

2025 Minutes



East Lothian Orienteers Annual General Meeting 2025 Minutes

Held at East Lothian Outdoor Learning Service 7 pm on 24th September 2025

Welcome and Present:

Jamie Wilson (Chair), Michael Atkinson, Jennifer Atkinson, Duncan Edmondson, Jonathan Ellis, Tim Harding, Duncan Leishman, Martin Robertson, Trina Rogerson, Ian Rowland, Nigel Schofield, Ryan Scoular, Robin Strain, Sheila Strain, Pete Younger

1. Apologies:

Rosemary & Mike Ling, Ross Lyall, Brian Porteous

2. Minutes of 2024 AGM: 2/10/2024

The minutes were approved.

It was noted that the club's financial contribution to WOC2024 had not been required.

3. Officials' Reports

a) Chair Report – Jamie Wilson

Ladies and Gentlemen, I hope not to talk for too long, however I thought it would be worth spending a brief moment reflecting on what the club has achieved during 2025 so far. Thank you to Sheila and Robin for enabling this meeting to take place, as well as for their continued efforts throughout the year ensuring that members are kept up to speed with what's going on and that the club continues to flourish.

By the end of this year we will have organised, planned and delivered 17 different events. These include 8 Local events, 5 Sprintelopes, a SoSOL event, a SOL event, a UK Urban League event and a Scottish Night Championship. Thanks to Michael Atkinson's efforts in pulling together the list of Planners, Organisers and events; he took over this role from Pete Younger who I'm pleased to say will continue to co-ordinate our competitions.

Delivering all these events is no mean feat and has kept many members of the committee and wider club membership very busy. It is worth recognising that, whilst the number of events we deliver has remained fairly consistent at around 16 per year for the last 10 years, the number of people taking part has increased. In 2025 our local club events have attracted an average of between 90 and 100 participants; compare this to the figures from 10 years ago which were closer to 50 to 60 and we can see the number of people taking part is increasing which is good news.

Various members of the Club were also very involved in supporting the Scottish Six Day event in Royal Deeside in July/August. It was good to see so many members of the club taking part and enjoying some exceptional sport. I think around 25 club members took part. On the financial side we remain in a good position as we'll hear in a moment when we hear about the accounts. Ian Rowland is handing over the Treasurer's role to Duncan Edmondson; thank you Ian for keeping us on the financial straight and narrow for many

years and welcome Duncan! This has enabled us to invest in some equipment including new laptops, a lightweight pop-up tent, some new tables and chairs as well as various new control boxes, dibbers and other kit. Thank you to Trina Rogerson for continuing to look after our kit, as well as ensuring that we have landowners' permission for our events. In addition to kit purchases, we have created the newly mapped area at Hartside, first used for the SOL earlier in the month, and are currently looking at updating a variety of maps for other areas.

We have a new Club Welfare Officer, as I completed the course a couple of months ago and Jennifer Atkinson is also going through the process. I am grateful to Martyn Pegg for being our CWO for many years and to David Robertson from ESOC for standing in while we developed our own home-grown one! With increasing numbers of youngsters taking part in the sport, Child Welfare is very much a focus for Scottish Orienteering Association and, whilst it can present some hurdles, it is important that we manage this in an effective manner.

Talking about Juniors, we have increased the number of qualified coaches that we have and this has enabled us to deliver some additional coaching opportunities, especially for the youngsters who are moving forward towards Orange level courses.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Emily Atkinson who has been selected to represent Scotland and Great Britain in various orienteering (and Hill Running) events. It is great to see members of the club competing at this level.

Whilst we have a fairly busy agenda, I am keen to make sure that we have an opportunity to discuss what the membership want and how we might make that happen thus ensuring that we continue to be a thriving club.

Event Report – Michael Atkinson

2024/25...

- Probably a few more events than we should have taken on - 5 sprintelope and three ranked events since the last AGM (the dates of which meant there was a *felt* pressure to also have all Saturday events running).
- However, successful diary of events in 2025!

2025/26...

- Events for 2026 (last Saturday of the month apart from July) in the BO diary (venues are up for negotiation).
- Is there a willing sprintelope coordinator (4 dates are earmarked in the BO diary and organisation is light)?
- Need to identify the venue and the time of year for our 2026 SoSOL (to run instead of a Saturday event).

Potential SoSOL Venues

- **Lothian Edge** - last SoSOL in 2016
parking/permissions issues
- **John Muir Country Park** - last SoSOL in 2017 (2019 -SNC)
storm damage but recovering
- **Duns Estate** - last SoSOL in 2019
distance to venue
- **Vogrie Country Park**- last SoSOL in 2021 (2024 - SSC)
complex permissions
- **Saltoun Wood** - last SoSOL in 2022
permissions can be tricky to obtain
- **Whitekirk Hill**- last SoSOL in 2023
creep of other activities into the area
- **Balgone Estate** - last SoSOL in 2024 (2025 - SNC)
- **Binning Wood** - last SoSOL in 2025
- **Hartside Hill**- last SOL in 2025

Pete has a list of potential areas and would welcome others to join him in having a look.

Michael will look into getting map updates

Trina will contact the farmer at Saltoun to find the best time for an event from his point of view.

It is unlikely we will put on any large urban events in 2026

b) Treasurer's Report – Ian Rowland

Ian handed out copies of the accounts which are included as appendix A and B.

He explained several of the changes from last year.

- The Scottish Championship were hosted by the East Area, but all the money went through the ELO accounts. £1235 has still to be paid to the ESOA treasurer.
- The Income from events is presented net so there are no expenditure items for events.
- The equipment bought includes a laptop, tents, tables and chairs.
- Some SI kit authorised last year has not been purchased yet.
- Can we subsidise newcomers going to regional events.

c) Membership Report – Sheila Strain

	Members	Non renewals	New members		BO:SOA	J:S	M:F
24-25	134	23	38		36:98	57:77	80:54
23-24	119	13	24		35:84	53:66	74:45
22-23	108	25	23		35:73	42:66	70:38

The majority of those who did not renew for 2025 had good reasons.

The Orienteering Foundation are conducting a national survey of those who have not renewed and of new members.

d) Juniors Reports – Jamie Wilson

Juniors continue to reflect a significant proportion of our membership; with a total of 57 Junior members, they represent a shade over 40% of our overall membership. Our Juniors tend to take part in local events, with most not travelling far out of the county; this is particularly the case with the younger ones who do short White and Yellow courses as well as the multitude of other activities that they take part in.

We have had some success with our Junior training for TD1 and 2 level, however it continues to be difficult to encourage those transitioning to TD3 and 4 to attend the ESOA Training events, this is particularly the case when the training is outside East Lothian.

That said, the considerable skills and abilities demonstrated by many of our older 'Juniors' and younger 'Seniors' show that something has worked!

Thank you to all those that have been involved in coaching and developing our youngsters, and for sharing your enthusiasm for our sport with them

e) Coaching Report

The separate report on coaches and coaching was omitted from this year's agenda but was covered in the Chair report

4. Election of Office Bearers, committee and/or working group.

Positions required by BO
Chairperson: Jamie Wilson
Secretary: Robin Strain
Treasurer: Duncan Edmondson
Safeguarding - Jamie Wilson / Jennifer Atkinson
Other positions
Michael Atkinson (Webmaster and Event Coordinator)
Sheila Strain (Communications and Coaching)
Trina Rogerson (Equipment and Permissions)
Pete Younger (mapping)
Vacant: Sprinteloop Coordinator

Appendix C lists the officials with extra access to data on the BO system

5. Subscriptions for 2026:

	2024				2025				2026			
	S	YA	J	Fam	S	YA	J	Fam	S	YA	J	Fam
BO	15	10	5	35	16	10	5	37	17	11	5	39
SOA	12	2	2	26	12	2	2	26	12	2	2	26
ELO	2	2	2	5	2	1	0	3	1	0	0	1
Total (club/SOA)	14	4	4	31	14	3	2	29	13	2	2	27
Total (incl BO)	29	14	9	66	30	13	7	66	30	13	7	66

Some ELO subscriptions were reduced.

7. AOCB:

Following the formal AGM, there was much discussion on the development of ELO.

Topics included

Having a stock of personal equipment for loan (eg thumb compass, head torch)

Hire toilets for Saturday events

Putting on a course for how to update maps

Donating money for the repair of the gate to the whisky bottle area of North Berwick Law

Joining with the Friends of Lochend Wood clear up sessions

Restarting Club training evenings. Consider other venues

Removing late entry surcharge for ELO members at RaceSignUp

Appendix A

EAST LoTHIAN ORIENTEERS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	2024	2025	
INCOME			
Club Events	4,068.51	2,890.92	Net
Sprintelopes	756.19	301.36	Net
SoSol / SOUL / Night Champs	1,951.85	1,757.86	Net
	6,776.55	4,950.14	Net
T Shirts	18.00	18.00	
O Tops	577.65	320.00	
Balance held from Scottish Championships		1,235.67	
BO: Club fees	64.00	45.00	
SOA: Club fees	171.00	180.00	
Scottish 6 day co	192.00	192.00	
	7,799.20	6,940.81	
EXPENDITURE			
Maps(club events)	932.83		
Maps (sprints)	188.60		
Maps (SoSol)	231.38		
All expenses	511.00		
Levies (club events)	991.85		
Levies(sprints)	471.75		
Levies (SoSol)	418.70		
	3,746.11		
Web hosting fee	53.50		
BO Affiliation	80.00	90.00	
SI	30.50	768.00	
Training Courses	469.00	170.00	
Equipment	258.48	1,178.95	
Club Trophies	65.96	89.35	
Donations	100.00	130.00	
Race entries		465.00	
O Tops - Cost	538.14	371.25	
Bank service charges		26.76	
	5,341.69	3,289.31	
DEFICIT/SURPLUS FOR YEAR	2,457.51	3,651.50	
BANK BALANCE: Previous year end	15,641.25	18,098.76	
BANK BALANCE: Year end.	18,098.76	21,750.26	

Appendix B – Club Events

ELO Events 24/25							
		Income	BOF Levy	SOA Levy	Maps	Expenses	Balance
Club Eents							
North Berwick Law		301.12	66.25		56.07		178.80
Yellowcraig		498.76	119.80		92.47		286.49
Levenhall		439.89	128.55		71.73		239.61
Butterdean		544.65	172.15		82.13		290.37
John Muir CP		515.34	164.75		80.03		270.56
Vogrie	FF	874.92	189.20		93.17		592.55
Barns Ness		594.68	203.10		82.13	35.00	274.45
Vogrie		620.18	173.10		122.18		324.90
Whitekirk Hill		645.55	180.90		130.97		333.68
Open day Vogrie		150.38			50.87		99.51
		5185.47	1397.80	0.00	861.75	35.00	2890.92
Wonderful w'end		3178.17	491.90	221.20	485.60	935.81	1043.66
Binning Wood		1340.80	181.45	90.00	127.15	228.00	714.20
		4518.97	673.35	311.20	612.75	1163.81	1757.86
Sprintelopes							
							0.00
North Berwick		107.76	58.90				48.86
Musselburgh		146.17	86.95				59.22
Haddington		114.25	70.25				44.00
Dunbar		87.74					87.74
Tranent		137.49	75.95				61.54
							0.00
							0.00
							0.00
		593.41	292.05				301.36
							0.00
		10297.85	2363.20	311.20	1474.50	1198.81	4950.14

Appendix C

Accreditation+Qualification list (ELO)

Jamie Wilson	Club Chairs
Robin Strain	Club Secretary
Sheila Strain	Club Membership Secretary
Sheila Strain	Club Treasurer
Pete Younger	Club Treasurer
Duncan Edmondson	Club Treasurer
Robin Strain	Club Fixtures Secretary
Trina Rogerson	Club Fixtures Secretary
Pete Younger	Club Fixtures Secretary
Michael Atkinson	Club Fixtures Secretary
Robin Strain	Club Activities Fixtures Secretary
Trina Rogerson	Club Activities Fixtures Secretary
Pete Younger	Club Activities Fixtures Secretary
Robin Strain	Club Results Secretary
Michael Atkinson	Club Results Secretary
Pete Younger	Club Publicity Officer
Michael Atkinson	Club Publicity Officer
Duncan Leishman	Club Publicity Officer
Michael Atkinson	Club POC Manager
Robin Strain	Club Mapping Officer
Godfrey Beddard	Club Mapping Officer
Tim Harding	Club Mapping Officer
Michael Atkinson	Club Mapping Officer
Peter Brownsort	Club Mapping Officer
Trina Rogerson	Club Equipment Officer
Robin Strain	Club Webmaster
Pete Younger	Club Webmaster
Michael Atkinson	Club Webmaster
Robin Strain	Club SI Co-ordinator
Robin Strain	Club Incentives Scheme Reports
Sheila Strain	Club Incentives Scheme Reports
Jamie Wilson	Club Welfare Officer
Jennifer Atkinson	Club Welfare Officer
Sheila Strain	Club Coaching Coordinator