



SOA Newsletter 8 (08) – November

Courses – dates for your diary

- Condes Workshop 22 November – Inverness – few places left
- OCAD 2-day course 29-30 November – Edinburgh – very few places left
- Controllers' Update 17 January (north) and 31 January 2009 (south) – informal and optional update for all grades of controller.
- Coaching weekend 10-11 January – for adults TD3+
- UKCC Level 1 Coach course 7-9 February – closing date 17 December
- Certificate in Tutoring Sport (CTS) – 14-15 February – closing date 10 Dec.

Please use the form on NatCen website to book your place on these courses:

<http://www.scottish-orienteering.org/documents/natcen/natcen-booking-form.doc>

Full course schedule:

<http://www.scottish-orienteering.org/index/natcen/page/national-centre-course-schedule/>

Regular Orienteering Map Programme

- Gaich Wood November – early January 2009

From mid-December until mid-January, the same controls will once more be out in the 5 areas used for the Autumn Training Bonanza.

Coaches' Update

For those who missed the session on 26 October, a summary is available at:

<http://www.scottish-orienteering.org/index/natcen/page/coaching-scheme-update-october-2008/>

Communications from the Communications Director:

1. SCORE – with our current SCORE editor, Anne Hickling, standing down after 6 years, I am interested in hearing the views of the SOA membership on what the future of the magazine may be. Currently, there are three forms of sharing information in SOA:
 - SCORE is published on a bimonthly basis and is distributed to all households
 - the SOA website publishes news, fixtures and reports on a regular basis
 - an electronic newsletter with key current information is issued to all club secretaries and those who have opted to receive it

Both the magazine and the website are targeted towards members keeping in touch with orienteering throughout Scotland. So, thinking about how you currently use the website and Score, what do you think the future could be? A couple of options are:

- a. Score to remain as a bimonthly magazine published and distributed to all households (as currently)
- b. Score to become a monthly e-newsletter, focused on providing key information, published electronically and emailed out to all members, except those who opt for a hardcopy to be sent. Many of the reports and longer articles will be available on the website

I am really keen to hear your views – please email me on communications@scottish-orienteering.org. Kate Robertson, SOA Marketing and Communications Director.

2. E-NEWSLETTER – The SOA website now allows you to sign up to receive this monthly news update by email directly, rather than waiting to receive it through your club secretary. There is an option to sign up for general news, coaching news or both. This is a great way to keep up to date with all that is going on with orienteering in Scotland. Sign up today at the SOA website: <http://www.scottish-orienteering.org> (bottom right hand side of the page).
3. MARKETING ADVICE – Kate Robertson, SOA Marketing and Communications Director is currently developing a marketing strategy for the SOA and is particularly interested in

hearing from anyone who has any experience, knowledge, expertise or ideas in marketing who may be able to assist in some way. Please contact Kate on 01569 760469 or communications@scottish-orienteering.org

4. PUBLICITY / PRESS OFFICERS - Kate Robertson, SOA Marketing and Communications Director is carrying out an audit of how clubs liaise with their local press. Do you have a publicity or press officer in place? Or is it done on an ad-hoc basis? Please could all club secretaries let Kate know how your club publicises events and promotes results in local media: communications@scottish-orienteering.org

Operational matters:

1. Congratulations to Trina Rogerson of ELO who has been appointed a Grade 3 Controller.

2. The Executive decided at a meeting on 1st November that the draft new Event structure guidelines should apply to Scottish events in 2009. There are still some outstanding issues to resolve with regard to Junior classes at Level 2 Events (SOL etc) and the Scottish Championships (Individual and Relay). Full details will be posted on the website very shortly.

Volunteer Needed: SOA is looking for a willing body to act as Trophies Coordinator. Contact Paul Duley (operations@scottish-orienteering.org)

Club Publicity Officers:

BOF have requested clubs to inform them of contact details for Publicity Officers: http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/news/view_news.php?id=MTQ4OA==&rtn=aHR

Coach of the Year

BOF are seeking nominations for "Coach of the Year" – details are in the latest edition of "Focus".

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