

A. New member club applications

Cirencester AC have asked to re-join the OXL. As a club from a county surrounding Oxfordshire they are entitled to apply to be a member club subject to the acceptance of existing member clubs.

They have submitted the following to support their request:

It's been quite a few years since Cirencester AC last competed as a member of the Oxfordshire Cross Country league, and much has changed in that time to Cirencester AC and cross country events generally. The major change in Cirencester AC is the growth of the Junior section, which now makes up half the membership of the Club. When we previously ran in Oxford league races, the Club only had senior and master athletes competing.

This last season we had the opportunity, courtesy of the generosity of the League, to participate as guests. This has shown our members that the league is really well run with excellent courses and organised events. Unfortunately, we didn't get as many to take up this opportunity, as I would have liked but those who did enjoyed the experience.

What Cirencester AC will bring to the Oxford league:

1. Cirencester AC has experience of hosting events, including trail races and XC, which have been well received by the runners, e.g. it hosted the first post Covid Glos league race. The Club currently puts on the Chedworth 5 and 10 mile trail races, and the Summer Sizzler in Cirencester Park (both adults' and Juniors' races).
2. Another Club with the capability to challenge the existing Clubs. More competition leads to better participation and performances and a more enjoyable experience for all.

What Cirencester AC hope to get from rejoining the league

1. More participation from across the Club, especially senior and master athletes, acting as role models for the juniors.
2. Races not dominated by one or two Clubs only
3. Improved performances in all events from running XC (recent Bleep test for our Teens showed the best endurance runners had done XC over the winter)

Vote for or against accepting Cirencester AC to the league.

B. Third party parking fee clarification

This proposal aims to adjust the rule relating to car parking fees to allow venues to be chosen where parking is charged by a third party to increase the volume of potential venues.

The current wording in the League Manual prevents car parking fees from being levied at OXL Fixtures, with the fixture costs instead being covered by member club affiliation fees and athlete entry fees. The issue for consideration is whether the current wording should remain unchanged or be amended to allow venues where parking is controlled and charged by a third party.

Amend the League Manual so that the OXL and Host Club(s) still may not levy parking charges, but venues can be used where parking is provided through a public or third-party operated facility that requires attendees to pay directly.

This change allows more venues to be considered, where practical parking arrangement is a paid public car park, park-and-ride, or similar third-party arrangement. It preserves the principle that the League and Host Clubs are not charging people to park.

Suggested wording

For a constitution-level statement on venue selection:

"In selecting venues, the League should seek, where reasonably practicable, locations with free parking for attendees. This shall not prevent the use of venues where parking is available only through a public or third-party managed facility that charges users directly."

For the operational rules in the League Manual:

"No parking charge shall be imposed by the OXL or the Host Club(s) for attendance at a fixture. However, where the only suitable parking arrangement is a public or third-party managed facility, any parking charge set by that operator may apply and should be notified in the fixture information."

Vote for or against changing the parking fee rule to the suggested wording.