SECOND COMMITTEE MEETING, SIXTEENTH YEAR

8 p.m., Monday 19 August 1991, at 3 Heriot Hill Terrace, Edinburgh

Present:

Andrew Bankhead, John Barrow, Pakit Hyman, Colin Inverarity, Eva Riemersma, Pat Squire

Apologies for absence were received from Ynske Riemersma, Jane Smith, and Charlie Walton

In Charlie's absence, John chaired the Meeting.

1 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of 17 June

The Minutes were accepted, without amendment, as a true record.

2 Secretary's Report

An entry form for the 1992 CompassSport Cup had been received from BOF. After some discussion on the merits of entering, including the fact that the Club just failed by the Rules to qualify as a Small Club, it was decided to send in an entry once again.

There was some discussion on a paper from BOF, describing plans to hold a 25th Anniversary Dinner on 13 June 1992. The conclusion was that there would be little interest, if any, from Club members in attending such an event.

An entry in the BOF's Map Register of maps made or re-drawn since January 1987 had been received. It was agreed that the entry was complete as it affected the Club.

The latest SOA Fixtures Structure had been received from Ben Bate. There were offers of six Badge Event dates in 1992, as well as a National Event in Autumn 1995. After some discussion, it was agreed to defer any decision on this matter until the coming Autumn.

3 Treasurer's Report

A cheque had been received from EUOC for the Archerfield maps used for Lothian O-League event 5 held in February.

All transactions involving funds connected with the SOA Championships had now been dealt with.

Pakit mentioned that, after consultation with a Chartered Accountant, it seemed that, in theory at least, Corporation Tax should be due on any interest accrued by the Club's bank balance. However, in practice, the Inland Revenue accepted that the costs of collection and payment usually far outweighed any revenue so gained, and hence made no effort to pursue it.

4 Equipment

A stock of 100 cloth badges had been printed, and were now available at £1 each. No invoice for the printing had yet been received, so it was impossible for the Club to assess by how much, if any, to subsidise the costs.

After some discussion, it was accepted that no purchase by the Club of a complete headlamp would be necessary, partly because a really good model could cost as much as £120; such a lamp would only be used in earnest at one or two events each year, and those interested in participating in such events would have acquired their own lamps. It was felt that subsidy of battery packs and replacement halogen bulbs for events such as the Harvester Trophy would be quite sufficient.

5 Events

5.1 SOA Championships 1991 - 8 June

Pakit reported that he had purchased a bottle of malt whisky for Graham McIntyre, and that this had been presented with due ceremony. He would submit a claim to Jane in due course.

5.2 Southern Uplands '91 - Day 5 (9 August)

Day 5 at Dalmacallan had proceeded satisfactorily, at least from the Club's point of view. There were more than enough members manning the Start, and the 3000 or so competitors had been processed with efficiency. There had been some initial problems with the Wayfarers Start, but these had been overcome on the day.

5.3 Harvester Trophy - 1 September

The entry had been sent in. The composition of the team was uncertain, since Rob Lee was injured, and Andy Kitchen might not want to compete so soon after returning from the World Championships in Czechoslovakia. Definite names were Pakit, Graham Ackland, Colin Eades, Gordon Riemersma, Jon Cross, and Simon Thompson. The seventh member would be either Andy Kitchen or Graham McIntyre.

5.4 Club Championships - 17 August

This event had taken place at Kinneil Wood, Bo'ness. About 25 members had participated, and the event took the form of a short cross-country event, followed by a novelty Score event. The overall Champion was Eva Riemersma. A successful barbecue followed, together with a short prize-giving. However, plans for afternoon activities were dashed by a thunderstorm. Pat mentioned that the event would make a loss, but it was agreed that the Club should cover the shortfall.

5.5 SOA 14-person Relay - 8 September

No enquiries from members had been received for this event, but it was agreed to enter a team regardless, and rely on word-of-mouth to achieve sufficient numbers.

5.6 Lothian O-League 1991/92 event 7 - 5 April 1992

It was decided to settle on the date of 5 April for the Club's event in this Series. The venue was uncertain, although Pat put forward a suggestion for the use of Archerfield (dependent on obtaining permission). It was also suggested that Devilla might be usable. John would check with various sources on the quickest means of finding out the availability of Archerfield.

6 LBOA

Pat mentioned that the LBOA Committee had not met since the Club's last Meeting.

However, acknowledgement had been received of the Club's donation of £50 towards the Area's Junior Squad.

The only other item of business was the location of the Club's O-League event, and Pat would take the ideas already mentioned to the next LBOA Meeting on 9 September.

7 Newsletter

Complimentary remarks were made about the last issue, distributed at the end of the Summer term. Colin mentioned that he needed articles for the next issue, and it was suggested that Andy Kitchen might provide one on his experiences at the World Championships. Ynske was coordinating articles from the Club's Juniors who had been on tours during the summer. A copy date of early September was set.

In reply to a question, Colin confirmed that he was now able to produce computer-generated Club letterhead notepaper as required.

8 Socials

Andrew had made some enquiries about a High Street/City Chambers tour which was organised by a Labour councillor, and which took place in the early evening. It was agreed that he should pursue this further, and see if it were possible to fix up a tour for Thursday 31 October (Hallowe'en).

There was some discussion on a suggestion for a wind-surfing session at Lochore Meadows in Fife, but the feeling was that it would be rather expensive and not very satisfactory for anyone except those with some proficiency in that sport.

There were several members who were in favour of a simple social event, such as a meal in a restaurant, or a buffet meal at someone's house. Such an event would be better scheduled for 7 or 7.30 pm, to allow families with relatively young children to attend.

The conclusions were that, if it proved possible to organise a tour in the High Street in late October, then it would only be worthwhile to try to arrange another occasion in early December to provide a reasonable social calendar for the Club before the New Year (taking into account the Club Weekend in September).

9 Club Weekend

Pat reported that the house was booked for the weekend of 20-22 September. Places were still available, although it was felt that a deadline of 1 September ought to be decided on for Club members to reserve places. After then, if any spaces were left, some non-Club members could be admitted (since there were a few who had expressed interest in attending the Weekend).

It was mentioned that Carol McNeill would be present in Aviemore that weekend with a group from Lakeland O.C., and had said she might be able to help with a Club training session. It was not known if any local event had been arranged for the Saturday (although there was a Badge Event at Anagach, by Grantown, on the Sunday).

Pakit suggested that some of the Club's M21 members might be able to help with technique training for other non-Junior Club members, and this could form the basis of a continuing programme within the Club. It was further suggested that this session could be held in Inshriach, which had suitably intricate terrain to provide a challenge.

Pat indicated that he was happy to assume responsibility for organising the Weekend.

There were several suggestions for matters for discussion at the Weekend, and these included what form of social events members would like to see, and what event programme the Club should undertake in next few years.

10 Training

Pat reported that the Moray House gym had been booked for Wednesday evenings at 6 pm from 11 September to 18 December. It was agreed that members should be charged £1 per night (and 50p for Juniors).

The sessions at the Meadows and Meggetland on Tuesday and Thursday evenings respectively were continuing as usual.

Pakit mentioned that a group met frequently at Red Moss car park above Balerno at 11 am on Sunday mornings, for a run in the Pentlands. There were several categories catered for, from elite to very slow, from 15 miles to 5 miles. Anyone interested should contact him on the appropriate weekend.

11 Juniors

The highlight was Gordon Riemersma's 2nd place in the World Schools championships in Finland in the Summer. At the same event, Ynske was 6th, and Gail Balfour 18th.

It was hoped that several Club Juniors would be selected to represent Scotland at the Junior Home Internationals in October.

12 A.O.B.

Pat mentioned that he had investigated the possibility of a Club affiliation to the Moray House Sports Injury Clinic. It seemed that it would cost about £300 per year for a maximum of 30 named individuals. There followed considerable discussion on the matter, the gist of which was that these conditions would be reasonably acceptable, provided sufficient interest could be found from Club members. Members would be canvassed via the newsletter, and those interested should contact Pat; he would investigate further at a more official level to arrive a some definite figures. The Club could then consider its level of commitment, given any interest expressed by members.

Pakit briefly described the final British Squad Selection races, held at Ae and Dalmacallan during the 6-Day event recently. He mentioned that, of Club members, he, Andy Kitchen, and Lorna Boyd were chosen for these Final Selection races, and that as a result Andy Kitchen was chosen for the British Team to compete at the World Championships in Czechoslovakia. He also mentioned that Rob Lee had been chosen for the Final Selection races, but was unable to take part because of injury. However, the main reason for bringing up the matter at this Meeting was to mention the fact that the organising committee of the 6-Day event had decided to impose a charge of £1500 on the British Squad for allowing them to compete on these areas. Given the facts that (a) the British Squad received its funding only from the Sports Council, not from the BOF, and (b) the races were held for a maximum of 50 competitors (30 from GB, and 20 from Ireland), it was generally agreed within the Squad that a charge of this magnitude was out of all proportion to the actual costs of access and the maps, and there appeared to be no justice in the levying of such a charge. It was expected that letters of protest would be sent to appropriate newsletters/magazines in due course.

The next Meeting would be held at 8 pm on Monday 17 October 1991 at 36 Buckstone Loan, Edinburgh.

The Meeting closed at 10.30 pm.