



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

### Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present their report on the activities of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The Orienteering Foundation is a registered charity, independent of British Orienteering. It was set up with residual money from a bequest from Bertie & Elsie Ward. It is now raising further funds and awarding grants. The aims are to promote the sport of orienteering in the UK through enhancement, innovation and alleviation of hardship.

### Constitution

The Orienteering Foundation is a charity operating as an unincorporated association under a Declaration of Trust dated 11 November 2006. Deeds of variation dated 13 July 2016, 10 May 2017 and 12 October 2017 have made changes to the original deed, primarily to incorporate additional clauses reflected in the standard model deed for an unincorporated charity issued by the Charity Commission, and to consolidate previous amendments.

The charity has registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1118793 and is also registered with HMRC for Gift Aid donations from individuals who pay tax in the UK, allowing the charity to increase the value of relevant personal donations by around 25%.

### Objectives

The objectives of the charity are to benefit the public and promote healthy recreation by:

- (i) providing facilities, access and opportunities available to the community to encourage and promote orienteering;
- (ii) providing capital and revenue support to increase and sustain participation in orienteering; and
- (i) strengthening the links between orienteering and the community and to harness the potential of orienteering as a force for good in the community and society as a whole.

## Trustees

The Trustees who served at any time during the year and to the date of this report, with details of their Association for whom they were also Ambassadors, were:

Andrew Evans (Chair) (2028) (South East)  
Anne Edwards (2028) (North West)  
John Mather (2028 ) (East Midlands)  
Martin Ward (2026) (Yorkshire and Humberside)  
Neil Cameron (2027) (South West)  
Pauline Olivant (2026) (East Midlands)  
Roger Scrutton (2027) (Scotland)

The year of termination of their current term of office is shown in brackets. Trustees are required to seek renewal of their appointment every 3 years, usually at the first Trustee meeting of each calendar year and all dates above refer to January of that year. The appointment of the Chair is reviewed annually in accordance with the Trust Deed.

Applications for new Trustees are invited as and when required. Appointments are made having regard to the skills on the Trust body and its future needs.

We are delighted that we now have a full complement of Ambassadors, so that all the British Orienteering Associations are represented. The Ambassadors promote the Foundation and its work in their Association and provide feedback from the orienteering community to the Trustees. We do this by holding four conference calls a year, one after each Trustee Board meeting.

The Ambassadors are the Trustees plus:

Alun Jones, then Christine Curry (South Central)  
Caroline MacKenzie (North East)  
Ian Gamlen (West Midlands)  
Lyn West (East Anglia)  
Philip Jenkins (Wales)  
Wilbert Hollinger (Northern Ireland)

Administrator: Viv Macdonald      Finance Officer: Keith Tonkin

Website and social media: Duncan Archer and Moire O'Sullivan

## Review of the year

As well as our regular donations, we received generous donations from individuals through our main funding source of CAF Donate, and also from entries to the major events of JK and British Championships.

Grant awards of £23,977 were made in the year under three headings.

### **Enhancement;**

EUOC – at least 50% for the costs of a coaching course for up to 10 athletes for a period of 12 months for their performance coaching programme.

ERYRI – 50% of the cost of a first aid training course

JROS – to fund young coaches on summer camps at Lagganlia, Deeside, Czechia and Stockholm.

### **Innovation;**

A grant for a new Club Development Officer (CDO) post at WCOC.

Grant for phase 2 of the CDO post for MOR.

Grant to the Civil Service Sports Council for developing orienteering as part of their Active Well Being programme for civil servants in Sheffield – this started well but the CSSC were finding it difficult to put sufficient staffing resources to it and so it has been paused until at least Easter 2026.

Clanfield Junior School – to set up a permanent orienteering course in the school grounds and open it to the local community

### **Hardship;**

Grant to the Heeley Trust in Sheffield to put on orienteering days to underprivileged children in the Gleadless Valley

Grants to Freddie Carcas to take part in the World Games in China and Isobel Howard to cover some of her expenses as she had been called up as a very late replacement for an injured athlete to go to WOC in Finland in July 2025.

Bath University Mountaineering Club orienteering section – towards members attending the British Long Distance and Relay Championships in South Wales

## Other activities

**Coaching Days** – two days were arranged in November 2025; one in the Lakes and one in South Wales. The numbers for the Lakes were lower than previous years and this is being looked at. The South Wales event was very well supported and we had positive feedback from those attending.

**Volunteering** – a survey about volunteering had been sent out to orienteers to get base line data for the research project. Over 700 responses had been received and we are examining how these could most usefully be analysed.

**Project Expand** – in conjunction with CDOs, we are examining why new orienteers join, or don't join, a club and what we can learn from this, with a view to increasing membership of clubs.

**Publicity and social media** – since Moire has joined the team, we have had more frequent postings (about 50% more posts in 2025) and more eye catching graphics. Instagram has seen a sharp uptick in followers: 567 up from 333 a year ago. This is likely due to a rise in its popularity as a platform (globally, not just orienteering specific), particularly for younger generations, and the more frequent posting and eye-catching graphics. Facebook has seen only modest organic growth: 755 followers up from 738 a year ago. Despite the increased quantity and quality of posting (as above), it is generally decreasing in popularity as a platform globally. Posts that get most engagement are about juniors, JROS and individuals (e.g. Freddie Carcas grant). Posts that get least engagement are about non-mainstream O organisations like Heeley Trust and Civil Service Sports Council.

## Donations

Mole Valley Orienteering Club held an event in memory of Simon Greenwood, a long serving chairman of SEOA, donating a generous £660 from the event to the Orienteering Foundation.

## Governance of the Foundation

We review our governance arrangements annually as part of our strategic plan.

## Diversity statement

The Board of the Orienteering Foundation recognises the value of diversity in all its forms in helping us to run the Charity, benefiting from a variety of different perspectives, experiences and skills in its Trustees.

At this stage in our Charity's development, we believe that significant knowledge of orienteering is an essential requirement in Trustees, potentially limiting the pool of candidates.

However, within the constraints of available candidates to become Trustees and having regard to the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010, we seek ways of broadening the diversity of the Board, and especially as regards geography, age, gender and ethnicity.

In assessing grant applications, we will ensure that there are no explicit or implicit limitations as to the diversity of beneficiaries of the project being supported except as regards age or gender where that is a key element of the project (e.g. under-18s, or to increase the participation rate of an under-represented group such as women or disabled people).

## Financial review

Total income was £16,411, with donations of £11,267, receipts from coaching days £770 and investment interest income of £4,374.

Grants totalling £28,331 were paid during the year, compared to £20,353 in the previous year. Other expenditure was £894, with the costs relating to the coaching days of £430. The excess of expenditure over income for the year was £13,244 which has been deducted from reserves.

For 2025 we have changed the accounts presentation to identify coaching course income and expense more clearly in the accounts. In the process we have restated 2024 accounts to reposition net income from coaching into income rather than being deducted from costs. There is no change to the overall financial results of 2024 and we feel this presents in a clearer manner the actual receipts and payment outcomes from these coaching initiatives.

There is one Restricted Fund, which is a fund set aside for Scottish orienteering at the request of the donor. There was no movement on this in the year.

## Reserves

Our total reserves decreased from £109,125 to £95,881. Trustees consider the level of reserves to be adequate for a sustainable charity going forward. We aim to be making grants or commissioning projects for the foreseeable future at least equal to the amount of donations received, less expenses incurred, in the preceding year. In determining this minimum amount available, we make an adjustment to spread the benefit of large donations so that they lead to a meaningful and sustainable contribution over a number of years.

Based on the 2025 accounts we have funds available to make grant payments of at least £15,000 during 2026. We continually welcome high-quality applications for funding.

## How our activities deliver Public Benefit

All of our charitable activities focus on the provision of grant funding for the advancement of orienteering for the public benefit. The Trustees confirm that in exercising their powers and duties they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

## Future developments

We reviewed our Strategic Plan in May and November 2025. In accordance with our aims, the Trustees intend to concentrate on the following:

**Understand the orienteering community, and its current and future needs.** Whilst remaining independent of British Orienteering, we work closely with them to ensure we do not duplicate any work and the activities we undertake complement the strategic priorities of BO.

**Be highly visible and a people-friendly service to the orienteering community, with a focus on meeting our objectives of alleviating hardship, enhancement and innovation.** We are looking in-depth at volunteering, as it is a major resource for the sport. We have a working group which carried out a survey in 2025 and we will be analysing this in 2026, with a view to making recommendations. We are investigating the possibility of running an appeal for JROS, to give them a more secure funding base. Many of our donors say they are very keen on supporting the juniors in the sport.

**To deliver a legally compliant, financially solvent charity trusted as an honest broker by the orienteering community.**

**Grow and diversify our funding sources to ensure funding is available to meet our objectives.** During 2026 we will look to see how we can increase the level of our regular donations.

## Contact us

The Trustees can be contacted through the Administrator:

Viv Macdonald  
The Orienteering Foundation c/o British Orienteering  
Scholes Mill , Old Coach Road, Tansley, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5FY

or via [admin@orienteeringfoundation.org.uk](mailto:admin@orienteeringfoundation.org.uk).

Approved by the Trustees on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

P A Evans

Andrew Evans

(Chair of the Trustees)

## Financial Statements Year to 31 December 2025

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Total Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	
	2025	Restated	2025	Restated	2025	2024
		2024		2024		2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
Donations – Direct	8,078	14,031	8,078	14,031		
Donations – CAF Donate	3,189	5,836	3,189	5,836		
Coaching courses	770	168	770	168		
Interest income	4,374	4,268	4,374	4,268		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,411</b>	<b>24,303</b>	<b>16,411</b>	<b>24,303</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Awarded Grants Paid	28,331	20,353	28,331	20,103	0	250
Coaching courses	430	0	430	0		
Administration & Other	894	1,815	894	1,815		
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,655</b>	<b>22,168</b>	<b>29,655</b>	<b>21,918</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expense)</b>	<b>(13,244)</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>(13,244)</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(250)</b>
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2025						
Unrestricted Funds	108,075	105,690	108,075	105,690		
Restricted Funds	1,050	1,300			1,050	1,300
<b>Funds at 31 December 2025</b>	<b>95,881</b>	<b>109,125</b>	<b>94,831</b>	<b>108,075</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>				
	£	£				
<b>Tangible Asset</b>						
Investment Accounts	78,414	97,909				
<b>Current Asset</b>						
Bank Current Account	17,467	11,216				
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>95,881</b>	<b>109,125</b>				
<b>Represented by</b>						
Unrestricted Funds	94,831	108,075				
Restricted Funds	1,050	1,050				
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>95,881</b>	<b>109,125</b>				

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

**P A Evans**

Andrew Evans  
Chair of Trustees

## **Notes to the accounts**

### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and applicable accounting standards. A receipts and payments basis has been adopted, as permitted by legislation for a charity of this size.

### **Legacies and Donations**

Income from legacies and donations is accounted for when received.

### **Gift Aid**

Income from Gift Aid is accounted for when received.

### **Investment income**

Income from investments is accounted for when received.

### **Expenses**

Expenses are accounted for as money is expended.

### **Grants awarded**

Payments against grants awarded are accounted for as expenditure.

### **Investments**

Investments and bank deposit accounts, are stated at market value and are FSCS protected.

### **Unrestricted funds**

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for any other purpose.

### **Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds are funds held on specific trusts under charity law which have been declared by the donor when making the gift. The specific trusts establish the purpose for which the charity can lawfully use the restricted funds.

There is one restricted fund which has been set up to be used only for Scottish orienteers and Scottish orienteering.

## **Independent Financial Examiners Report on the Accounts**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Orienteering Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2025.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect;

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or

- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or

- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Helen Rennie     26 March 2026

**Helen Rennie FCA**