



Hertfordshire Orienteering Club

informally known as Happy Herts

Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 13 July 2026 at 2000hrs

1 20:00	Present & Apologies Ben Bardsley, Hedley Calderbank, Neil Gostick, Hugh Wiltshire, Tom Cochrane, Kevin Parkes, Mike Bennett, David Dixon, Emese Svab No apologies	
2 20:05	Matters arising and updates from previous meetings (not picked up under main agenda items)	
	The minutes of the 28 May committee meeting were approved.	
	New role of Instructor. Two interested. Alex asking training helpers	AS
3 20:10	E-business – pending or completed	
	HC has migrated documents from Dropbox to One Drive. . Committee members to report on the actions requested of them in the 7 May Guidelines. NG asked that Dropbox be kept live for a few weeks.	All
	Policy on weather related event cancellation . Agreed wording is now on the website - COMPLETE.	
4 20:15	Specific Focus	
	- Permanent Orienteering Courses - Whippendell. Most markers have been replaced by Scouts or others. Decided to advise Council that we are not maintaining it. Neil will enquire about Lees Wood POC status via Mark Adams. - New Panshanger POC in progress. It should be confined initially to the two easy courses. Possible opening in the autumn. DD advocated a copy of the map being on public display. - Stanborough. A few markers missing but otherwise in good order. DD will raise with Better. - Highfield. Emese is not aware of its status - Suggested that POCs should be made more obvious on the website.	ES/DD/ NG
5 20:30	Publicity, Engagement & Development	
	Progress review. Carried forward to the next meeting	BS
	‘Mystery Shopper’ exercise –Results from a few years ago were circulated by DD after the meeting. See One Drive at this link: https://1drv.ms/f/c/3802f2befd7e63c3/IqCgnd2R6sP4SLM1XK-exZX5AeVrwyLHwsr5ntWsSFI23gk?e=wd3PIf DD will think how to exploit our possession of email addresses to increase participation and membership. Agreed that we should do more, providing that an Unsubscribe facility was obvious and reliably acted upon. Idea of message on Street-O maps.	DD
	Decided to cut down MapRes to Google to avoid confusion	KP
	Senior participation actions from May minutes. Carried forward to the next meeting	HC
	Development ideas from May minutes. Carried forward to the next meeting	HC
	Rewarding volunteers. The current Helpers scheme should be reviewed and probably changed at some stage. Agreed that more should be done to reward/recognise Organisers, Planners and Controllers. Ideas will be discussed at the next meeting.	MB/BB



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6 20:40	Captain	
	Plan and funding to exploit best opportunity for HH in years. Tom recommends free entries for all and help with transport (but not a coach) and an evening social event if enough members are staying overnight, or a gathering/meal after the event. Tom agreed to personally target members likely to have the most impact on the results. He aims to publicise in the next two newsletters..	TC
	Club social. Tom is planning for September at Oaklands College. This could be combined with an in-person AGM on 15 September. Otherwise the AGM would be online.	TC
7 20:50	Chair/Secretary/Finance	
	Area permissions. The challenge is increasing. Engagement with BOF planned.	BB
	- Finance update. - Agreed to recommend to the AGM that HH membership fees should be unchanged. - In view of the higher charges being experienced, it was agreed to raise the entry fees for Saturday series events to: BOF Adults £5; IND Adults £7; BOF Juniors £2; IND Juniors £4; HH Juniors £0; Adults on W/Y/O courses £4.	BB/HW
	Support for OpenOrienteeringMap, and O-software vulnerabilities.. Carried forward to the next meeting. DD reported that the £100 pa currently paid to MapRun was likely to rise to around £200 on a per capita basis.	BB
	Meeting to address succession planning and volunteering gaps. HC will send a further poll to selected committee members to establish a date.	HC
	Planning for AGM (Tue 15 September). HC will ensure adequate notice is given of the constitutional deadlines and publish the agenda. BB will write a newsletter article encouraging members to volunteer for committee work.	BB/HC
	Club merchandise. Carried forward to the next meeting	DD
8 21:05	Events	
	Access Officer. Dave Kingdon has volunteered.	
	BNC & AoH An overall surplus is expected	
	An Events Sub-committee was held on 2 July. The current Fixtures Planner was noted. Members should raise any issues with Neil.	All
	Proposed 'Meet & Greet' pack. Carried forward to the next meeting	MB
	Upskilling volunteers. Carried forward to the next meeting	BB/JS/ AS/KP
9 21:20	Rotas for 'Specific Focus', 'Meet the Committee' & 'Demystifying...' see table	HC
10 2125	AOB & Dates of future meetings:	
	Next dates are Aug./Sept. (date tba), 1 October, 12 November	All

Schedule for 'Specific Focus' slot

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Committee member(s)</u>
Previous meetings in grey		
22 January	Publicity	Brad Smith
5 March	Low -key events (incl. Street-O & similar to Find Your Way)	David Dixon
16 April	Planner/Organiser/Helper Training	Alex Soulsby
28 May	Increasing senior participation	Hedley Calderbank
9 July	POC etc.	Emese Svab
20 August	Volunteers	Mike Bennett
1 October	Juniors	Jennie Soulsby
12 November	Area development & Mapping	Simon Errington / Neil Gostick

Rota for HH Newsletter Articles

<u>Newsletter month</u>	<u>Approx. deadline</u>	<u>Meet the Committee'</u>	<u>Demystifying O Events'</u>
Sep-25	24-Aug	Hedley Calderbank	
Oct-25	24-Sep	Ben Bardsley	
Nov-25	24-Oct	David Dixon	OMM - Ben Bardsley
Dec-25	24-Nov	Tom Cochrane	
Jan-26	24-Dec	Hugh Wiltshire	Compass Sport Cup – Tom Cochrane
Feb-26	24-Jan	David Hodson	
Mar-26	24-Feb	Neil Gostick	SEOUL/Urban leagues - David Dixon
Apr-26	24-Mar	Emese Svab	Jukola - Tom Cochrane
May-26	24-Apr	Kevin Parkes	Peter Palmer relays - Emese Svab
Jun-26	24-May	Brad Smith	
Jul-26	24-Jun	Jennie Soulsby	Army events – Mike Bennett
Aug-26	24-Jul	Simon Errington	Overseas events – David Hodson
Sep-26	24-Aug	Mike Bennett	Elite training & competition – Ben Gostick? HC to approach
Oct-26	24-Sep	(vacant)	South East League – Tom Cochrane
Nov-26	24-Oct	Jacob Sharpe	BOC (incl. relays) - Ben Bardsley
Dec-26	24-Nov	Alex Soulsby	Yvette Baker Trophy - Soulsbys
Jan-27	24-Dec		JK (incl. relays) - Simon Errington