May. Therefore, feedback on items for the agenda for the AGM must be sent to the Chair and Secretary by 25 April 2024. This should include a preferred method of financing SEOA (drawn from the options in Appendix A) agreed within each club.**

**Appendix A: SEOA finances for 2025 and beyond**

Executive summary

At the June 2024 SEOA AGM a decision will be required on the level of SEOA membership fees and levies for 2025. Given recent discussions about the structure of SEOA membership fees, particularly in the light of changes made by BOF in 2023, it is appropriate to consider more broadly how SEOA raises income through fees and levies. The system in place since 2020, in which SEOA collects fees through clubs can be retained, perhaps modified to account for changes made by BOF (Options A1–A3). SEOA could revert to a system where membership fees are collected through BOF at the time members join or renew (Option B). Finally, SEOA could elect to raise the income necessary to finance its activities through a revised levy system, with no membership fee (Option C).

The treasurer recommends that the committee should choose between Options A2, B and C outlined below. As committee members will want to consult their clubs before the 2024 AGM in June, this decision might need to be reached by email discussion. The structure and level of fees and levies proposed to the 2024 AGM should reflect that decision, as should proposed changes to the constitution that will need to be made to bring it in line with that agreed practice.

1. Background

1.1 SEOA is currently constituted as an Association affiliated to BOF, whose membership comprises those individuals who pay an annual fee to SEOA. In addition, clubs pay an annual affiliation fee to SEOA, which entitles them to cast one vote at committee meetings.

1.2 SEOA currently has two sources of income:

* annual membership and club affiliation fees
* levies on larger events in the region (essentially Major, National and SE League events).

These raise approximately £3,200 and £1,200 respectively per annum.[[1]](#footnote-1)

1.3 Annual membership and club affiliation fees are collected by SEOA in October each year based on membership numbers on 30 September. Current fees are £3 per senior, £1 per junior and £10 per club. The SEOA levy is currently 20% of the BOF levy and it is collected once the BOF levy has been calculated.

1.4 Expenditure by SEOA falls into two categories, non-discretionary and discretionary.

* Non-discretionary expenditure currently amounts to *c*.£1,200, of which over £800 is the levy to the English Orienteering Council (EOC). The remainder comprises costs for meetings, communications, the web site and bank charges.
* Discretionary expenditure falls into three main categories: support for the SEJS (*c*.£3,000); grants to juniors selected for England or GB squads or JROS training camps (*c*.£1,200); and grants for development that benefit the region (*c*.£500).

Total expenditure is thus in order of £5,900 per annum.

1.5 In the absence of other sources of income SEOA currently operates with a deficit of c.£1,500 each year.

1.6 SEOA currently has assets of *c*.£20,000. The region’s independent financial examiner has recommended reducing these towards a level equivalent to twice our annual expenditure (*c*.£12,000) as a matter of good practice. If SEOA continues to post an annual deficit of *c*.£1,500, the region’s assets would be reduced to *c*.£12,000 in five to six years.

1.7 In the past, SEOA’s finances have been ‘boosted’ when major events have been held in the region. BOC/BRC 2022 returned £3,900 and JK 2017 £13,500 (some of which was donated to the Orienteering Foundation and JROS). In contrast losses were made on BOC/BRC 2020 (*c*.£800) and JHI 2021 (shared with SLOW). This income is not easily predicted.

2. The need to revise practice

2.1 This review has been prompted by ongoing discussions about the way in which SEOA collects membership fees from those who choose the region when joining or renewing their membership of BOF. The current system of SEOA collecting membership fees through clubs dates to 2020. Before that year, membership fees were collected through BOF at the time members joined or renewed a BOF membership. Affiliation fees have always been collected directly from clubs.

2.2 The introduction of new membership categories (young adult and family) by BOF and the scheme to reduce fees pro rata for new members of BOF joining part way through the membership year has highlighted anomalies in the way SEOA collects fees and an inconsistency between current practice and the wording of SEOA’s constitution.

2.3 Before the current system was questioned it was intended that SEOA practice be brought more closely in line with the new BOF membership structure in 2025, by introducing a SEOA young adult membership category and possibly a family membership category. Consideration was also being given to whether to offer a pro rata (partial year) membership – and how that would be implemented.

2.4 Whatever option is pursued for the future, the constitution will need to be altered to reflect the decision that is made, in particular making clear how a membership year is defined and key dates in the calculation and collection of fees. Beyond this, there are options that range from leaving the current system and categories of membership unchanged, accepting that we will be out of line with BOF, through minor and major changes that would still require SEOA to collect fees through clubs (Options A1–A3), to a reversion to the former practice of collecting individual membership fees through BOF (Option B). Finally, consideration might be given to an option that sets membership fees at zero and sources all SEOA income from event levies (Option C).

2.5 The options presented here take as a premise that annual income should be broadly as it is now and that any change to this would be achieved by varying the level of fees and rates of levy after a decision on a financial structure has been taken.

3. Discussion, recommendation and next steps

3.1 As treasurer, I have tried in the past to remain neutral on the question of how SEOA fees are structured as the additional work required in administering different models was minimal.

3.2 With the new BOF membership structure, the work required in tracking and invoicing for membership fees could increase considerably if Option A3 is adopted. If SEOA membership fees continue to be collected from clubs in a single payment under Option A3, this probably could not occur until after the end of the membership year (i.e., in the next financial year). I do not recommend adopting Option A3.

3.3 Retaining our current practice (Option A1) would see SEOA move further from BOF practice in terms of membership structure. I do not recommend retaining Option A1.

3.4 The extra work required to adopt Option A2 is relatively modest; it would align SEOA with BOF membership structure but would not introduce partial year memberships. The number of new BOF members eligible for a partial year rate is low and changing the date on which SEOA collects fees from clubs from 30 September to 31 August (to align with BOF practice) should make Option A2 more or less cost neutral for clubs.

3.5 Reverting to the system whereby BOF collects all SEOA membership fees (Option B) has the advantage of transparency (as outlined in section A1.4), making it clear to those joining BOF which portion of their fee goes to club, region and BOF. It also reduces the workload for the SEOA treasurer, passing responsibility to paid staff at BOF. This may help future retention and recruitment to the voluntary role of SEOA treasurer.

3.6 Option C would mark a departure for SEOA, although other regions collect all – or the majority of – their income through levies. Increasing the levy on existing leviable events would create no extra work. Levying additional events would create more work but would be offset by the removal of the need to collect SEOA membership fees from clubs.

3.7 I would prefer that we adopted either Option B or C but would be willing to operate the system described in Option A2. I recommend, therefore, that the committee should choose between Options A2, B and C.

3.8 A decision needs to be made before the June 2024 AGM, when membership and levy rates for 2025 must be set. This cannot be done before the structure of such fees is decided. Clearly committee members will want to consult their clubs. A decision might therefore need to be reached by email discussion.

3.9 Once the decision is made, proposed changes to the constitution that will bring it in line with agreed practice should be brough to the AGM.

David Saunders 01 March 2024

**Option A1: The current system**

A1.1 In its favour, the system has functioned without major issues for the last four years (2020–2023) and is now well understood by, and is a relatively straightforward process for, the SEOA treasurer and club treasurers. Going forward there will be two anomalies if we retain the system (see A1.2 & A1.3).

A1.2 SEOA would not offer young adult or family membership in line with current BOF practice. Depending on how the region’s clubs introduce such memberships – and the level of fees they collect – SEOA’s practice has the potential to increase the proportion of a club’s membership income that is paid to SEOA.

A1.3 SEOA would not offer pro rata (partial year) memberships for new members joining BOF. If clubs follow BOF’s lead, there exists the potential for the proportion of a club’s membership income paid to SEOA to increase.[[2]](#footnote-2) A small change that might make sense (but which does not address this anomaly completely) is to shift the date on which SEOA calculates membership numbers for the purpose of fee collection from 30 September to 31 August, which better aligns with BOF practice of partial year memberships.

A1.4 There is an issue of ‘presentation’ or ‘portrayal’ with this system, as it may appear to those joining BOF and electing to belong to SEOA that the region does not collect a membership fee. The fee is, of course, embedded in the club membership fee which makes it appear that the club membership is poorer value and the SEOA membership better value than is the case.

**Option A2: Current system with new membership categories**

A2. 1 This option would be slightly more complicated than the current system as new young adult and family member categories would be introduced. Rates will need to be set for SEOA membership in these categories, but the relevant BOF fees can be used as a guide.

A2.2 As, in this option, SEOA would not offer pro rata (partial year) memberships for new members joining BOF, the comments in section A1.3 apply also to this option and it would be sensible to change the date on which membership numbers are gathered.

A2.3 The issue of ‘presentation’ or ‘portrayal’ described in section A1.4 will apply equally to this option.

**Option A3: Current system with new membership categories and pro rata membership**

A3.1 This option has the merit of bringing SEOA’s membership structure fully into line with the new BOF membership categories and partial year membership scheme. Fees for each category and period of membership would need to be calculated.

A3.2 This option adds considerably to the complexity of the calculation of membership fees. Although most members would fall into one of four categories of membership, twelve different fees would apply for new members depending on their category and the time of year they joined BOF. It would not be possible to calculate SEOA fees for a year until after that year had ended and final numbers are known.

A3.3 The issue of ‘presentation’ or ‘portrayal’ described in section A1.4 will apply equally to this option.

**Option B: Membership fees collected through BOF**

B.1 This option would see all individual membership fees collected through BOF at the time people joined or renewed their BOF membership. This was the situation before 2020 and a proposal to revert to this system was made by David Dixon on behalf of HH at the December 2023 meeting.

B.2 An attraction of this option is that beyond setting the level of fees, SEOA would not have to administer the system or be responsible for calculating or collecting fees (except the annual club affiliation fee). This would make the transition to the new BOF system with additional membership classes and partial year payments much simpler.

B.3 As the fees for club, region and BOF membership will be stated clearly as people join or renew with BOF, the issue of ‘presentation’ or ‘portrayal’ described in section A1.4 is not relevant.

B.4 A drawback of this option is that it would reintroduce the issue of different systems applying to the two clubs that span SEOA and another region. HAVOC only had six SEOA members in 2023, so this would principally affect SN, which has members in both SEOA and SCOA.

**Option C: No membership fee, increased levy**

C.1 This option avoids questions of how the membership fee is set and collected, whether SEOA aligns with BOF’s recently introduced classes of membership, and how we handle partial year memberships for new members. SEOA membership fees would be set to zero. The income necessary to continue SEOA’s activities would need to be raised by increasing the levy, increasing the number events on which a levy is payable, or a combination of these measures.

C.2 To maintain comparable current income without increasing the number of leviable events, the SEOA levy would need to be raised from 20% of the BOF levy to 70% of the BOF levy.[[3]](#footnote-3) Although extending the levy to all level A, B or C events would raise extra income, the levy would still need to be increased to around 45–50% of the BOF levy to maintain current income.[[4]](#footnote-4)

C.3 As an increase in levy would likely result in an increase in event entry fees, an effect of this change would be to increase the proportion of the region’s income that derives from regular orienteers within and beyond the region. This is not easily calculable.

C.4 Extending the levy would potentially have more impact on those clubs that stage more level C events and might discourage registration of events at that level rather than D. However, even for the SE club that staged most level C events in 2023, the change would be nearly cost neutral.

C.5 Extending the levy would create more work in collecting the additional levies, but against this there would be no need to calculate and collect membership fees from SEOA clubs.

C.6 Removing the SEOA membership fee could be seen as changing the relationship between individuals and the region. Setting the fees to zero rather than removing them could address this issue. A decision would also be required whether to retain the SEOA club affiliation fee.

**Appendix B: Guidelines for** **Accessible Courses at Urban Events**

**Guidelines for Accessible Courses at Urban Events**

**Philosophy**

The philosophy of an Accessible course is to be inclusive, so the course should feel part of the main event, preferably with the same Start and Finish and many common controls. Don’t get too enthusiastic, you will probably only get half a dozen competitors on the course, but the experience is that everyone is just happy that the course was there. So, only create courses in standalone locations if you absolutely must.

**Competitor Profile**

This will likely be very varied, with a mix of wheelchair and mobility scooter users, plus the possibility of someone on crutches or a gentle cyclist whose arthritis won’t let them walk a whole course. However, the Planner should focus on what will work for the solo wheelchair user, both in accessibility and course length.

**Planning**

This is one case where the Planner certainly needs to walk the whole course to check the ‘going’, to use a horse racing term:

* The location of dropped kerbs will often be key to a course, especially for ‘solo’ wheelchair users.
* Feedback received to date is that short strips of cobbles or packed gravel paths are okay.
* Controls in a slight dip, even on tarmac, are apparently difficult to manoeuvre out of for self-propelled competitors.
* Sets of one or two steps are (correctly) often not mapped but are of course impassable to wheelchair users. Such steps can be crossed by some competitors (e.g. on crutches, a gentle cyclist). Make sure that they don’t get a benefit from this. Wheelchair and mobility scooter users find it extremely frustrating to see some on their course ‘take a shortcut’. An extra control might be required to lead competitors around this. – this was the case at one location at Rotherhithe in 2023
* Avoid steep slopes; it is of course difficult to define these in absolute terms but remember that the course must work for solo wheelchair users.
* Avoid a ‘roll in’ to the Finish on grass.
* Don’t dumb down. Aim for maximum technicality, which will be TD3 for an urban course.
* There is no defined course length. This will most likely be heavily influenced by the available terrain.
* Obstacles can often be overcome with some lateral thinking. For the LCR 2024 in the Barbican, to get to the high level, traffic-free terrain we plan to use a lift as part of the course - with a time out!

**Road Crossings**

These will always be more challenging for competitors on this course. Planners should treat it in the same manner as Junior courses in terms of traffic in general and road crossings in particular.

**Control Units**

Obviously, care is needed to ensure that units are accessible from a wheelchair. However It is recommended that all participants have a contactless card so that they can easily register at the controls.

**Mapping**

Try to avoid any special symbols or OOB for this course as it will only complicate things.

**Prizes**

If other courses have prizes, then this course should as well. If you have competitors using a range of mobility aids, then you should probably focus on the solo wheelchair users. But in general, be generous.

**Getting Help**

* Kay Hawke at BO Office for promotion and contact with local groups.
* CLARO at Harrogate in 2023. Also see Routegadget.
* SLOW at the London City Race, Rotherhithe in 2023. Also see Routegadget.

*v1.0. 23rd February 2024*

*Alan Leakey*

**Appendix C: Treasurer’s Report to the March 2024 SEOA Committee Meeting**

Interim 2024 SEOA Accounts

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| --- |
| **Income and expenditure statement at 1 Mar 2024** |
|
| **INCOME** |   |
| Subscriptions | 0.00  |
| Event levies | 553.97  |
| Interest | 0.00  |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00  |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | 553.97  |
|   |   |
| **EXPENDITURE** |   |
| Junior grants | 0.00  |
| Junior training / expenses | 42.93  |
| Development courses & conferences | 10.00  |
| English Orienteering Council | 0.00  |
| Officers' expenses | 0.00  |
| Competitions | 25.00  |
| Communications | 0.00  |
| Bank charges | 10.00  |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00  |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURE**  | 87.93  |
|  |   |
| **SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)** | 466.04  |
| Net Assets @ 1 January | 20,611.14  |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS** | 21,077.18  |

Income

Levies have been received from the SE League and CompassSport cup events in January and February.

Expenditure

The low level of expenditure is typical for the first few months of each year.

End of year figures for 2023

The 2023 accounts are ready for the independent examiner and show a deficit of £1,326, which is within the range projected in the treasurer’s statement made to the December 2023 committee meeting. Full accounts will be presented to the AGM in June 2024.

**David Saunders 1 March 2024**

**Appendix D: Membership Report to the March 2024 SEOA Committee Meeting**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |   | 2024 |   |   |   |  |   |   | 2023  |   |   |   |  | % increase |
| 28/02/24 |  | Senior | Junior |  | Total |  | 28/02/23 |  | Senior | Junior |  | Total |  | 2024-2023 |
| BAOC |  | 8 | 0 |  | 8 |  | BAOC |  | 8 | 0 |  | 8 |  | 0 |
| CHIG |  | 35 | 2 |  | 37 |  | CHIG |  | 35 | 0 |  | 35 |  | 6 |
| DFOK |  | 65 | 16 |  | 81 |  | DFOK |  | 66 | 16 |  | 82 |  | -1 |
| GO |  | 48 | 11 |  | 59 |  | GO |  | 44 | 9 |  | 53 |  | 11 |
| HAVOC |  | 10 | 0 |  | 10 |  | HAVOC |  | 6 | 0 |  | 6 |  | 67 |
| HH |  | 127 | 65 |  | 192 |  | HH |  | 137 | 62 |  | 199 |  | -4 |
| LOK |  | 38 | 5 |  | 43 |  | LOK |  | 46 | 5 |  | 51 |  | -16 |
| MV |  | 84 | 12 |  | 96 |  | MV |  | 77 | 10 |  | 87 |  | 10 |
| RAFO |  | 5 | 0 |  | 5 |  | RAFO |  | 6 | 0 |  | 6 |  | -17 |
| SAX |  | 87 | 12 |  | 99 |  | SAX |  | 87 | 20 |  | 107 |  | -7 |
| SLOW |  | 157 | 21 |  | 178 |  | SLOW |  | 155 | 20 |  | 175 |  | 2 |
| SN |  | 30 | 13 |  | 43 |  | SN |  | 32 | 13 |  | 45 |  | -4 |
| SO |  | 196 | 43 |  | 239 |  | SO |  | 188 | 46 |  | 234 |  | 2 |
|   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |
| TOTAL |   | 890 | 200 |   | 1090 |  | TOTAL |   | 887 | 201 |   | 1088 |  | 0 |

**Appendix E: SEOA Junior Report March 2024**

We’ve had two training days since the last meeting - January in Epping with EAJS joining us. Great to see so many juniors training together. February was a morning training in conjunction with a SO Saturday event, and then an escape from the rain with an indoor session. We’ve had a number of younger juniors join us recently which is good.

Interland Selections

Issy Hawks (HH) has been selected for the England team competing at Interland in March.

Relays - Junior Club Alliance

Hopefully everyone is aware of this trial running this year allowing juniors to run at relays with neighbouring clubs. It would be good to have an idea of how many teams have been able to run due to this.

Safeguarding

Just a reminder to all those who completed a tutor lead safeguarding course 3 years ago, this has now expired, or be about to expire, so renewal is required.

1. The current levy rate is at an all-time low of 20%, having been 40 and 50% in the early 2010s. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For those joining between 1 May and 31 August SEOA would charge for a full year, while clubs would receive 67% of the annual fee. For those joining between 1 September and 30 September SEOA would charge for a full year, while clubs would receive 33% of the annual fee. For those joining between 1 October and 31 December SEOA would charge nothing, while clubs would receive 33% of the annual fee. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. In 2023, the current levy structure raised £1,282. Applying a 70% levy to these events would have raised £4,489 (c.f. 2023 income of £4,488). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. In 2023, the current levy structure raised £1,282. Applying the 20% levy to all level C events would have raised another £668. A levy on all level A, B and C events at a rate of 45% would have raised £4,388 or £4,875 if the rate is 50% (c.f. 2023 income of £4,488). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)