

## NOC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

### **Chairman's Report**

To start this report I have to ask three questions: who are the members of Nottinghamshire Orienteering Club, where are they and what do they want the club to provide? These challenges have been exercising your committee throughout the last year.

However, firstly my thanks on your behalf to the existing Committee, the other volunteers with specific roles and the dedicated organizers, mappers, planners and controllers who made it possible for all of us to pursue our sport over the last year.

During that year the club promoted some **19** events that were enjoyed by **2804** competitors. One event was at level A, eight were at level C and ten at level D. Quite how many **club** members took part in those events is rather more difficult to identify, but the workload for event officials I believe is clearly demonstrated. Additionally we assisted Red Bull again in the promotion of their 'challenge' and there were a variety of training opportunities in the Bassetlaw and Rushcliffe areas.

As the Treasurer will report we made a healthy operating profit principally from the larger events. By the time this document is published there will have been a national debate about membership fees and event levies and I know there are a variety of opinions within the club.

I make no apology for re-stating once again the principal cause for concern that has animated the discussions of your committee over the last year. Exactly who might volunteer to undertake the tasks that are essential to the smooth running of our events and fill key committee posts?

The role of Volunteer Co-ordinator is arguably the most crucial and Andrew Ridgeway has undertaken this job alongside acting as Fixtures Secretary, itself a complicated and onerous task. How much longer will it be possible to do this and is there some other way of identifying and securing the event officials that are so important and vital? So I urge the membership, again, to come forward and help with the essential tasks required for our sport to function. There is training and support available.

I would like to use this opportunity to remind members that we operate a 'team' system for supporting event organizers and planners. Can I ask the membership to firstly reply to 'availability' e-mails from their team leader and secondly offer up an

hour of their time at an event so that a 'shift system' can be set in place to ensure everyone has a run on that day.

In my last report I was, as it transpired, somewhat hasty in hoping that a new web site would be up and running early this current year. For a variety of reasons that has not been possible and work continues. I would like to pay tribute for the resolute determination shown by Pauline Olivant and Ray Barnes, work is still on-going and I look forward to more progress soon. It is an immense task and there is so much material to be edited.

The last year also provided an important milestone in the history of the club, it being the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the emergence of Nottinghamshire Orienteering Club. Your committee felt it was important that we organized an event to celebrate that landmark and in February we had a Dinner and Barn Dance re-uniting many past and present members of the club. Thanks to Pauline, Hilary and Jane who worked tirelessly to make the event such a success.

We must not let this opportunity pass, to congratulate the following club members who have had some national and international success this year:

- Peter Hodkinson who ran the fastest 2nd leg at the World University Championships, ran the 2nd leg in the World Championships helping the UK team to 4th place. Also 22nd in the World Championships Individual Sprint, was 3rd at the Sprint race at the JK, won his first World Ranking Event over the Middle distance in Scotland and brought NOC home in the lead on the first leg of the JK and placed 4th in the Sprint and Middle distance in the UK Championships.
- The relay teams who won the Harvester Trophy, were third in the JK and fourth in the UK Championships and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the UK Relay League.
- Richard Robinson 3<sup>rd</sup> in BOC (21E) Individual & 1<sup>st</sup> in VHI (M35)
- Ben Squire - M12 British Sprint Champion
- Finlay Lothian - M10 British Sprint Champion
- All those club members who took part in the 'Beat the Street' event in Nottingham where NOC won the Club Prize worth £500.

Lastly, I began this report with a series of questions; at our meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a discussion about the nature of events that the membership desires, the responses to the provocation from Hilary Palmer will partially answer some of the other questions that I have posed, however, the challenges will remain.

The club will only function for the benefit of the membership if that membership contributes to the organization and delivery. So please if you think you might be interested in organizing an event, planning courses, mapping a wood, improving your own performances through training and skill development then contact the appropriate committee member and let it be known. We work on your behalf but we need your support. Do join in, come to the AGM, have your say, put up your hand to volunteer and spread the word about the pleasures and joys of participating in Orienteering.

Andrew Breakwell  
NOC Chair 2016