Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers

AGM

7th October 2026 7.00 pm by Teams

Present: Joanne Field (JF), AGM Chair, Mary Rack (MR), Peter Firth (PF), Katherine Brown (KB), Frank Shillitoe (FS), Allie Wilson-Craw (AWC), Gwenda Cavill (GC), Les Cavill (LC), Michael Broadhurst (MB), Patrick Smyth (PS), Lewis Balfour (LB), George Hare (GH), Helen Rafferty (HR), Kim Sanderson (KS), Fred Miller (FM).

1 Apologies: Charlie Wilson

2 Minutes of 2025 AGM read and accepted.

3 No matters arising.

4 Chairs report:

After four years as Vice-Chair and six years as Chair I've decided it's time to hand the baton over to somebody else. Looking back over the year I am again surprised by the shear number of events we are managing to put on which is testament to every volunteer no matter how small your role. In the last year, I count 16 LOPs, 4 Easter fun events, 3 Locals, 2 Regionals, the October Odyssey weekend and the collaboration with Roxburgh Reivers with us organising Berwick-upon-Tweed and RR organising Eyemouth. I found Berwick particularly memorable being a brand new area and also attracting lots of participants from across the country; we had 188 entries in total. It is evident that we have an ageing demographic in the club but that is also seen nationally. My own children are now at university and whilst one is clearly more taken by basketball the other retains an interest if an event is easy to get to. Living in central London the reality for him would be a very early train out into the hinterland and then a long walk, bus ride or cadging a lift from somebody. In the north-east no doubt there may be others who would like to orienteer but transport may be an issue. Perhaps it would help to bang the orienteering drum to friends and acquaintances and offer lifts to people. Finally, on the subject of volunteering, please do continue to help, or offer to help if you haven't before because this is vital in order for us to continue putting on the range of events that we do.

Francis Shillitoe

5 Treasurers report

1st September 2025- 31st August 2026

Notable things regarding this year's finances (2025-2026):

· Mapping - The club paid for new maps of Beanley (£1800) and Berwick (£1200) at the start of the financial year and both have already been used for national level events.

· Event income – The large volume of events that the club has put on this year has meant that income from entries has been strong. Our biggest event of the year was the Berwick Urban race with 188 people taking part. The high entry resulted in the club making a profit of over £1600, meaning that the cost of the new map has already been recouped. Entries for the October Odessey were a little disappointing with only 55 on day 1 and 73 on day 2 but profits were still made on both events. Hopefully we will be able to utilise Beanley map again in the coming years to continue to gradually offset the cost of the map.

· Printing – Commercial printing of maps and control descriptions is becoming more expensive, so we are very fortunate that Fred Miller continues to manage much of the printing in-house. This is a big saving for the club.

· Bank charges - Lloyds introduced a monthly banking fee early in 2025 so this has been the first full year of charges. The amount, £4.25 per month, has not increased since the fee was introduced so £51 has been paid in banking fees for the period.

· North East Orienteering Association (NEOA) contribution – A decision was made at the NEOA AGM in 2025 that the North East clubs would not need to make a contribution to either the general fund or junior squad fund in this year.

Looking ahead to the coming year (2026-2027):

After a year where the local clubs didn't need to pay into the NEOA account there is an expectation that contributions will resume in 2026/27. Other than this and the usual annual expenses and outgoings there are no major upcoming commitments planned meaning that there are significant funds available for investment of equipment or mapping in the coming year if required.

Many thanks to Peter Firth for carrying out the independent examination of the accounts.

Joanne Field, 4th October 2026

6 Election of Officers

Chair: Katherine Brown, proposed JF, seconded FM

Vice Chair: Lewis Balfour, proposed GC, seconded KS

Secretary: Michael Broadhurst, proposed FM, seconded MR

Treasurer: Joanne Field, proposed GH, seconded GC

Safeguarding and Welfare Officer: Allie Wilson-Craw, proposed JF, seconded KB

Safety Officer: Katherine Brown, proposed JF, seconded GC

Club captain: Mary Rack, proposed JF, seconded KB

Other committee members: Paul Boyles, Gwenda Cavill, Francis Shillitoe.

Junior rep on committee: vacant

Account Verifier: Peter Firth, proposed GC, seconded JF

Nicola Balfour has offered to take on the social media role from Kim Sanderson.

7 AOB

7.1 The meeting agreed that the fees for 2026 should remain as 2025. This needs to be an agenda item in subsequent AGMs.

7.2 Allie raised a number of points regarding safeguarding functions which will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Meeting ended 19.40.