

New Chairman – Linda Pakuls



You may wonder what the qualities of a chairman need to be – I certainly did. Well it turns out that the most important attribute is to be not very good at any of the other portfolios and certainly unable to turn out minutes at any credible rate!! That, and the ability to talk loudest at the most crucial point of a debate.

However, I have served on the committee for several years, and perhaps more importantly, have been orienteering for several decades since the tender age of 12. Perhaps most importantly, I have strong views on this very interesting sport of ours and I am honoured to serve as chairman for this year. It might be an entirely different matter next year ☺ This short newsletter describes what your committee hopes to achieve in this orienteering year.

For the new season, may I wish all of you good route choices, and courses with no steep climb.

Manifesto 2008/09

Your committee dedicated a large part of our October committee meeting to discussing what we'd like to achieve this year and the resulting 4-point plan:

1. Club Development

This is a well worn subject at many AGMs and committees. For this year the thrust of development will be on both increasing numbers and on supporting excellent performance from our members.

To increase numbers we will work to align the club with sporting clubs who have similar interests e.g. running clubs and with organisations who have a natural interest in map and compass work e.g. scout clubs. We will continue to follow guidelines on working with schools and will review the current thinking on this, although we have had limited success in attracting schools participation in our catchment area.

To support excellence, we will continue to provide assistance to members selected for international honours and regional and national squads. We will promote successes achieved by our members on our website, in local newspapers and in forums that we can access. Ideally we'd like to achieve the appointment of a committee member with a publicity portfolio, so we can maintain a reasonable level of publications.

GO events

- Club meeting, Merrow, 24 Nov
- Champs #1, Broadstone, 30 Nov
- Henley Gate, 6 Dec (school)
- Annual Club Social: 31 Jan 2009;
Venue: Woolbedding NT Cottages
PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY NOW!
- Ambersham, 1 Feb (regional)
- Witley Common, 10 Jan (school)
- Mytchett, 31 Jan (school)
- Bagshot Heath, 28 Feb (school)
- Alice Holt, 28 Mar (school)

Web links

- [Guildford Orienteers](#)
- [British Orienteering](#)
- [SEOA](#); [SE email service](#)
- [Nopesport news](#)
- Online entries: [Fabian4](#)
- [nTrees](#)

Contacts

- Linda Pakuls (Chair)
[email](#)
- Jeremy Wilde (Secretary)
- Keith Tonkin (Treasurer)
[email](#)
- Louise Cocks (Membership)
[email](#)

Manifesto 2008/09 continued

2. Financial Management

We aim to maintain a cautious approach on our finances.

We had recently upgraded our SI equipment and will re-institute a fund to replace this in a few years time.

We budget all out events to either break even or make a small profit and we manage the cycle of areas used within our area to make best use of funds spent on mapping. Where new maps are required, we will consider collaborating with neighbouring clubs to maximise the usefulness of the area to both clubs and minimise the cost to us.

3. Communications

This remains a challenging area for us. We want to keep members informed of what is going on in the sport and news of achievements within the club.

We have an excellent resource in our club website – so please look there for any information you may need.

We aim to:

- Celebrate internally
- Publish locally
- Communicate regularly
- Set a variety of club meets

So look out for a variety of communications from your committee following the very successful format of the newsletters published by Keith. Please email any committee member with news or views – we will be VERY happy to publish these.

4. Collaboration

We like to think of ourselves as small but perfectly formed ☺ but increasingly we can see benefits from joining forces with neighbouring clubs to stage events, fund mapping projects, create relay teams and generate interest in the sport.

So we will continue to work with SN on the Saturday schools series for example. Please show your support for this by offering help on the day.

Thank you for reading to the end of this. All views, comments, and proposals to any member of the committee please. All volunteers to take the role of publicity officer, please email me or phone me to discuss further.

Regards,
Linda Pakuls (07802 595200)

