

# WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

## Annual Report 2017

### INTRODUCTION

This Report summarises the activities of the Welsh Orienteering Association during 2017. It takes the form of short reports from the officers of the Association and is presented at the Annual General Meeting for approval.

### Chairman's report

The Welsh Orienteering Association has managed to complete a very successful year. Both in terms of the orienteering events which have taken place in Wales, but also the level of success of some of the athletes in Wales and the UK, and also on the international stage.

Whilst it was of concern that the Association was unable to fill the position of Chair during 2017 – this report has been written on behalf of the Chair by Roger Stein, WOA Secretary – it is very welcome that we can report that David Pal has stepped forward during 2018 to taken on this role. He was co-opted by the Officers of the Association as allowed in the Constitution, and we would welcome the full support of members for this by election at the next AGM.

The Association is currently in a healthy financial situation as a result of the successes of the summer multi-day events forming Croeso 2016 (and normally held every 4 years). That with a relatively small membership it is commendable that volunteers from within the clubs are able to stage a major international multiday competition, as well as other major events such as, in 2017, the Junior Home Internationals, the Welsh Championships and a CompassSport Cup heat.

Roger Stein (SBOC)  
WOA Secretary

### Treasurer's report

#### ACCOUNTS 2017-18

The accounts show that WOA finances are in a healthy situation and the accumulated fund is the result of two very successful international multiday competition in 2012 and 2016. Such funding is needed to sustain the development of orienteering in Wales over the coming 4 years.

Audited accounts appear at the end of my report.

#### BUDGET 2019-20

##### Summary:

It is proposed that subscriptions and levies remain at the same level for 2019/20 as for 2018/19.

##### Subscriptions

It is proposed that membership subscriptions should remain at the current level for 2019/20. The current levels of subscriptions and levies are generating a satisfactory income and will be reviewed again in future budgets.

It is therefore recommended that membership subscriptions for 2019/20 are:

Seniors	£3.00
Juniors	£1.20

##### Levies

Levies can be varied by the committee at any time (and do not have to be agreed at the AGM) but it has been practice to implement any changes from 1 January. It is proposed that levies remain the same for 2019/20 as for 2018/19.

It is therefore recommended that levies for 2019/20 are:

Seniors	£0.70
Juniors	3 juniors for 1 senior

Jean Lochhead (EPOC)  
Treasurer

**WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION**  
**Income & Expenditure Account for the year to 31 March 2018**

		2018		2017	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
Membership subscriptions from BOF			531.60		555.60
Membership Subs Ex Pats			123.63		132.00
Levy (clubs outside Wales)			184.80		217.00
Levy Welsh Clubs			1,531.60		1,808.10
Croeso Levy from WOA Clubs			-		4,324.00
Croeso BOF Levy 50% refund			-		3,860.00
Sport Wales Grant			<u>3,000.00</u>		<u>3,000.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>5,371.63</b>		<b>13,896.70</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Administration	1	212.18		166.09	
Audit Fee		150.00		150.00	
Welsh Champs Expenses	2	230.40		390.23	
Event Expenses - British Night	3	236.25		-	
Engraving		<u>74.45</u>	<u>903.28</u>	<u>33.50</u>	<u>739.82</u>
			4,468.35		13,156.88
<b>Special Projects</b>					
Volunteer Training Weekend	4	1,350.00			Jun-17
<b>Performance and Excellence</b>					
Development inc Mapping, Coaching	5	1,317.76		1,033.72	
Grants for Internationals & Training	6	607.69		1,279.43	
Veterans Home International	7	900.00		900.00	
Senior Home International	7	1,000.00		450.00	
Junior Home International	7	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>6,275.45</u>	<u>1,650.00</u>	<u>5,313.15</u>
<b>Deficit / Surplus for year</b>			<b><u>1,807.10</u></b>		<b><u>7,843.73</u></b>

**WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION**  
**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31 March 2018**

		£	£
<b>1 Administration:</b>			
	AGM Printing	25.00	
	Secretary's Expenses	87.00	
	Website hosting	<u>100.18</u>	212.18
<b>2 Welsh Champs Expenses:</b>			
	Mugs		230.40
	<b>Event Expenses:</b>		
<b>3</b>	British Night Controller		106.50
<b>4 Volunteer Training Weekend:</b>			
	Plas Dolau Centre		1,350.00
	<b>Development:</b>		
	Development Project Report	500.00	
	Advertising	257.25	
	Expenses of those attending Plas Dolau		
	Training weekend	461.36	
	Mapping	129.75	
	Event Safety Workshop	<u>99.15</u>	1,447.51
<b>6 Grants for Internationals and Training</b>			
	Megan Carter-Davies	162.36	
	Fay Walsh	115.00	
	Oscar Healey	82.00	
	Harry & Will Thomas	<u>248.33</u>	607.69
<b>7 Veterans HI</b>	Expenditure £2,513 Contribution from WOA £900. Contribution from participants £1,613.		
	<b>Junior HI</b>		
	Expenditure £1,580 Contribution from WOA £1,100. Contribution from participants £480.		
<b>8 Senior HI £1,000</b>	No accounts information has been forthcoming. Therefore I am unable to show the costs and Competitors Contributions		

**WELSH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018**

	£ 2018	£ 2017
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	1,531.60	1,808.10
Cash at bank	<u>37,852.27</u>	<u>39,382.87</u>
	<b>39,383.87</b>	<b>41,190.97</b>
<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	<u>150.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u><b>39,233.87</b></u>	<u><b>41,040.97</b></u>

	£	£
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Accumulated Fund Fund      b/d	41,040.97	33,197.24
<b>Deficit</b> / Surplus for year ended 31.3.18	<u><b>-1,807.10</b></u>	<u>7,843.73</u>
	<u><b>39,233.87</b></u>	<u><b>41,040.97</b></u>

<b>Allocated to:</b>		
Development Fund              1/3 Accumulated Fund to assist clubs with future events	13,077.96	13,680.00
Reserve Fund	<u>26,155.91</u>	<u>27,360.97</u>
Accumulated Fund              c/f	<u><b>39,233.87</b></u>	<u><b>41,040.97</b></u>

**16/17**

The Comparative figure for the Sports Council Wales Grant (£3,000) has been amended to be shown as Income in the Income and Expenditure Account in accordance with advice from Sport Wales (8.11.17) This amendment does not alter the final 16/17 figures of Income & Expenditure or the 16/17 Balance Sheet

Certified to be in accordance with the books, documents and explanations given to me.

Signed:

Date:

Brian A. Cheetham  
CIPFA  
Chartered Inst. of Public Finance Accountants

# Membership Secretary's report

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT OF 2017 FOR WOA AGM

	2017		
	TOTAL	M	F
<i>HONORARY MEMBERS (included in club totals)</i>	4	3	1
<i>ERYRI SENIORS</i>	17	8	9
<i>ERYRI JUNIORS</i>	9	4	5
<b>ERYRI - TOTAL</b>	26		
<i>MWOC SENIORS</i>	28	17	11
<i>MWOC JUNIORS</i>	21	14	7
<b>MWOC - TOTAL</b>	49		
<i>SBOC SENIORS</i>	59	39	20
<i>SBOC JUNIORS</i>	29	20	9
<b>SBOC - TOTAL</b>	88		
<i>SWOC SENIORS</i>	73	47	26
<i>SWOC JUNIORS</i>	15	10	5
<b>SWOC - TOTAL</b>	88		
<i>BAOC SENIORS</i>	3	2	1
<i>BAOC JUNIORS</i>	0	0	0
<b>BAOC - TOTAL</b>	3		
<i>RAFO SENIORS</i>	3	3	0
<i>RAFO JUNIORS</i>	0	0	0
<b>RAFO - TOTAL</b>	3		
<i>SPLIT SENIORS</i>	7	3	4
<i>SPLIT JUNIORS</i>	0	0	0
<b>SPLIT - TOTAL</b>	7		
<i>EXPAT SENIORS</i>	37	26	11
<i>EXPAT JUNIORS</i>	16	4	12
<b>EXPAT - TOTAL</b>	53		
<b>TOTAL SENIORS</b>	227		
<b>TOTAL JUNIORS</b>	90		
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	317		

	2016		
	TOTAL	M	F
	5	3	2
	22	8	14
	10	5	5
	32		
	28	18	10
	26	17	9
	54		
	51	34	17
	19	13	6
	70		
	67	43	24
	21	14	7
	88		
	3	2	1
	2	1	1
	5		
	2	2	
	2		
	9	4	5
	9		
	36	27	9
	9	2	7
	45		
	222	141	82
	87	52	35
	310		

senior men/women  
junior men/women

145      82  
52      38

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>WOA MEMBERSHIP</b>
2010	393
2011	382
2012	360
2013	313
2014	326
2015	325
2016	310
2017	317

Good to see a small upturn in numbers in 2017. The drop in 2016 was to be expected when BOF changed membership criteria from FAMILY to the requirement for each individual to be registered. Hence the membership of the less keen members of orienteering families was not renewed in a significant number of cases.

There is increasing effort by all clubs to attract new members, by running events in local, easy-to-get-to areas such as parks and perhaps this is beginning to bear fruit!

It is noticeable that all the effort put into schools orienteering does not lead to any significant conversion to club orienteering, so that is probably an area that needs to be worked on – how to attract parents!

Anne May  
WOA Membership Secretary

# Fixtures Secretary's report

My written report covers the period January to December 2017.

In 2017 the following were staged in Wales,

Welsh Classic Championships held at Merthyr Mawr, Bridgend staged by SBOC. They also hosted the Welsh Short Distance Championships at the same venue.

A Compass Sport Cup heat was held at Cwm Lickey, Cwmbran staged by SWOC.

The Cwpan Y Ddraig and Yvette Baker trophy qualifying round for Wales was held at Kingswood near Monmouth hosted by SWOC.

The Junior Home International Individual and Relay races were hosted by MWOC at Gwanas near Dolgellau for the individual race and Llechweddgain, Trawsfynydd for the relay race.

A UK Urban League race was held in Tenby staged by BAOC along with a classic distance race on Mynydd Preseli, Crymych on the day before. Both races counted for the 2017 Welsh League.

The Welsh Middle Distance Championships does not appear to have been held in 2017.

Activities staged in Wales included Welsh Junior Squad training, event safety workshops, ERYRI club nights and SBOC held their annual introduction to orienteering events.

WOA and Welsh clubs are reminded that an orienteering race/event or activity is only covered by British Orienteering (BOF) insurance if it is registered with British Orienteering. If an event or activity is being run by a BOF affiliated orienteering club but is not registered with BOF then the club and the members taking part should ensure they are aware of the insurance arrangements for that event in case the liability arrangements are different. Urban events have further rules to follow to be covered by BOF insurance including where competitors under 16 years of age can run. **At the earliest opportunity when registering a race or activity the relevant officials should be added to the BOF database to ensure that the named individuals receive the appropriate protection from British Orienteering's insurance.**

During 2017 a change took place with the labels Level A, B, C & D being replaced by Major, National, Regional and Local respectively. There was no change in the actual interpretation of each label.

The BOF database shows that 72 (88 in 2016) events took place in Wales in 2017. This is made up of 0 Major events (0 in 2016), 4 National events (8 in 2016), 8 Regional events (6 in 2016) and 60 Local events (74 in 2016). This does not include events held by clubs outside of Wales but run in Wales such as DEE events which are registered with the North West Orienteering Association.

The BOF database shows 33 activities took place in Wales in 2016 (51 in 2014, 42 in 2015, 26 in 2016).

The figures vary each year depending on the commitments of each club. The change in number of activities staged might be for several reasons. Firstly clubs change may change their priorities from year to year, secondly reclassifying activities as Level D races which slightly alter the number to better reflect the status of the race/activity and thirdly a failure to register an activity due to the low level of involvement perceived.

## Breakdown of race categories per club

	Major (Level A)	National (Level B)	Regional (Level C)	Local (Level D)	Activities
MWOC	0	2	2	14	11
ERYRI	0	0	0	1	8
SWOC	0	1	2	21	6
SBOC	0	1	2	24	8
BAOC	0	0	2	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	0	4	8	60	33

## Participation Figures for events in 2017

Clubs are thanked for their prompt responses to my request for participation figures and more so that for most races and activities the figures were submitted without me having to ask.

	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Juniors</b>
<b>ERYRI</b>	329	75
<b>MWOC</b>	387	816
<b>SBOC</b>	973	310
<b>SWOC</b>	872	321
<b>BAOC</b>	349	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2910</b>	<b>1558</b>

## Participation figures for previous years.

<b>Category</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Senior</b>	2047	9244	2303	8609	2910
<b>Junior</b>	1360	4199	1190	3091	1558
<b>Total</b>	<b>3407</b>	<b>13443</b>	<b>3493</b>	<b>11700</b>	<b>4468</b>

(2013 figures do not include participation figures for three club activities held late in 2013)

(2015 figures do not include participation figures for eight club activities)

(2016 figures do not include participation figures for two club activities)

(2017 figures do not include participation figures for one club activity)

2014 included the Jan Kjellestrom International Event held at Easter in the Swansea and Tredegar areas.

2016 included Croeso 2016 held over five days in South Wales

British Orienteering's Event Scheduling Group held meetings in March 2017 and October 2017 both of which I attended.

David Pal (WRE)  
Fixtures Secretary



# Mapping Officer's report

	NEW	UPGRADE	EXTENSION
SBOC	Crymlyn Burrows Dinefwr P.O.C. Parc Howard P.O.C.	Pembrey Forest Pembrey Burrows Pembrey Country Park P.O.C. Whitford Burrows Oxwich Burrows Llyn Lech Owain P.O.C.	
SWOC	REMAPPED  Dreathen Castell Coch	Llantrisant Forest Kingswood Cwm Lickey	
MWOC	Elan Valley (draft)	Nash Wood	Aberystwyth University and Parc Natur Penglais
ERYRI		Newborough to ISOM 2018	

Robert Griffiths (POW)  
Mapping Officer

# Coaching Officer's report

## ERYRI

Coaching for club and Eryri Harriers on two winter series of urban training activities, 5 events in total for 2017. Three from 16/17 series: Llanrwst 5 Jan 17, Penrhyn 2 Feb 17 & Llandudno Junction 2 Mar 17 with an average of 22 senior non-members and 5 junior non-members. Two from 17/18 series: Bangor 2 Nov 17 & Llandudno Junction 7 Dec 17, with average of 23 senior non-members. Coaching at local school at three PE periods in Jan/Feb 17 for 25 Year 5's and 27 Year 6's. Leading to participation in local schools' league: 3 events in 16/17 season (4 Feb 17, 4 Mar 17, 18 Mar 17) at average of 7 participants, and 3 events in 17/18 season (23 Sep 17, 11 Nov 17, 2 Dec 17) with average of 7 participants. Coaching for local cadet unit, on 24 May 17 (World Orienteering Day), at Kinmel Training Area: 31 participants. A closed club training session on 2 Dec 17 (Jim Wood to complete his UKCC Level 2 award) with 10 participants.

## MWOC

Bill and Terry provided coaching exercises at Powys Schools league events at the beginning of the year – 300 participants  
Aberystwyth University Student Expedition Club introductory session – 4 participants who then attended a local event. Gabriella  
Series of four linked introductory sessions in Aberystwyth 17 Feb, 3 Mar, 17 Mar, 31 Mar - 10 participants mostly juniors with accompanying parents. Gabriella assisted by Dylan Skym  
Come and Try It and score event Gregynog 2 Jul – 24 participants Bill Marlow  
MEGWOC challenge activity for all 16 Jul – 28 participants A  
Club members Training session at Blaenmelindwr – re-used WJS exercises from a previous occasion - 4 participants  
24 Jul Robert & Gabriella

Montgomery WI Taster Session Gregynog 27 Jul – 40 participants Bill Marlow  
 Club members TD 5 Training Session at Teifi Pools planned by Josh Dudley. 10 participants 20 Aug  
 Coaching help is provided to individuals/families on an ad-hoc basis at all club events.

### **SBOC**

Coaching help is provided to individuals/families on an ad-hoc basis at the Summer League events.  
 Main coaching for SBOC members still seems to be via the Welsh Junior Squad sessions. And some seniors and older juniors help out at the sessions. In addition Mark Saunders runs a training/coaching session most Thursday evenings which is open to all.

### **SWOC**

SWOC Coaching is delivered by Nigel Ferrand with assistance from Mark Saunders, Alice Bedwell, Anne May and a few others.

SWOC coaching is focused on a number (3 or 4) of Saturday morning sessions put on in the Autumn. In 2017 we had mornings on Caerphilly mountain, Gwaleod Garth, and Forest Fawr. Some are before local events and others stand alone. Sessions are aimed at new comers and the less experienced, up to light green. Attendance is normally good, (10 to 20) although conversion to SWOC membership is mixed. We also put on one joint session with Juniors/WJS at Kenfig. We do not charge for coaching sessions, which last about 2 hours.

In addition to the Autumn sessions in the forest we also provide basic coaching at all our 6 Park Series races in the summer.

We are following a similar pattern in 2018, with 3 Saturday dates now agreed. The only slight change is that we will try a couple of Saturday afternoons to try and avoid clashes with other sports.

**10&11 June 2017 WOA Volunteer Weekend** – Provided a full weekend of coaching development opportunities.

Personal orienteering training exercises, Club Night activities, Systematic Orienteering, Performance analysis, Use of open orienteering map, Safety workshop, Purple Pen planning, Use of OCAD & software to tweak maps for training activities, Introduction to coaching Workshop 1&2, Controller’s course. 22 participants from all four welsh orienteering clubs.

### **Current Welsh Coaches**

	<b>UKCC Level 2</b>	<b>UKCC Level 1</b>	<b>Coach Level 3</b>
<b>ERYRI</b>	<b>Jim Wood</b>		
<b>MWOC</b>	<b>Gabriella Walsh Terry Smith</b>	<b>Steve Walsh Robert Griffiths Eunice Carter Clive Thomas</b>	<b>Bill Marlow</b>
<b>SBOC</b>	<b>Roger Stein</b>		
<b>SWOC</b>	<b>Nigel Ferrand Mark Saunders Alice Bedwell</b>		

**Gabriella Walsh (MWOC)**

## **Information Officer’s report**

All I have managed to do is make a Facebook page which I try to share what the Welsh clubs are up to. We currently have 55 likes.

Clare Dallimore (SWOC)

# Development Officer's report

After the success in 2015, another very successful "Volunteers Activity Weekend" was held at Plas Dolau near Aberystwyth in June. Every member of WOA was invited along and in the end we had more than 20 attendees (a significant proportion of the WOA senior membership). Amongst other things sessions were held on Event Controlling, Event Safety, use of Si Droid for Simple events, Introduction to Mapping, use of Open orienteering map, use of Purple Pen software, performance analysis and an introduction to coaching. There were also opportunities for Orienteering training and a fun orienteering race on the Sunday afternoon – for which we were also joined by some of the local youngsters. Many thanks to everybody who helped with the weekend. Great feedback was received.

This piece of work that Bridget Stein was commissioned to do looking at the possibility of instigating some sort of West Wales Orienteering initiative was formally wound up with the conclusion that there was unlikely to be benefit in investing more money or effort at the current time. The resulting documentation was passed on to SBOC should it be needed in future.

Over the course of the year a number of grants were made from the WOA development fund to the Welsh Clubs to support them in their development work in the following areas

Publicity Materials,  
Event Safety Workshop  
Supporting Volunteer Mapping effort

This was all done one on a matched funding basis.

**Mark Saunders BOK**

# Welsh Junior Squad report

The following activities were held in 2017

Jan 28th/29th - Gower training weekend - Staying at Park Mill Guide Centre. Lots of great sand dune training in readiness for the Welsh Championships. Joined by members of South Central Junior Squad.

Feb 22nd - 26th - Half term – 2 days training in the Lake District. Followed by the British Night Champs on the Saturday evening and Northern Championships on the Sunday. Staying at High Wray Base Camp / and Village Hall.

Mar 19th training on the brilliant terrain of Newborough in Anglesey. Originally intended to be a full weekend, but lack of takers meant we reduced it to one day

Apr 22nd - A training day in the Forest of Dean prior to Welsh League and Cwpan Y Ddraig race on Kingswood on the Sunday. Very few juniors for the latter.

August 12-20th - Summer training camp to Tampere in Finland. Including taking part in the Youth Jukola relay race at which we were one of the featured teams on Finnish television, with many of the youngsters being interviewed.

Sept 23rd-24th – Attending Junior Inter Regional Championships held in the South east of England. Unfortunately this clashed with the Veterans Home International so Alice and I were unable to attend. Many thanks to Jim Wood, Nick Silk and Clive Thomas for taking the team

Oct 7th/8th – Junior Home International held near Dolgellau. This year put on by the Welsh Junior Squad parents and coordinated by Clive Thomas. A very successful weekend despite the best effort of the Rhiw Goch inn – who had had double booked a concert alongside our social.

Finished 3rd = place.

## JHI Results

	Individual	Relay	Overall
England	80	50	130
Scotland	73	54	127
Ireland	34	16	50
Wales	28	22	50

Nov 25th/26th – Training weekend at Hawkshead in the Lakes for M/W 16s, alongside youngsters from all the other Junior Squads.

We are concerned by our reducing numbers. We try to make dates as convenient as possible – arranging days to fit in with Welsh League events – train on the Saturday, race on the Sunday. We are also more and more inviting juniors from elsewhere - BOK, NGOC, West Mids. That helps with the numbers and keeps things fun – much more fun for everyone training in a group of 15/20 rather than just 5 or 6.

So to re-emphasise. Our training is open to any Welsh youngsters. Generally we can arrange exercises for all standards - Yellow/Orange and upwards. Parents are welcome to come along / take part or not as they wish. If you want to know more – or just be included in our mailing list – email us [Markandalice@btinternet.com](mailto:Markandalice@btinternet.com)

**Mark Saunders / Alice Bedwell BOK/SWOC**

# Welsh Senior Squad report

The 2017 Senior Home International was hosted by Fermanagh Orienteers. The individual race was held at Florcencourt/Gortalughany and relays at the Castle Saunderson Scout Camp.

Due to athlete availability and the logistics of traveling to Northern Ireland a reduced Welsh Team took part.

The individual competition took place on open limestone moorland which was very wet underfoot which proved physically tough for the Welsh runners, many of whom it was their first senior competition. Overall England and Scotland tied for points after the first day's competition with Wales in fourth place.

The relays were held at Castle Saunders on less technical terrain. Unfortunately the Irish team cemented their lead in the relays and held a comfortable lead over Wales in the overall competition.

## SHI Results

	Men	Women	Overall
England	25	28	53
Scotland	27	24	51
Ireland	14	10	24
Wales	6	10	16

The Welsh team would like to thank WOA for the financial support towards the cost of the weekend.

Clare Dallimore (SWOC)

# Welsh Veteran Squad report

The 2017 VHI was hosted by Badenoch and Strathspey Orienteering Club on the weekend of 23rd/24th September. All teams were accommodated at the excellent Lagganlia outdoor learning centre.

The relay took place at Auchernack and Balliefurth and results were dominated by England and Scotland. Our best team performance was achieved by Mark Saunders, Liz Campbell and Rhys Manning.

The individual event took place on the complex area of Inshriach. There were some excellent performances by Welsh team members including 4 class wins and a silver. Richard Barrett had a comfortable win in M45 almost 2½ minutes clear of the next competitor in his class. Alice Bedwell and Liz Campbell won W55 and W60 respectively on the same course, just seconds apart, both over 2 minutes clear of the next competitors in their classes. Jill Manning won W65 in a very tight competition. David May achieved a comfortable silver in M65.

The Welsh Team's overall position was 3rd for both the relays and individual events (England 1st, Scotland 2nd, Ireland 4th) so we retained the Wales/Ireland Stone Wall Trophy.

## VHI Results

	Relay	Individual	Overall
England	114	145	259
Scotland	108	132	240
Wales	50	78	128
Ireland	38	62	100

The 2018 VHI will be hosted by South Wales Orienteering Club on the weekend of 29th/30th September. The Welsh Champs, JK and British Champs will be used as selection races for the Welsh Team.

Sophie Brown (AIRE)

# Schools Liaison Officer's report

**WOA Orienteering in Schools 2017 Annual Report**  
(collated in April 2018 by Bridget Stein SBOC)

## **North Wales – Mair Tomos**

### Schools mapped:

Five Gwynedd primary schools maps were updated (Llanbedrog, Maenofferen, Rhiwlas, Rhostryfan, Sarn Bach)

## **Mid-Wales – Bill Marlow**

### Schools mapped:

Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd in Newtown (Mair Tomos)

### Other activities:

Terry Smith and myself (Bill Marlow) have once again worked during the School year in conjunction with the Powys Sports Development (namely, Katie Hamer and her fellow Community Sports Development Officers), to promote Orienteering within Schools in Powys. We have done this by organising Cluster Festivals throughout Powys in the Autumn Term of 2017. We changed the format this year as we are constantly reviewing what to and what not to include.

We merged some of the Clusters as well as restricting the number of entries from each school and in addition this school year we did not include related exercises and instead have just provided a Cluster Championships for Year 3 & 4 on a White course and Year 5 & 6 on a Yellow with Downloads and Results under my supervision (each pair was pre-entered using the Si AutoDownload software, and more recently the Si Event Timing). Each School was given a Time slot to Start, avoiding a lot of hanging around waiting their turn. The children have competed, mostly in pairs, and have been exposed once again to our full Sportident set up (i.e. Dibbers, Si Stakes & Units). At Download they were given a tear-off results slip, which included their names, course, school, year group, splits times and total time and current position displayed. Later in the day I would upload the results on to the Club website where all the results can be seen at <https://www.mid-wales-orienteers.org.uk/info/category/schools>

The astronomical cost of Coach Hire added to tight School Budgets has, in places, severely affected the numbers participating, although other external factors have come in to play.

Numbers analysis of participants for Powys Primary Schools Cluster Festivals (these took place at Gwernyfed HS, Gregynog Hall Estate or Nash Woods):-

Gwernyfed = 93; 3rd October 2017

Welshpool and Llanfyllin = 269; 10th October 2017

Newtown, Llanidloes and Machynlleth = 258; 17th October 2017

Total = 620

The South and North Powys Primary Schools Championships, respectively, are due to be held in Spring 2018 (expected participation *ca.* 450), and the Inter-county championships in June.

## **South Wales – Bridget Stein**

New maps were made of four Ystradgynlais primary schools (Mair Tomos) - Ysgol Bro Tawe, Golwg y Cwm, Y Cribarth, and Y Glowyr) and of Ysgol Maesydderwen (Secondary school)

(v3 – 18 Sept. 2018)