

WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

Annual Report 2016

INTRODUCTION

This Report summarises the activities of the Welsh Orienteering Association during 2016. It takes the form of short reports from the officers of the Association and is presented at the Annual General Meeting for approval.

Chairman's report

The Welsh Orienteering Association has managed to complete a very successful year. Both in terms of the orienteering events which have taken place in Wales, but also the level of success of some of the athletes in Wales and the UK, and also on the international stage.

It is of some concern to me – this report has been written on behalf of the Chair by Roger Stein WOA Secretary – that the Association has been unable to fill the vacant position of Chair over the last 12 months.

That with a relatively small membership it is commendable that volunteers from within the clubs are able to stage a major international multiday competition in the form of Croeso 2016. This four yearly event has once more been a resounding success and all those involved should be commended for their efforts.

From a financial point of view this has also been good both for the clubs and for the Association. It has been noted that in 2016 no major requests came from clubs for development funding. No doubt most volunteer effort was directed towards the staging of CROESO 2016. Funds are now available over the next four years for clubs to apply for and use for development purposes, and are encouraged to do so.

Roger Stein (SBOC)
WOA Secretary

Treasurer's report

ACCOUNTS 2016-17

The accounts show that WOA finances are in a healthy situation and the accumulated fund is the result of two very successful international multiday competition in 2012 and 2016. Such funding is needed to sustain the development of orienteering in Wales over the coming 4 years.

Audited account appear at the end of my report.

BUDGET 2018-19

Summary:

It is proposed that subscriptions and levies remain at the same level for 2018/19 as for 2017/18.

Subscriptions

It is proposed that membership subscriptions should remain at the current level for 2018/19. The current levels of subscriptions and levies are generating a satisfactory income and will be reviewed again in future budgets.

It is therefore recommended that membership subscriptions for 2018/19 are:

Seniors	£3.00
Juniors	£1.20

Levies

Levies can be varied by the committee at any time (and do not have to be agreed at the AGM) but it has been practice to implement any changes from 1 January. It is proposed that levies remain the same for 2018/19 as for 2017/18.

It is therefore recommended that levies for 2018/19 are:

Seniors	£0.70
Juniors	3 juniors for 1 senior

Jean Lochhead (EPOC)
Treasurer

WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION
Income & Expenditure Account for the year to 31 March 2017

	2017		2016	
Income	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions		555.60		1,135.40)
Membership Subs Ex Pats		132.00)
Levy (clubs outside Wales)		217.00		1,569.82)
Levy Welsh Clubs		1,808.10)
Croeso Levy from WOA Clubs		4,324.00		-
Croeso BOF Levy 50% refund		<u>3,860.00</u>		-
		10,896.70		<u>2,705.22</u>
Expenditure				
Administration	166.09		270.61	
Audit Fee	150.00		-	
Welsh Champs Expenses	390.23		358.73	
Engraving	33.50		-	
Development inc Mapping, Coaching	<u>1,033.72</u>	<u>1,773.54</u>	<u>3,559.06</u>	<u>4,188.40</u>
		9,123.16		1,483.18
Special Projects				
Volunteer Training Weekend		Jun-17	1,942.14	
Performance and Excellence				
Grants for Internationals & Training	1,279.43		1,791.54	
Veterans Home International	900.00)
Senior Home International	450.00)
Junior Home International	<u>1,650.00</u>	<u>4,279.43</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>6,733.68</u>)
Total before Development Fund Transfers		4,843.73		8,216.86
Transfers to and from Development Fund		-		<u>5,000.00</u>
Surplus Deficit before SCW Grant		4,843.73		3,216.86
Sport Wales Grant		<u>3,000.00</u>		<u>3,000.00</u>
Surplus after SCW Grant		7,843.73		216.86
Reserve fund balance 1 April 2016		-		<u>6,000.00</u>
Surplus as at 31st March 2017		<u>7,843.73</u>		<u>5,783.14</u>

WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017

	£ 2017	£ 2016
Current Assets		
Debtors	1,808.10	65.80
Cash at bank	<u>39,382.87</u>	<u>35,513.44</u>
	41,190.97	35,579.24
Less Current Liabilities		
Creditors	<u>150.00</u>	<u>2,382.00</u>
Net Assets	<u>41,040.97</u>	<u>33,197.24</u>
 Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		
Fund b/f	33,197.24	27,414.10
Surplus for year ended 31.3.17	<u>7,843.73</u>	<u>5,783.14</u>
 Allocated to		
Development Fund 1/3 Accumulated Fund	13,680.00	27,414.10
Reserve Fund to assist clubs with Croeso 2020	<u>27,360.97</u>	<u>5,783.14</u>
	<u>41,040.97</u>	<u>33,197.24</u>

Comparative figures from 15/16 have been further analysed to reflect more realistic comparisons.
This analysis does not alter the final 15/16 figures of Income & Expenditure or 15/16 Balance Sheet

Certified to be in accordance with the books, documents and explanations given to me.

Signed:

Date: 12th October 2017

Brian A. Cheetham
CIPFA
Chartered Inst. of Public Finance Accountants

Membership Secretary's report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT OF 2016 FOR WOA AGM

	2016			2015		
	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	M	F
<i>ERYRI SENIORS</i>	22	8	14	27	12	15
<i>ERYRI JUNIORS</i>	10	5	5	10	6	4
ERYRI - TOTAL	32			37		
<i>MWOC SENIORS</i>	28	18	10	34	19	15
<i>MWOC JUNIORS</i>	26	17	9	33	20	13
MWOC - TOTAL	54			67		
<i>SBOC SENIORS</i>	51	34	17	52	32	20
<i>SBOC JUNIORS</i>	19	13	6	27	19	8
SBOC - TOTAL	70			79		
<i>SWOC SENIORS</i>	67	43	24	68	44	24
<i>SWOC JUNIORS</i>	21	14	7	14	6	8
SWOC - TOTAL	88			82		
<i>BAOC SENIORS</i>	3	2	1	5	3	2
<i>BAOC JUNIORS</i>	2	1	1	2	1	1
BAOC - TOTAL	5			7		
<i>RAFO SENIORS</i>	2	2		0	0	0
<i>RAFO JUNIORS</i>				0	0	0
RAFO - TOTAL	2			0		
<i>SPLIT SENIORS</i>	9	4	5	9	4	5
<i>SPLIT JUNIORS</i>				2	1	1
SPLIT - TOTAL	9			11		
EXPAT SENIORS	36	27	9	31	22	9
EXPAT JUNIORS	9	2	7	6	1	5
EXPAT - TOTAL	45			37		
HONORARY MEMBERS	5	3	2	5	3	2
TOTAL SENIORS	222	141	82	231	139	92
TOTAL JUNIORS	87	52	35	94	54	40
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	310			325		

New members: 53

Renewals: 252

Honorary members: 5

Non-renewals: 63

YEAR	WOA MEMBERSHIP
2010	393
2011	382
2012	360
2013	313
2014	326
2015	325
2016	310



Membership has remained relatively stable over the last few years, the fall in 2013 due to the removal of family membership from BOF which meant each senior and junior had to pay a separate fee and we did not retain those family members who only occasionally orienteered or did not participate. Although the overall number of members has reduced by 15 (4.8%), the junior membership has gone down from 94 to 87, a drop of (7.4%). Efforts are being made by all clubs to attract new members, and in particular juniors, so hopefully next year's figures will show a trend upwards!

Anne May
WOA Membership Secretary

Fixtures Secretary's report

My written report covers the period January to December 2016.

In 2016 the following were staged in Wales,

Croeso 2016 was held in the Margam and Port Talbot area.

Welsh Classic Championships held at Sugar Loaf, Abergavenny staged by SWOC. They also hosted the Welsh Middle distance Championships on Pwll Du, Blaenavon.

The Cwpan Y Ddraig and Yvette Baker trophy qualifying round for Wales was held at Aberedw Rocks near Builth Wells hosted by MWOC.

The Senior Home International Individual and Relay races were hosted by ERYRI at Newborough Forest, Anglesey alongside a Welsh Orienteering League weekend of events.

The Welsh Short Course Championships does not appear to have been held in 2016.

Activities staged in Wales included Welsh Junior Squad training, event safety workshops, MWOC club nights and ERYRI held several urban events.

WOA and Welsh clubs are reminded that an orienteering race/event or activity is only covered by British Orienteering (BOF) insurance if it is registered with British Orienteering. If an event or activity is being run by a BOF affiliated orienteering club but is not registered with BOF then the club and the members taking part should ensure they are aware of the insurance arrangements for that event in case the liability arrangements are different. Urban events have further rules to follow to be covered by BOF insurance including where competitors under 16 years of age can run.

The BOF database shows that 88 (77 in 2015) events took place in Wales in 2016. This is made up of 0 Level A events (0 in 2015), 8 Level B events (2 in 2015), 6 Level C events (8 in 2015) and 74 Level D events (67 in 2015). This does not include events held by clubs outside of Wales but run in Wales such as DEE events which are registered with the North West Orienteering Association.

The BOF database shows 26 activities took place in Wales in 2016 (51 in 2014, 42 in 2015).

The figures vary each year depending on the commitments of each club. Croeso 2016 is a huge commitment for the club local to the event centre (SBOC this time) and this will have an effect on other races clubs will feel able to organise. In 2016 Croeso was a five day competition run over six days, a SWOC Level D urban race was staged on the rest day. The change in number of activities staged might be for several reasons. Firstly other commitments as mentioned above, secondly reclassifying activities as Level D races which slightly increased in number to better reflect the status of the race/activity and thirdly a failure to register an activity due to the low level of involvement perceived.

Breakdown of race categories per club

	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Activities
MWOC	0	0	2	19	4
ERYRI	0	2	2	6	6
SWOC	0	1	1	24	14
SBOC	0	0	1	25	2
Croeso 2016	0	5	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	8	6	74	26

Participation Figures for events in 2016

Clubs are thanked for their prompt responses to my request for participation figures and more so that for many races the figures were submitted without me having to ask.

	Seniors	Juniors
ERYRI	809	183
MWOC	218	876
SBOC	460	104
SWOC	1408	510
Other Events		
Croeso 2016	5714	1418
TOTAL	8609	3091

Participation figures for previous years.

Category	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Senior	9169	2047	9244	2303	8609
Junior	3256	1360	4199	1190	3091
Total	12427	3407	13443	3493	11700

(2012 figures do not include participation figures for SWOC)

(2013 figures do not include participation figures for three club activities held late in 2013)

(2015 figures do not include participation figures for eight club activities)

(2016 figures do not include participation figures for two club activities)

2012 included Croeso 2012 held over six days in Mid Wales while 2014 included the Jan Kjellestrom International Event held at Easter in the Swansea and Tredegar areas.

British Orienteering's Event Scheduling Group held meetings in March 2016 and October 2016 both of which I attended.

David Pal, WRE

Mapping Officer's report

The following mapping has been reported for the year:

	NEW	UPGRADE	EXTENSION
SBOC	Margam Forest North *Margam Country Park *Graig Fawr *Kenfig Burrows (* = full revision for Croeso 2016)	Pembrey Country Park Clyne Gardens Craig y Nos Country Park Oxwich Burrows Kilvey Hill	Merthyr Mawr Kenfig Burrows
SWOC	Sugar Loaf Gwaelod y Garth Caerphilly Mountain	Mynydd Llangynidr	
MWOC	Bryn Bras Erw Barfau (linking Mynydd yr Ychen to Woodlands Caravan Park) Llyn Conach		
ERYRI		Newborough Forest	

Robert Griffiths MWOC

Coaching Officer's report

Welsh Junior Squad continues to have regular coaching sessions with Mark and Alice assisted by various parents.

SBOC: Main coaching for SBOC members still seems to be via the Welsh Junior Squad sessions. And some seniors and older juniors help out at the sessions. In addition Mark Saunders runs a training/coaching session most Thursday evenings which is open to all.

Coaching help is provided to individuals/families on an ad-hoc basis at the Summer League events.

ERYRI: Has started running coaching sessions in conjunction with the local running club Eryri Harriers. This link will continue into 2017. Jim Woods attended the UKCC level 2 coach training course being run by DEE. He is currently working towards his final assessment.

MWOC:

Bill and Terry provide introductory coaching sessions at the Powys Schools league and informal coaching for new families at local events.

Two Club night sessions were based on the edge of the University campus.

3rd May - Introductory orienteering coaching session for Clwb Gwawr Anglylion Aberystwyth delivered at Aberystwyth Castle by Gabriella Walsh and Kate O'Sullivan

17th June Tri County School Championships held at Machynlleth

30th June - Introductory coaching session to 60 Primary school pupils at Plascrug School Aberystwyth by Gabriella Walsh with assistance from Megan Carter Davies & Ben Mitchell.

SWOC: No information

Coaching officer meetings attended:

- British Orienteering Coaching source group Birmingham Feb 27th
- Association coaching reps meeting Birmingham June 4th
- WOA committee meetings via Google hangout

Active Welsh coaches:

Club	Name	Qualification Level	Notes
ERYRI	Jim Wood	UKCC L2	In training
MWOC	Gabriella Walsh Terry Smith Eunice Carter Clive Thomas	UKCC L2 UKCC L2 UKCC L1 UKCC L1	
SBOC	Roger Stein	UKCC L2	
SWOC	Nigel Ferrand Ian Kennett	UKCC L1 UKCC L1	
WJS	Mark Saunders Alice Bedwell	BOF L3 BOF L3	

Helena Burrows

March 2017

Information Officer's report

The main avenues for publicising the Association's affairs are the web site and the bi-monthly newsletter, Y Ddraig. Without an editor for Y Ddraig for the last 3 years, the association only managed one issue of the newsletter in 2014.

The web site has been maintained throughout the year though little new material has been provided for publication. The major activities of the association, however, can be located on the site where you can find information on the Welsh Championships, the Welsh League and copies of the reports and minutes of the WOA Committee.

The web site has changed little in structure in over 10 years and could well do with a modern re-vamp. We would be pleased to receive any expressions of interest on taking over the roles of webmaster, Y Ddraig editor and/or Information Officer.

Roger Stein SBOC

Development Officer's report

The main new initiative supported by the Welsh Orienteering Association development fund during 2016 was a series of 6 park events held on Wednesday evening in Cardiff over the summer. This was successful in attracting a number of brand new participants of all ages to the sport, with attendances ranging from 32 to over 100. The South Wales Orienteering Club intend to continue with this initiative – which is also supported by Cardiff City Council Community Chest – in 2017.

The 5 day Croeso Orienteering festival was held during July centred on Margam Park. This attracted about 1500 orienteers from all over the world and took a huge amount of volunteer time and effort to stage. It was however a financial and sporting success, enabling the WOA development fund to be replenished as well as those of the organising clubs. It also resulted in some brand new professionally produced maps of Kenfig Dunes, Margam Forest and Margam Park which will benefit Welsh Orienteering for many years to come.

Mark Saunders BOK

Welsh Junior Squad report

The following activities were held in 2016

Jan 9th/10th - A training day on Cannock Chase on the Saturday combined with West Midlands Squad. Staying over in a village hall, and various map exercises/games in the evening. Race on Lickey Hills on the Sunday.

Feb 17th - 19th - 3 day Orienteering Training in the Forest of Dean over half term. Including staying over, night navigation exercise, and various map exercises/games in the evening. Joined for this camp by a group from Bristol Orienteering klub.

Mar 28th - Apr 3rd - Week Long Orienteering training camp in the Lake District after Easter JK Festival" = Selection races for the youngsters

Mar 31st - Apr 2nd - 3 days Orienteering training in the Lake District - focussing on preparing for "JK festival" = Selection races for the youngsters

May 7th - Orienteering training day in Mid Wales prior to Welsh League near Builth Wells on the Sunday.

July 24th-28th – CROESO Orienteering Festival in South Wales attended by many of the Welsh Juniors. A cake stall was run by the squad on 4 of the 5 days and raised a significant amount of money to help the squad funds – used to fund training camps.

Sept 24th-25th – Attending Junior Inter Regional Championships held in Scotland. Wales placed 6th. Historically that was one of our best ever performances - we have only bettered that on 3 occasions in the 28 years the completion has been held.

Oct 8th/9th – Junior Home International held in the North East of England. Finished 4th place.

JHI Results

	ENG	SCO	IRL	CWM
Individual	80	73	35	27
Relays	56	48	26	14
JHI TOTALS	136	121	61	41

Nov 28th/29th – Training weekend at Hawkshead in the Lakes for M/W 16s, alongside youngsters from all the other Junior Squads

So another very active year. The main highlight was recent alumni – 20 yr old Megan Carter-Davies of Mid Wales Orienteering Club - performing very well at the Junior World Championships – a magnificent 4th Place. And following that up with Gold as part of the British Relay team at the World University Championships.

However we are a bit concerned by our reducing numbers. We try to make dates as convenient as possible – arranging days to fit in with Welsh League events – train on the Saturday, race on the Sunday. We are also more and more inviting juniors from elsewhere - BOK, NGOC, West Mids. That helps with the numbers and keeps things fun – much more fun for everyone training in a group of 15/20 rather than just 5 or 6.

So to re-emphasise. Our training is open to any Welsh youngsters. Generally we can arrange exercises for all standards - Yellow/Orange and upwards. Parents are welcome to come along / take part or not as they wish. If you want to know more – or just be included in our mailing list – email us Markandalice@btinternet.com

Mark Saunders / Alice Bedwell BOK/SWOC

Welsh Senior Squad report

Individual

Mens 21 (24 participants)

Kris Jones	SILVER
Ben Mitchell	6 th
Rhys Findlay Robinson	7 th
Patrick Jones	19 th
Sam Mitchell	21 st
Ed Nicholas	23 rd

Womens 21 (23 participants)

Clare Dallimore	4 th
Anwen Darlington	11 th
Heather Heppenstall	17 th
Helen Hanstock	18 th
Jenny Williamson	22 nd
Del Darlington	23 rd

Mens 20 (12 participants)

William Reynolds	9 th
Joe Thomas	11 th
Dafydd Thomas	12 th

Womens 20 (11 participants)

Fay Walsh	BRONZE
Megan Carter-Davies	4 th
Elen Norris	11 th

Relay

Men (12 teams)

Kris Jones/Ben Mitchell/William Reynolds	5 th
Rhys Findlay Robinson/Patrick Jones/ Joe Thomas	9 th
Sam Mitchell/Dafydd Thomas/Ed Nicholas	DNF

Women (12 teams)

Megan Carter Davies/Clare Dallimore/Anwen Darlington	BRONZE
Fay Walsh/Helen Hanstock/Heather Heppenstall	6 th
Jenny Williamson/Elen Norris/Delyth Darlington	10 th

Overall

1.	Scotland	50
2.	England	49
3.	Wales	29
4.	Ireland	16

This year's Senior Home Internationals was very well hosted by Eryri with both the individual and relay being held at Newborough Sands. The important piece of news was that for the first time in a long time Wales managed to send a full team to the races. Thank you ever so much to everyone who both took part and also to those who didn't attend but made themselves available for selection. The second (and also very important) item to highlight is that we finished third overall and comfortably beat the Irish. This was on a run of fourth places so great to get past them. In terms of individual glory special mentions to Kris Jones - Silver M21; Fay Walsh - Bronze W20 and Clare Dallimore 4th W21. Also valiant efforts from the three lads running M20. In the relay there was huge excitement in the Men's race with Wales Men 1 in the lead after Leg 2. A big effort from William Reynolds meant the team came in fifth. In the women's race Wales Women 1 finished in an excellent Bronze position.

Thanks to WOA for their continued support of the team. It is certainly appreciated. Thanks to Jim Wood and his team and the clubs and officials for their work in hosting the event.

Finally on a personal note this is now the last time that I will be managing the team and I'm handing over to Clare Dallimore. Thanks to all those who have been involved for their support.

Ed Nicholas

Welsh Veteran Squad report

VHI Results

	ENG	SCO	CYM	IRL
Individual	154	112	88	65
Relays	122	80	74	30
VHI TOTALS	276	192	162	95

Sophie Brown

Schools Liaison Officer's report

WOA Orienteering in Schools 2016 Annual Report (collated in March 2017 by Bridget Stein SBOC)

North Wales – Mair Tomos

Schools mapped:

Three school maps were updated in Gwynedd (two primary and one secondary), and new maps made of two primary schools in Conwy.

Mid-Wales – Bill Marlow and Mair Tomos

Schools mapped: (Mair Tomos)

Four primary schools and one secondary were newly mapped in 2016.

Other activities: (Bill Marlow)

Mid Wales Orienteering Club (East section)

Terry Smith and myself (Bill Marlow) have again been working during the School year in conjunction with the Powys Sports Development (primarily with Katie Hamer and her fellow Community Sports Development Officers), to promote Orienteering within Schools in Powys. We have done this by organising Cluster Festivals throughout mid and north Powys in the Autumn Term of 2016. The format generally has been in the shape of lots of different related exercises in the morning under Terry's expert guidance (we have tweaked these exercises, having reviewed what we did the previous year), followed by a Cluster Championship in the afternoon for Year 3 & 4 on a White course and Year 5 & 6 on a Yellow with Downloads and Results under my expertise (each pair was pre-entered using the Si AutoDownload software). The children have competed, mostly in pairs, and have been exposed once again to our full Sportident set up (i.e. Dibbers, Si stakes & Units). At Download they were given a tear-off results slip, which included their names, course, school, year group, splits times and total time and current position displayed. Later in the day I upload the results on to the Club website where all the results can be seen:- www.mid-wales-orienteers.org.uk

Numbers analysis of participants for Powys Primary Schools Cluster Festivals (these took place mainly at the relevant Cluster High Schools, Nash Woods, Gregynog or at the Lake, Llandrindod):-

John Beddoes = 188; 22nd September 2016

Llandrindod = 85; 7th October 2016

Newtown & Welshpool = 344; 11th October 2016

Llanfyllin & Llanfair Caereinion = 123; 13th October 2016

Llanidloes = 298; 20th October 2016

Bro Hyddgen, Machynlleth = 122; 2nd November 2016

Total = 1234

These will be followed up in 2017 with Powys County Schools Championships in February 2017 and in Inter-County event in June.

South Wales – Bridget Stein

Schools mapped:

Morrison Comprehensive School in Swansea placed an order for extension of their school map, to include new playing fields, but the work is pending completion of landscaping of a neighbouring housing development. Queen Elizabeth HS (Carmarthen) and the neighbouring playing fields and leisure Centre were mapped in Spring 2016.

Other activities:

A talk was given to the PE teachers at Morrison Comp, at their request, to advise on using their new map. They and all schools teachers are strongly encouraged to attend the TOP courses for this purpose.