

20 Sep 21

**Minutes of the Army Orienteering Association Military League South Annual General Meeting, 20 Sep 2021**

Present	Lt Col Richard Mawer (RM) Col Lucy Giles (LG) WO1 John Leddy (JL) WO2 Mark Robson (MR) Allan Farrington (AF) Colin Dickson (CD) SSgt Des Dickinson (DD) Michael Krajewski (MK)	AOA Chairman/ MLS Chairman  AOA Treasurer, MLS Treasurer AOA Sec AOA Tech Adviser/EMIT UK AOA Mapping Adviser MLS Sec	Chair       Secretary
	Apologies	Maj Richard Barrett WO1 Stu Greening Col James Rhodes	

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<p><b>Item 1 – Introductions and opening remarks</b></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance, stating that the purpose of the AGM was to provide feedback on the previous season, provide an update on the following season and consider changes to the league regarding scoring, novices and championship events.</p> <p><b>Item 2 – Review of previous minutes (AGM held in Jan 2021)</b></p> <p>2. Previous points and actions were reviewed, noting the following:</p> <p>a. <b>Rules.</b> The rules were updated before the resumption of the previous MLS season but require an update with suggested amendments as proposed within these minutes.</p> <p><b>Item 3 – Chairman points</b></p> <p>3. The Chairman reported that 2020/21 has been a particularly challenging period, reflecting on all that had been achieved to date:</p> <p>a. The 20/21 season had been short but successfully concluded, with Individual Champs and Prize Giving event at end of season.</p> <p>b. RM noted that the MLS concluded a very successful Summer Series but would like to see increased military participation.</p> <p>c. The standard of the events was once again outstanding and expressed his gratitude for all the work carried out behind the scenes.</p> <p>4. The Chairman raised the point that MLS shares the training area with both other units and civilian personnel and that our continued use is reliant on continuing to respect and work with other users. Every person taking part has a responsibility to report any incident, including anti-social behaviour, to the organiser. This will help ensure we continue to enjoy free and unhindered use of the training areas.</p> <p>5. <b>Committee.</b> No changes to current appointments:</p> <p>Chairman: Lt Col Richard Mawer</p>	

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<p>Secretary: SSgt Des Dickinson  Treasurer: WO1 John Leddy  Results Secretary: Neil Gordon</p> <p>If anyone would like to put their name forward for vacancies as they arise, please inform the committee.</p> <p>6. <b>Rules update.</b> The following rule updates/amendments were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. League points to be calculated from the top three runners and not top three <b>military</b> runners. Agreed by all in attendance.</li> <li>b. Long Orange to score less than Light Green (proposed max 40 points) to incentivise runners to move up. A minimum 10 points to be awarded on Long Orange for successful completion. Agreed that this will be discussed further by MLS committee before implementing the changes.</li> <li>c. Update novice definition to remove U25 restriction. LG agreed that this excludes a portion of people starting orienteering and change was appropriate. The following was agreed by all, with the finer details will be left to the MLS committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Replace U25 prize category in league and championship with Novice category. LG raised the point that this aligns better with BOF age categories</li> <li>(2) For Novice to be eligible they will need to compete on the Long Orange or Light Green. LG asked if personnel should be new to MLS or to orienteering. It was agreed that by awarding this category to courses listed above it would focus on those new to orienteering, as those with prior experience would likely compete on more advanced courses.</li> <li>(3) Personnel will be classed as a Novice for their first two seasons.</li> <li>(4) It was agreed that further discussion with results personnel is needed to determine how best to apply these changes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>7. <b>Championship events.</b> The MLS Relay Championship has lacked sufficient support but it is felt that the event is still worthwhile. To improve participation, the format will be amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The event will be an ad hoc event. Team members do not have to come from the same unit.</li> <li>b. Prizes will be open to both civilian and military teams, or even mixed teams.</li> <li>c. Prize-giving will take place on the day of the event.</li> <li>d. Look to conduct event prior to large civilian relay event to act as training event for clubs (such as BAOC).</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secretary</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secretary Results Sec Timing Advisor</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secretary</b></p>

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<p>e. Trophies to be re-designated to replace lost and damaged trophies. Agreed by all in attendance.</p> <p><b>Item 4 – Secretary points</b></p> <p>8. The MLS needs units and individuals to organise events.</p> <p>9. If an MLS event publicised on the BAOC website is required to be moved, and is being moved by someone other than the Organiser or the Secretary, then the Secretary should be consulted to deconflict the change with the Organiser.</p> <p>10. Personnel were reminded to enter using their service number and unit rather than their BOF number and club.</p> <p>11. The current FOE was provided and stated that there plenty of available dates for organisers in the new year.</p> <p><b>Item 5 – Treasurer points</b></p> <p>12. The Treasurer provided the Income and Expenditures report for 2020/21 and gave the balance for the MLS.</p> <p>13. The balance is in a healthy position although attendance numbers are well down on previous seasons.</p> <p>14. RM raised his concern with the numbers of military participants. It was noted that military numbers drop off during the Summer Series, which may be due to competing sports and work-related activities.</p> <p><b>Item 6 – Equipment</b></p> <p>15. CD reported that current equipment is in good order. He raised the point that organisers should ensure good equipment husbandry when returning equipment. Approval was granted for purchase of the following equipment, which needs updating as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Renew four large signs in Sep 21.</li> <li>b. Renew Start and Finish banner in 2022.</li> <li>c. Renew additional signage as required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Item 7 – AOB</b></p> <p>16. <b>MLS Chairman.</b> The chairman noted that, due to current commitments as AOA Chairman, he intends to step down as MLS Chairman and requested all to consider a replacement for chairman.</p> <p>17. <b>Score course.</b> CD asked if a score course could be added to the course list to cater for demand from those who prefer to participate in this format. It was agreed that, providing the Organiser agrees, it should be added, though not attracting league points if line courses are points-scoring.</p> <p>18. <b>Appreciation.</b> LG requested that the MLS acknowledge and thank all those personnel who have ensured the successful running of the League</p>	<p><b>CD</b></p>

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<p>and Summer Series and that this should be recorded in the minutes. RM and DD agreed that their help and assistance has been invaluable.</p> <p>a. <b>Civilians.</b> Event organisation, planning and controlling has benefited enormously from helpers once again, this is from both ex-service personnel and those who just share a passion for orienteering and the wealth of experience they bring.</p> <p><b>Item 13 – Date of next AGM.</b></p> <p>19. (Post-meeting decision) To coincide with conclusion of 22/23 season – details to be confirmed nearer the time.</p>	

*{Original Signed}*

T Dickinson  
SSgt  
Secretary MLS