



**Wimborne Orienteers
Committee Meeting
Thursday, 25th June 2026 19:45
Verwood, Dorset**

Minutes of Meeting

Revision History

Rev	Date	Details
0	25/06/2026	Draft
1	19/09/2026	

Distributed by email to

Andy French, Karen French, Debs Mays, Rob Mills, Kevin Pickering, Kath Pike, Keith Henderson, Hilary Pickering

Posted on website wimborne-orienteers.co.uk

Present

Kath Pike	(Chair)	KaP
Karen French	(Treasurer)	KF
Tom Alcock	(Secretary)	TA
Andy French		AF
Rob Mills		RM
Kevin Pickering		KeP
Keith Henderson	(Non-committee)	KH
Hilary Pickering	(Non-committee)	HP

Apologies

Debs Mays (**DM**)

The meeting was called to order at 19:50.

1 Minutes of last meeting – Thursday 16th April 2026

1.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by the Committee with minor

revisions.

2 Notices

There are no notices.

3 Treasurer's Report

3.1 Current Account balance = **£12,623.31**.

3.2 Recent Events (see also 7):

3.2.1 Potterne Park (10/05/26): +£28.71 (surplus).

3.2.2 Stonebarrow (14/06/26): –£4 (deficit).

3.2.3 Tidworth: final amounts TBA. Projected: outgoings £800, income £1100, +£300 surplus.

4 Juniors' Report

4.1 Alice F has been selected for the Deesside training camp this Summer. Well done.

5 Equipment & Website

5.1 The club website is currently running on old version of Drupal.

5.2 **Club emails:** Vicky Mccreadie's club email is coaching@. She will be leaving next month. **Action: AF** to review and consolidate the list of club emails, and ensure that each one points to an appropriate committee member.

5.3 Mike Kite emailed the committee following Stonebarrow with the suggestion that the club buy a wireless desktop printer for printing colour courses on the day. This would increase opportunities for EOD at small local events such as Summer League, where there is possibility of latecomers and novices. Considerations:

5.3.1 We have yet to turn someone away for lack of maps. Perhaps we can manage with existing resources.

5.3.2 **AF** already owns a laser printer which he is happy to bring to events. This will save us £100s on a decent quality laser printer. He already bills the club for use of his ink (30p per side), and this remains affordable.

5.3.3 On the other hand, if we are more heavily promoting to new audiences, such as Scouts, we will see an increase in EOD demand. The demand would have to be very high to justify outgoings on a new printer.

5.3.4 In a similar vein, the committee discussed offering yellow / white entries for free, club can absorb the cost of any printing involved. This should in turn drive up demand.

- 5.3.5 In conclusion, continue as is, but keep an eye on demand, and revisit this suggestion at a later date.
- 5.4 **Gripple removers:** there were not enough at Tidworth. They are mostly sold by farm suppliers. **Action: RM** to check number of removers.
- 5.5 Computing volunteers require certain files from event planners in order to set up the event properly for timing and results. **Action: AF** suggested to give short talk at this year's AGM on what is required from event planners, to minimise confusion in future.

6 Welfare

- 6.1 **KaP** completed her welfare course.
- 6.2 This is an idea from Bruno (WSX). Club member(s) (don't have to be committee) could be nominated at events as a familiar face for beginners: greeting them on arrival at their first event. The beginner can just turn up and be shown the whole process on the day. No need for them to enter on Racesignup, we will process them on the day.

7 Past Events

- 7.1 Sun 19th April 2026: Wimborne Sports & Leisure Festival
- 7.1.1 **KeP** and **HP** ran naughty numbers with ~200 finishes, some did it several times! They gave out flyers for Potterne Park. There was a very positive response, and 1 subsequently attended Potterne.
- 7.1.2 Many of the kids had heard of orienteering, either through school or Scouts.
- 7.1.3 This would be well worth doing annually, the Festival is already planned for next year.
- 7.2 April – September 2026: WIM/WSX Summer League
- 7.2.1 **Action: TA** to process scores for the league so far.
- 7.3 May 2026: Summer League – Blandford Maprun
- 7.4 Sun 10th May 2026: Summer League – Potterne Park
- 7.4.1 The start window was too wide at 2½ hours, which makes it a long day for volunteers. This could and should be reduced to 1 hour in future e.g. 11am-12pm start window, last finisher done by 1pm.
- 7.5 World Orienteering Week
- 7.6 June 2026: Summer League – Merley Maprun
- 7.7 Sun 14th June 2026: Summer League – Stonebarrow

7.8 Sat 20th June 2026: Tidworth Urban

7.8.1 There was a timed-out road crossing near the Finish. Some competitors missed punching both controls as they were waved across the road by a marshal. Those disqualified had their results reinstated, as it was determined that no measurable advantage was afforded by missing these controls.

7.8.2 There was one other control missed by some; this was not reinstated.

8 **Future Events**

8.1 July 2026: Summer League – Hyde & Gorley Common Maprun

Planner: Eamon/Kirsty Staunton

8.2 Sun 5th July 2026: Summer League – Sturminster Newton

Planner: Vicky McCreadie; Organiser: Tristan M

8.3 Sun 18th October 2026: Compass Sport Cup

8.3.1 **Action: KeP (or HP)** to write some words for Mailchimp re possible coach transport to event. This might encourage more to take part. Pickups could be from Blandford, Poole, Ringwood, to be determined based on demand.

8.4 Weds 11th November 2026: Military League South (MLS) – Moors Valley

Organiser: **RM**; Controller: **KF**; Planner: non-WIM member

8.5 Sat 12th December 2026: South West League – Godshill

Planner: Phil Harvey; Organiser: TBC

8.5.1 Eamon Staunton has located another field as an option for parking, but it is a bit tricky access-wise.

8.6 Sat 26th December 2026: Boxing Day Canter – Moors Valley

Planner: Alice F; Organiser: **KF**

9 **Mapping Updates**

9.1 Chris Branford to look at updating Poulner map.

10 **AOB**

10.1 Involving Scouts/Guides in Orienteering: **KH** attended the committee meeting to provide an update on the ideas re Scout participation that were offered by him in the last committee meeting (16th April 2026).

10.1.1 This would be an opportunity for Scouts to get their Orienteering badge.
Action: KH to check badge requirements and build coaching around that.

- 10.1.2 Verwood Scout Hut numbers: 40 scouts & 3 leaders with an age range of Age range is 9½ - 13½ years.
- 10.1.3 For effective ratios, extra volunteers would be needed and group should be split into 2 sections.
- 10.1.4 Initially, **KH** + others would go to Scout Hut on Autumn evenings to run coaching sessions teaching basics like map reading, scale, symbols.
- 10.1.5 It is noted that Scouts will be excited on trying the practical side quite quickly. To engage them and keep retention high, it is recommended not to spend lots of time sat in a classroom working on theory.
- 10.1.6 Something simple and easy to run, like 'Naughty numbers' or a maze activity would be a good starting point for the 'practical side'.
- 10.1.7 There are some good ready-made theory videos produced by members of MDOC - 4 x videos of ~8 minutes each. See also videos from SLOW, but these are slightly more aspirational (skills for forest orienteering).
- 10.1.8 First session would be on Tuesday 8/9, with an aim to get them to do the last of their 3 required activities using the courses at SWOL on Sat 12/12 or Boxing Day Canter 26/12. This keeps momentum, and prevents Scouts from losing interest in the 'course'.
- 10.1.9 **Action: RM/KH** to gather a list of local events (WIM/WSX/further afield) asap and pass to Scout leaders, to enable Scouts to meet their goal and manage demand at events.
- 10.1.10 Could we plan a separate course at SWOL/BDC, specifically designed for the Scouts participants?
- 10.1.11 Emphasis on keeping parents engaged and apprised of what is required for the badge, e.g. lifts and supervision to each event.
- 10.1.12 **Action: RM/others** to look into running a separate Autumn event at Moors Valley. N.B. No FE permission is required, as long as less than 25 take part.

10.2 **AGM**

- 10.2.1 This year's AGM will likely be held on the evening of Friday 16th October 2026 at the usual venue of Holt Village Hall (BH21 7DJ). **Action: KaP** to check availability and book venue.

The meeting was adjourned at 21.40.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 24th September 2026 at 19.45 in Verwood.

Tom Alcock – Secretary
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