



SARUM ORIENTEERING CLUB



Membership Secretary's Report for Club AGM – September 2026

As of 22 September 2026, Sarum have a total of 78 registered first club members, plus 7 second club members (7 x BAOC), giving us a total of 85 total members. Membership has remained stable over the past two years.

Our current membership comprises of:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<i>Total</i>	84	76	75	92	85	86	85
<i>Male</i>	51	43	45	60	54	49	50
<i>Female</i>	33	33	30	31	31	37	35
<i>Seniors</i>	66	58	59	68	64	64	62
<i>Juniors</i>	18	18	16	24	21	22	23

Year Summary

While overall membership numbers have remained stable this year, we have again welcomed a number of new and returning members across the age spectrum. According to data from British Orienteering, our retention rate remains steady at a healthy 90% and I would like to thank all our members for their continued engagement and loyalty to the club.

Fees

As agreed at the 2025 AGM, our membership fees for 2026 remained at **£6** for Seniors and **£0** for Juniors, with Second Club members also **£6**. British Orienteering Fees were £17 (raised from £16) for Seniors and £5 for Juniors. British Orienteering also has a young adult (21-25 years), for which the 2026 fee was £11 (raised from £10).

Continuing the benchmarking of our club membership fees to nearby clubs (see below), we remain in the middle of the pack (see below).

At their recent AGM, British Orienteering approved an increase in their membership fees for the coming year, with the senior membership fee rising to £20 for 2027 (from £17), juniors to £6 and young adults to £12. It is important to note that British Orienteering membership fees did not increase between 2020 and 2024, despite rising inflation. The increases in recent years are intended to reset the organisation's financial baselineⁱ.

Membership fees 2026

	£	SARUM	WIM	WSX	SOC	BADO	NWO	NGOC	BOK	QO	British Orienteering
Senior		6	5	10	10	0	0	1	7	8	17
Young Adult (21-25)		-	-	7.5	6.5	-	-	1	-	-	11
Junior (<21)		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
Family		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	12	37

Future

I'm keen that we continue to explore ways to engage our membership and potential new members. We recently launched a WhatsApp community which I hope will foster more two-way communication with (and among) members. Almost 30% of our senior membership are already signed up, but it would be great to get this closer to 100% so that we can rely more heavily on this as our primary communication channel.

With the support of members, it would be great to provide more regular opportunities for training or low-key racing. This could be the most effective way to introduce newcomers to the sport. We remain committed to restarting regular junior sessions and this will be a priority for the coming year.

Marc Balston – Membership Secretary – 22nd September 2026

ⁱ <https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/doc/agm/2026/agm-proposals-2026>