

THIRTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held in the Meeting Room at the University of Edinburgh Centre for Sport and Exercise
46 Pleasance, Edinburgh, at 6:45 pm on Thursday 8 June 2006

1 Present

John Barrow, Paul Caban, Brad Connor, Darina Cunnane, Lorna Eades, Ann Haley, Stephen Haley, Ben Hartman, Jen Murphy, Peter Murphy, Barry Owen, Emily Seaman, Pat Squire (13).

Apologies for absence were received from the Ackland family, Tim Barrow, Ken Daly, Karen Dobbie, Colin Eades, the Galloway family, Chris Godfree, Heather Hartman, Ray Heyworth, the Kenworthy family, Rob Lee, Hilary Quick, Anthony Squire, and Fiona Weir.

2 Minutes of 2005 Annual General Meeting

2.1 Adoption

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 16 June 2005 were accepted as a fair record of the proceedings.

2.2 Matters Arising

It was mentioned that, thanks to Lorna, the Club now had a new banner. In addition, the "running man" logo was now available as a JPEG computer file.

It was also pointed out that a new order for O-suits had been placed. A suitable variety of sizes had been ordered.

There were no other Matters Arising from the Minutes.

3 Chairman's Report

Paul presented his Report for the Year.

Club members had scored several successes during the Year. First places were gained by Stephen, Ann, Lorna and Jane at the SOA Championships, by Ben and Heather at the JK, by Emily and the M40 Relay team at the BOF Championships, and by the Firrhill S3 team (all Interløpers) at the Scottish Schools Championships.

The M Open team were leading on the last leg of the JK Relay, but David Brickhill-Jones suffered an injury and had to be taken to hospital.

In the SOSOL series, Max and Hannah Ledlie won their courses.

Toni O'Donovan won the Irish Middle Distance Championships.

Colin Inverarity won the Club Championships.

There were many notable second places.

Scott Fraser, David Brickhill-Jones, Dan Marsden, Claire Ward and Murray Strain were all selected for BOF Squads. In addition, Scott was selected for the JWOC team, and Murray for the World Student Championships.

All Officials for events organised by the Club deserved special thanks. These included Dave and Gillian, Barry and Fiona, and Paul, for the SOL and SOA Night Champs at Drummond Hill, Brad and Graeme for the SOSOL

at Norman's Law, Ben for the Club Champs and the New Year Score event, and several members for the myriad of local events (5 Street-Os and 4 CATIs).

In addition, Graham McIntyre and Rob Bloor were main officials for Royal Deeside 6-Day event Day 3. Gordon Ross and Colin Eades were also Controllers at the Event.

Some new Controllers had been appointed, and several existing ones controlled various events during the Year.

The social scene was rather sparse, although Colin and Lorna were to be thanked for holding the Hallowe'en Party, and the Haley family for the Christmas Party.

Club members also served on various Committees, including Ken, Graeme and Paul on the SOA, Lorna as a GB Selector, Toni as an incoming BOF Councillor, and Heather and Murray as 6-Day Event Company members.

Although the Club staged many events over the Year, it was felt that more local events could be put on. With good advertising, numbers of 70-80 competitors could be attracted. ESOC and Grampian have shown that, by putting on lots of local events, membership could be increased significantly. Paul intended to write to all Senior members of the Club, soliciting their views on this issue.

It was noted that the membership profile of the Club had changed in recent years, from a preponderance of single M/W 21s to many young married couples, who were responsible for a substantial breeding programme. There followed some discussion on this topic and its ramifications for staging local events. It was suggested that a list of areas local to Edinburgh be published, probably on the Club's website.

This led in turn to a discussion on the Club's website itself. It was accepted that, while Dave and Gillian were active in running the Club, the site was kept well up-to-date. However, now that they had withdrawn somewhat from the forefront of Club activity, the site had tended to wither on the vine somewhat. Dave was apparently quite happy to put material on to the site if asked, but it would probably need some other members to help with keeping it relevant.

As for Committee matters, some work was done on marketing connected with local events (in collaboration with ESOC and the ESOA). A need had been identified for a Welcome Pack, and some work had been done on trying to achieve this.

In the light of the forthcoming Election of Office Bearers, Paul suggested that Committee Members should not be expected to do everything. The Committee itself needed to take control of Strategy, rather than Operations. There was also a need to consider involving some new (and younger) blood on the Committee.

Finally, Paul offered a word of sympathy to Ray Heyworth, whose wife Brenda had been taken into hospital recently after a fall.

4 Financial Statement for the Year ending 31 March 2006

Ben introduced the Accounts and accompanying notes. The accounts showed a small surplus for the Year. The Accounts were approved by the Meeting.

It was agreed that Peter Dymoke should be asked to continue as official Auditor.

5 Membership Fees for 2007

Ben proposed that the Club membership fees for 2007 should remain unchanged. However, in the light of the change in BOF membership structure to be introduced in 2007, the situation may need to be reviewed for 2008. Paul seconded Ben's proposal, which was carried.

6 Election of Office Bearers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Secunder</u>
a) Hon. President	Carol McNeill	Paul Caban	Pat Squire
b) Chairman	Paul Caban	Ann Haley	Lorna Eades
c) Secretary	John Barrow	Paul Caban	Darina Cunnane
d) Treasurer	Ben Hartman	Barry Owen	Stephen Haley
e) Social Secretary	Emily Seaman	Pat Squire	Stephen Haley

f) Newsletter Editor	Brad Connor	Ben Hartman	Pat Squire
g) Club Captain	Anthony Squire	Paul Caban	Ann Haley
h) Junior Member	Stephen Haley	Barry Owen	Lorna Eades
i) Ordinary Member	Chris Godfree	Darina Cunnane	Pat Squire
j) Area Representative	(one of the above)		

All the above were sole nominees, and were elected uncontested.

Those standing down from the Committee were thanked for their services to the Club.

Dave Godfree was prepared to continue as the Club's Mapping Representative. He would also remain as the Club's Webmaster.

Ann agreed to continue to coordinate Junior activities.

Dave and Paul were also identified as the Club's SportIdent contacts.

It was pointed out that the decision of the SOA to form itself into a Company Limited by Guarantee would have some ramifications for the structure of responsibilities. These may affect how Clubs organised themselves, with particular reference to Fixtures and Membership Services. It was noted that, at present, Paul was the major coordinator of events within the Club.

7 Any Other Business

- Ann raised an issue regarding the courses available at the SOA Relay Championships. The courses were simply described as A, B, C and D, which didn't really mean anything to her. The details also referred to last year's arrangements, which was also unhelpful. As it turned out, the shortest course (D) had a winning time for M65 of 30 minutes, which she felt was too long for Juniors.
- Ann also felt that some courses at SOL events had been too long for several years. The so-called Short courses, she believed, were not short enough (the ratio of Short / Long being too high). She also felt that this tendency was recently finding its way into Junior courses, some of which were too long.
Paul would receive an e-mail from Ann on these points, and would then raise the issues at SOA level.
- Brad felt that a formal Fixtures Coordinator should be appointed for the Club, rather than rely on Paul performing this function (who did so partly because he was able to invoke his knowledge as SOA Fixtures Secretary).
- Barry asked if the Club's free membership offer to beginners was still available. He was assured that it was.

The Meeting closed at 7.46 pm.

John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 4 July 2006