

10 Characteristics of a Good Club - collated

- ❖ Enthusiastic members, friendly and positive
- ❖ Welcoming, “meet and greet” to help newcomers, junior cards to necessitate talking to all junior finishers and their families. Recognisable faces and names. (Some clubs use hi-vis vests printed “happy to help” or similar)
- ❖ Banner readily identifies focal/meeting point (eg. if in public car park)
- ❖ Regular activity:
 - events (competitions)
 - social
 - training/coaching
- ❖ Good areas and maps – or at least ideas for making the most of what you’ve got
- ❖ Active committee/volunteers – even if only occasional orienteers!
- ❖ Involving all members – sharing skills eg computers/SI/planning etc especially with newer and younger members
 - Developing members’ skills in planning, organising etc
- ❖ Accessibility of areas – near towns if possible; familiar areas are less intimidating for newcomers
- ❖ Club ethos, team atmosphere, club O tops, banner
- ❖ Good communications
- ❖ Publicity – raising general public awareness and general understanding
 - easy to find information and information easily understood
- ❖ Successful; celebrating success at all levels (too successful can be intimidating!)
- ❖ Good governance eg PVG, financial, job descriptions
- ❖ Growing – in numbers, skills and scope
- ❖ Having FUN!

Skills Transfer

1 Mapping – amateurs – organised support

Professionals – the future

2. Planning – club based – start local. Experienced planners should not be planning level D events.

3. Computing – central support from SOA

Electronic punching

4. Communications – website; social media,

5. Press reporter

6. Race officials

7. Enforcers – encouraging others to take on planning/organisers

8. Committee roles

9. Coaching and support

Rotating jobs

Delegations

Volunteer manager

Confidence in youth

Running the cake stall

Social media

1. Volunteer development weekends
2. Club evenings with specific aims/skills – after a mini event for example
3. Planning/organising
4. IT/sport ident – train; recognise; T-shirt
5. Recognition of skills eg T-shirt eg planner, IT etc

(Relate to Coach Education Award skills)

6. Mapping – SOA course

Sources/OCAD/survey

1. IT: reliance on RS
 - a. Need to spread expertise
 - b. Clubs need to ask for courses
 - c. SOA offer courses
2. Mapping: updating minor changes
 - a. OCAD licences
3. Organising: “apprentice” organiser/mentor
 - a. Event manual – SOA?
4. Planning/controlling: courses?