



Blood, Sweat and Gears

Newsletter of the National Governing Body for Mountain Bike Orienteering.

bmbo.org.uk

September 2026

Event News Round Up

The **British Championship Weekend** took place on the Wiltshire Downs in May. This was a new area for many people and offered a large network of by-ways and Bridleways based around the Bruce Arms in Pewsey, Wiltshire. Thanks go to Sion James and his Black Mountains team who stepped into organise a very successful weekend. Thanks also to Jeff Mew who arranged the trophies which many lucky riders took home.

Congratulations are in order for Tom Gibbs and Claire Riley who are British Champions for 2026. Black Mountains fielded a very strong team to take the Team Award. Well done to all who took part.

2027 should see the British Championship weekend move back up North to the Lake District. Watch this space for more details in the New Year.

The **National MBO Score League** is now three quarters of the way through, and some familiar faces are appearing at the top of pile. Will the current leader, Ian Cartwright, Beth Perrou and Michael Rackham (E Bike) still be at the top by the end of the season? With nine events remaining there is still time to put in a good sprint to the line. The full league can be viewed on the Results League Tab of the BMBO website.

After 6 events Black Mountains are well on track to retain the 2026 Shield Trophy

The **World Master MTBO Champs 2026** is well under way. Scotland is hosting the Championships for the first time and is welcoming around 350 competitors from across the globe. There will be four events in and around the town of Forres on the Moray Firth ranging from sprint to long distance events. Many BMBO members are taking part, and we will be watching and hoping that they will be bringing home the honours. Visit <https://mtbo2026.org> to follow their progress.

BMBO AGM 2026 Date 17/11/2026

After ten years as chairman (I only initial agreed to two years!) I have decided that it is time to stand down and let someone else take BMBO further forward. Nothing stands still forever and we are looking forward to someone with great ideas stepping forward to add fresh energy to BMBO.

Also stepping down this year will be Jack Higham who has worked hard this year to develop and keep the Facebook pages up to date with the latest news. Mike Hayward is also stepping back from his role as MTBO coordinator.

Mike successfully relaunched the MTBO League in 2025 to build momentum for the World Master MTBO champs 2026.

With new chairman coming into post, step forward someone, the current committee is happy to stay in place to help the new Chairman get momentum. Day to day basics are done and the new chairman can put their energy where they want to.

The committee are willing to stand for re-election in 2027.

A big thanks to all the committee members who quietly keep BMBO ticking over in the background.

Current Committee	Standing Down	Nominations sought
Chairman - Tony Brand-Barker		
Secretary - John Houlihan	Willing to continue	
Treasurer - Simon Coiley	Willing to continue	
Calendar / Events Peter Strong	Willing to continue	
Newsletter Editor -	vacant	Nominations sought
Prizes and Marketing - Jeff Mew	Willing to continue	
Publicity – Jack Higham	Standing Down	Nominations sought
MTBO Coordinator – Mike Hayward	Standing Down	Nominations sought
League Statistician - Tony Brand-Barker	Willing to continue	

We are seeking nominations for the posts that are being vacated although all positions are subject to re-election. So if you want a particular position step forward.

- Nominations received – Mike Hayward Newsletter editor

Proposals and Nominations Deadlines 20th October 2026

If you have any nominations or proposals for the AGM, then they should be forwarded to the Chairman on chairman@bmbo.org.uk by 20th October.

The AGM will be held on-line on Monday 17th November. Attendance is open to all BMBO members, however only FULL BMBO Members can vote. Please enter via the link on the BMBO calendar to ensure that you receive the link to the meeting.

Many thanks for your contribution to BMBO this year whether that be as committee member, event organiser or simply a competitor supporting events across the country.

Tony Brand-Barker, Chairman