

Hi Everyone.

The clubs AGM was held at the Calbourne Community Centre on the 16th August 2024 & although we received apologies from some members, it was disappointing that only the existing committee were present & consequently were re-elected to their existing positions. After all AGM reports were recorded, matters arising were discussed. Entry fees for future events was a priority. British Orienteering levies & insurance fees increased significantly last year so unfortunately we are having to increase your entry fees to cover their costs. The cost of re-newing your membership or becoming a member remains the same but entry fees at Wighton events for this coming year will be as follows:

	Fees in 2023	New Fees for 2024
Adults Club & BO members	£3.00	£5.00
Adults Non club or BO members	£ 5.00	£8.00
Family Club & BO members group	£5.00	£8.00
Family Non club or BO member group	£6.00	£10.00
Juniors 'Under 16' Club BO & non members	£1.00	£1.00

We also discussed the possibility of introducing more social events to the clubs diary. Perhaps an annual club dinner, or a pie & chips quiz night! Interaction with other members away from the running events, being the key objective. If anyone has any suggestions then we'd like to hear from you, or put a post on the clubs facebook. In the meantime we will be putting on the following events for you to make note of in your diaries. DO IT NOW!!

SUNDAY 6TH OCTOBER

Tennyson Downs & the Needles Headland
Colour Coded courses to suit all abilities

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SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

Firestone Copse
Colour Coded courses to suit all abilities

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SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

Borthwood Copse
Christmas Score course to suit all abilities
with Christmas fair & prizes!

More details of the events listed will be posted closer to the event date & hopefully they will not have to be changed & will look forward to seeing you all at the first event. Here is my report for last year presented at the AGM.

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Chairmans report for Wight Orienteers Autumn/Winter23, Spring/Summer24

The Wight committee have met on numerous occasions to discuss affairs. All meetings were held at Tennyson View Calbourne, with few if any apologies.

The first event of the season was on St Catherines Downs in mid September. Christine Summerfield as planner. Conditions on the day were horrendous, rain & strong winds where probably the reason for the poor turn-out, only 15 took part. Was this just bad luck, surely things can only get better for the next event, they didn't!! Firestone Copse was the venue for Novembers event, an area which historically has been our most popular in the past. Steve Taverner was the planner. Again strong winds & heavy rain were forecast, so in the interest of safety the event was postponed for two weeks, but unfortunately on the weekend off the event Island Roads decided to close the road. Although the car park was going to be accessible we didn't know from which direction. Whether our members just thought that the event was cancelled all couldn't rearrange their diaries to suit the new date I don't know, but only 9 competitors took part. This was a disaster for the clubs funds having to pay out for forestry fees!! Thankfully things returned to normal for the Christmas event. We returned to Borthwood Copse after a two year absence. Brian Bailey planned two score courses. We provided Christmas fair at the finish & prizes for the most seasonally dressed, and mother Christmas was walking out in the forest to award additional points. This was all appreciated by the near 50 competitors with plenty of interactive banter at the finish.

The first event in 2024 was at Golden Hill Fort in mid February, Mike Malihant as planner. Mike had managed source the landowner for the south of the area & was granted permission to us it. This had been a frustration for him at previous events he'd plan here & was glad to get this sorted. He was also, like me pleased with another good turn- out, close to 40 took part. In late March Trevor was the planner for the event on St Boniface Down. The area to the north was restricted because of ground nesting birds, this meant that the deep bowl would have to be used. Trevor found this more challenging as we hadn't used this area for some time now & the vegetation & fence boundaries were out of date. Never

the less he had another good turn- out & there were no complaints. Brian stepped in at short notice to plan Mays event at Mottistone. He decided to display the courses he'd planned at registration & this proved to have an interesting result as we had a lot more deciding to try the green course than usual. I think this was a really good idea to let everyone see what their letting themselves in for, so to speak, & we will continue to do the same at future events. Again the turn-out was good. I'd started to survey Cheverton Farm in February. We had registered to have an event there in June so I had a deadline. This was going to be a challenge as I'd never drawn a map from scratch. It took around 8 visits get the area to an event level & probably took as long to draw it as to survey it. I was hoping that members curiosity would bring them to this new area & I wasn't disappointed as the entries were the highest of the year. We will be definitely be using the area again next spring & I hope to survey more of this area, which is huge. Sally & Chris wanted to take on the gauntlet off planning this year's quiz walk which was in early August. This was a 2 ½ mile figure of eight walk in Gurnard & attracted the regular quiz walk enthusiast's that take part each year. This concludes the Wighto event diary for the 2023/2024 season.

In addition to the Wighto events Carol Taverner organised another schools event at Martins Wood at Newchurch. This was well attended with over 90 children taking part from 7 different schools & will no doubt be an annual event. She also put on an event for Priory school only at the same venue & along with Steve Taverner promoted orienteering at the peach games at Freshwater. I also joined Carol to promote the club with a stall in St Thomas's Church, Newport.

Wighto members continue to regularly take part at BAOC events on Wednesdays & the Caddihoe Chase & November Classic had Wighto participation. Three Wighto members took part at the Cresoe event on the Brecon Beacons & two at the OO cup in France this summer.

Mike Malihant has established & installed a POC course at Golden Hill Fort. Maps of the area along with the three other established POC courses will be offered free to anyone wanting to try orienteering at their leisure. New boards have been produced and will soon replace the out of date ones at each venue, with information on how to obtain copies of each map. Chris Pritchett has also been surveying another new area, St Catherines Point & Knowles Farm, & this hopefully will be ready for the coming season.

Christine Summerfield has continued to promote club activities on Facebook.
Dan Williams continues to post forthcoming events & results on the web-site.
Frank Winter continues to send bulletins of forthcoming events to our members.

All in all, after a bad start, the club has had a good year with above average participation. I've seen a lot of new faces taking part over the last few events & hope they will continue to take part at future events.

Entry fees for club events have remained the same throughout the year, but British Orienteering levies where increased. I can see no alternative that we will have to increase our fees this coming season. This will have to be the first thing on the agenda for the new committee.

Thanks to all that have given their time & effort with staging this year's events & to all those involved in the administration & promotion of the clubs affairs.

Peter Bartlett [Club Chair]