



Hertfordshire Orienteering Club

informally known as Happy Herts

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 15 September 2026, Virtual, via Teams, 20:00 Start

Minutes

1	Apologies: David & Alison Saunders, Dave Tookey, Mark Adams, Alan Rosen, Rachel Sequeira
2	Roll call of attendees: Ben Bardsley (Chair), Hedley Calderbank, Hugh Wiltshire, Neil Gostick, Tom Cochrane, David Dixon, Sarah Dixon, Eliza Hermann, Kevin Parkes, Penny Parkes, Andrew Cummings, Laura Parkes, Emese Svab, Barbara Wiltshire, Barry Breed, Adam Leaf, Mike Bennett, Jennie Soulsby, Alex Soulsby, Jane Breed, Beatrix Li, Danny Figg, David Hodson, Viv Hodson, Jacob Sharpe, Kate Hawks, Grace MacKintosh Sim, Nigel Quinton
3	To approve the minutes of the previous AGM Accepted by the meeting as a true and accurate record.
4	To consider the Secretary's report on the affairs of the Club in the last year The Club Report for last year (sent to all club members on the Groups.io mailing list and published on the club website) was presented and noted. This included information on membership numbers, events organised by the club, achievements in team events, safeguarding, junior development and club training activities. At the meeting, the Chair emphasised the club's achievements during the year. The other contributors to the report highlighted the most important matters relating to their role. These were: • Ben Bardsley • Hedley Calderbank • Neil Gostick • Tom Cochrane • Jennie Soulsby • Alex Soulsby



5 To receive and consider the Treasurer's items:

- **Report 2025-26**
- **Audited financial accounts 2025-26**
- **Proposal on membership fees 2027**

The Treasurer presented his report and financial accounts (sent to all club members on the Groups.io mailing list and published on the club website). He explained the items where there were significant differences from the previous year.

Overall, the Club delivered a deficit, partly caused by unbudgeted matting and tractor services at the British Night Championships / Ace of Herts weekend, and an overall loss on Saturday Series events. The Treasurer explained how capital expenditure, general inflation and related sums for income and expenditure landing in different financial years contributed to the deficit. However he emphasised that the club still held substantial reserves of funds. Street-O continued to operate close to overall break-even.

The accounts have been independently examined, by the Honorary Auditor/Examiner, Roger Moulding who believes that they give a true and fair view of the club's financial affairs.

The 2025-26 accounts were proposed to be accepted. This was carried without dissent.

In view of the healthy bank balances, the Treasurer proposed to keep the Club membership fees the same for next year as they were this year. This was accepted by the AGM. These Club membership fees are:

	Senior	Young Adult	Junior	Family
Full year	£10	£7	£5	£30
After 1 May	£7	£5	£3	£20
After 1 Sept.	£3	£2-50	£2	£10

The Treasurer advised the meeting that BOF fees would increase, but SEOA fees would stay the same.

Because of the substantial deficit on the Saturday Series, the Treasurer has recommended to the committee that entry fees for Saturday series events in 2025-26 should be increased and this has been implemented. The predominant change is an increase in the fee for adult BOF members from £4 to £5.



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6 To consider any resolutions, or amendments to the Constitution and to adopt the same if agreed:

None submitted.

7 To elect Officers of the Club and Honorary Life Members

The following nominations had been received, in writing, by the Secretary prior to the meeting. The Chair confirmed that none of those nominated would exceed the maximum period of tenure laid down in the constitution (3 years - Chair; 6 years - others).

- Chair – Ben Bardsley, nominated by David Hodson, seconded by Mike Bennett.
- Secretary – Hedley Calderbank, nominated by Hugh Wiltshire, seconded by David Dixon.
- Treasurer – Hugh Wiltshire, nominated by David Dixon, seconded by Viv Hodson.
- Captain – Tom Cochrane, nominated by, Mike Bennett. seconded by Alex Soulsby.
- Events Coordinator – Neil Gostick, nominated by Alex Soulsby, seconded by David Hodson

The above five individuals were elected unopposed into the above roles.

Therefore, the authorised signatories for the current account are unchanged, being: Ben Bardsley, Tom Cochrane, Hugh Wiltshire.

Authorised signatories for the savings account are also unchanged, being: Ben Bardsley, Hugh Wiltshire.

All other Committee roles were discussed with current individuals in place, and all individuals agreed to continue in their roles. This was supported by the AGM.

No nominations for Honorary Life Members have been received.

The Chair thanked the four other principal officers of the club and all the members of the wider Committee for their work during the year. He pointed out that the terms of office of most of the principal officers of the club expired next year and he urged anybody interested to contact him or the current occupant of a role.

8 To elect an Honorary Auditor

Roger Moulding was re-elected as Honorary Auditor/Examiner of the accounts for the forthcoming year.



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9	To consider any other business relating to the well-being and/or development of the Club which may require the attention of the Committee in the coming year The Chair invited all members to put forward issues for the committee to consider, but nothing was raised.
10	Closing remarks The Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:02.

Signed:

Ben Bardsley (Chair)

Hedley Calderbank (Secretary)

(signatures in club records)