

East Anglian Orienteering Association AGM 7th July 2013

Acting Chairman's Report by Paul Beckett

I am presenting this report as your Acting Chairman following the sudden illness and death of your chairman John T Ward during May 2013. John was very active in the East Anglian orienteering world as a mapper, planner, controller and helper at many orienteering events in the region, had been our regional chairman for the past three years and was a friend to many of us. We will miss him greatly and offer our condolences to his wife Sally and his two sons.

Meanwhile the sport and its administration carry on. The region operates within an evolving national context led by British Orienteering and we have continued to play our part in defining and improving this relationship. John Ward's paper to last autumn's Club Conference regarding suitable national-regional relationships was well received. SOS's Lynn West has completed her period of office as British Orienteering Chairman but we have continued to benefit from CUOC's David Maliphant attending our EAOA meetings as a British Orienteering Director.

Orienteering competitions across the region have continued to be popular with good attendances at the East Anglian League events (6 in 2012 and 7 scheduled for 2013) and at the SOS East Anglian Championships at Writtle Forest in March 2013. A notable individual achievement this year was the selection of WAOC's Rachel Pocock and Suffoc's Tim Harrison to run for England at the Interland international event at Breda, Netherlands in March 2013.

Our juniors have also been doing well under the coaching guidance of Clive Wilkinson and Graham Louth. SOS Chloe Cracknell was 3rd W12 at the British Championships 2013 and SOS juniors Jack, Dominic and Lucy won the mini relay at the same event. Five EAOA juniors have been selected to attend this summer's junior training camp at Lagganlia in Scotland. Local schools did well in the British Schools' Championships 2012 (St. Andrew's School Halstead 3rd in primary class; Barnardiston School 2nd in middle-prep class; Ramsey College 2nd in small secondary class). Even better results were achieved at the British Schools' Score Championships 2012 (St. Andrews 3rd in primary girls, 1st in primary boys; Barnardiston 1st in middle prep girls and boys).

British Orienteering awarded the Silva Trophy 2013 to SOS Jenny and John Collyer for services to the sport through coaching, mapping, organising, planning, controlling and competing since the 1970s. British Orienteering also named CUOC as the best university orienteering club for this year, and recently awarded Clubmark accreditation to NOR and SUFFOC.

Finally, I would like to thank all the committee members for their work and support this year, and all those who have contributed in your various ways to some enjoyable orienteering in our East Anglian region during 2012-13.