# FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, SIXTEENTH YEAR

8 p.m., Monday 9 December 1991, at 161 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh

Present:

Andrew Bankhead, John Barrow, Colin Inverarity, Rob Lee, Eva Riemersma, Pat Squire, Charlie Walton

Apologies for absence were received from Ynske Riemersma.

Rob was standing in for Pakit Hyman who, at the time of the Meeting, was on a train somewhere.

## 1 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of 14 October

Apart from the fact that the date of the Mulled Wine/Mince Pies evening had been changed from 18 to 19 December, the Minutes were accepted as a true record.

## 2 Secretary's Report

Entry forms had been received for the BOF Relay Championships, to be held in East Anglia on 22 March 1992, and the JK Relays, in the Lake District on 20 April 1992. Effective closing dates for entries were 10 February and 17 March respectively. Because of the relative remoteness of the BOF event, it was not expected that many Club members would attend that event, although the Meeting expressed the hope that the M21 Team would be able to defend their title. Notice of both events would be placed in the next Newsletter, with a request for those interested to contact John. Otherwise, word of mouth would be employed to make up any teams to be entered.

The draw for the 1992 CompassSport Cup had been received, and the Club was drawn against Roxburgh Reivers, the tie to take place by 19 April 1992. Since RR were first-named club, it was their responsibility to make contact with a possible event at which the tie could be held. However, it was suggested that the Lothian O-League event 6 at Hillend on 8 March 1992 might be suitable. Once the event had been decided, an announcement would be made in the Newsletter.

A letter had been received containing details of the SOA Development Conference to be held at Stirling University on Saturday 22 February 1992.

Derek Allison had forwarded a copy of a letter from organisers of a "Fit 'n Fun" Day, to be held in the Meadows on Sunday 29 March 1992 in aid of the "Sick Kids" Appeal Fund. The suggestion was that the Club might like to hold some sort of demonstration and, since we held stocks of maps of the Meadows, it was felt to be appropriate that the Club might be able to stage an event. Derek had suggested that Interløpers might like to liaise with ESOC in this venture. The Meeting felt that we should indicate either to Derek or to the organisers our willingness to help with this Day, but that discussion of the details of our involvement could be deferred until the next Committee Meeting. The original letter had been dated last October, so Derek might have more information now. John would follow this up.

ACTION: John

A letter had been received from Jonathan Musgrave, asking for applications for a share of the 1992 SOA Mapping Grant to be submitted by 1 February 1992. Since the Club had no plans at present for new mapping projects, there was no action to be taken on this matter.

# 3 Treasurer's Report

A revised invoice for the printing of the badges and the lettering on the new O-suits had been received, which was £11.75 less than the original invoice. In Jane's absence, it wasn't clear if the original invoice had been settled; however, this would be checked with Jane.

Andrew mentioned that he had a cheque for the Club for attendances at the Moray House gym sessions. Colin had copying expenses for the Newsletter. John had received some 1992 affiliation fee cheques. Since Jane's current movements were uncertain, no action could yet be taken. However, John would try to contact her to see if she could deal with these matters in due course.

ACTION: John

# 4 Equipment

Another book belonging to the Club had surfaced, and was handed over to Pat.

# 5 Events

## 5.1 Lothian O-League 1991/92 event 7 - 12 April 1992

Rob reported that it was proposed to hold the event at Calder Wood. The event had yet to be registered, but John could provide the appropriate form. Before this could be completed, however, the names of the principal officials would need to be known, as well as the grid reference of the car park. The closing date for inclusion in the fixture list in the next issue of "Score" had now passed, but it should be enough for the event to appear in the issue planned for March/April 1992.

ACTION: Pakit

## 5.2 Summer Series 1992

The organiser of the 1992 Summer Series events, David Lane, had written with a list of dates, asking the Club to bid for one or more of these. Last Summer, we had only taken on one of the events, because of our commitment to the SOA Championships. However, it was felt that we could cope with organising two events in next year's series, and it was decided to bid for the dates of 7 May and 4 June, with suggested venues of Colinton Dell and Holyrood Park (the latter subject to there being maps available from EUOC). John would reply to David Lane appropriately.

ACTION: John

## 5.3 SOA Score Championships - 5 December 1993

Charlie suggested that we should start thinking of a venue for this event soon.

## 5.4 Other future events

Pat mentioned that the LBOA would be asking clubs to plan their involvement in the 1992/93 Lothian O-League series earlier than in previous years. Dates for the series had been more or less settled; these would be 27 September, 25 October, 22 November, and 13 December 1992, and 17 January, 14 or 21 February, and 28 March 1993.

With regard to the Club's own plans, Charlie pointed out that we had already aired the possibility of putting on some sort of event next Autumn; we could proceed with this idea and try for a late O-League event, or we could bid for an O-League event in the Autumn, early in the series, and defer our own plan until the Spring of 1993.

# 6 LBOA

Pat reported on the Association's AGM, held on 30 October. The main outcome was the election of Bill Stevenson as Chairman, with Fiona Hendrie continuing as Secretary, and Derek Jones the Treasurer.

At the ordinary meeting on 26 November, discussions centred around the 1992 Summer Series and the 1992/93 Lothian O-League, the respective Organisers being David Lane and Robin Strain. The project to produce a Year Book was continuing, and club secretaries would be contacted for up-to-date information. There was also some discussion of the activities of the Junior Squad, with a suggestion that there might be an official Squad trip to the 1992 BOF Championships in East Anglia. Club sponsorship of the Squad was discussed, and Pat mentioned that clubs would be asked to continue their support during 1992 (perhaps with a "cost-of-living" increase); it was suggested that the level of this support be based roughly on the proportion of club members in the Squad. On our behalf, Pat assured the Association's meeting that Interløpers' support would continue in 1992.

An Organiser was needed for the LBOA Night Championships in late 1992.

The LBOA would be asking clubs if there were any matters considered pressing which the Association should discuss.

The recent LBOA Championships were held on 17 November at Glentress. Club winners were Colin in M35 and Anthony in M13.

John asked if there could be more information and publicity for the LBOA Inter-Club Championships, due to be organised by ESOC on 31 May 1992. It was not clear to him what the purpose of this event was, tacked on as it was at the end of the O-League series. Were clubs intended to treat it in the same sort of way as a CompassSport Cup event, and try to raise teams to compete in the various courses according to a pre-determined set of rules? If so, what were the rules?

The next LBOA Meeting would be held on 12 February 1992.

# 7 Newsletter

The Meeting showered lavish praise on Colin for his second Newsletter, just released. However, Colin mentioned that he could do with more results for inclusion, particularly from the bigger events south of the Border which he did not travel to. After some discussion, it was decided to try to bring out the next issue early in February 1992.

ACTION: Colin

# 8 Socials

Andrew mentioned the next few social events.

The Mulled Wine/Mince Pies evening would be held on Thursday 19 December at 36 Buckstone Loan. Andrew and Ynske would liaise over the catering.

On Friday 24 January, it was hoped to hold a Burns Supper, although no venue had yet been decided. It was suggested to ask around on 19 December to try to gauge the likely level of support. The McIntyres would be approached to see if they would be happy to hold the event at their flat.

The Skittles Alley at the Sheep Heid in Duddingston had been reserved from 6.30 to 10.30pm on Sunday 16 February.

It was hoped to hold a Pancake Night on Shrove Tuesday, 3 March. No venue had yet been suggested.

# 9 Training

The Moray House gym was booked until 18 December, and it had also been reserved next term from 15 January until 25 March.

Committee members were asked to think about some sort of coordinated Club training activity for the coming Spring, perhaps on a Saturday morning on the same weekend as Lothian O-League events. Another suggestion was for an evening session on a Sunday at someone's house, with a few members describing routes. This could be held after major events, such as the Scotlandsgaloppen events at Penninghame and Elibank on 15 March and in May respectively. All other ideas would be welcomed.

## 10 Juniors

Eva mentioned that Ynske had given a short talk on orienteering at East Preston Street school and, as a consequence, the school wanted to join the Club as a Group. Ynske had also been asked to give a talk at Broughton School in March. There followed a general discussion about the Club's relationship with School Groups, and how this should be developed. It was suggested that some sort of information sheet should be prepared for giving out to such groups. Any courses designed for schools could use simpler O markers, such as those used at Summer Series events.

## 11 Roxburgh Reivers paper on Junior Orienteers

A copy of a letter from the Secretary of Roxburgh Reivers had been circulated to the Committee before the Meeting. Its purpose was to open a debate about the apparent decline in numbers of Junior orienteers over the last 15 years or so, to try to determine the reasons for this decline, and to suggest possible ways to try to reverse the decline. As far as this Club was concerned, it was felt that a part could be played along the lines already mentioned in the report above on Juniors, by trying to involve school groups through short talks and trial events. It was suggested that a start could be made by contacting David Lane at Lagganlia, to try to ascertain which schools from the area had attended courses there (during which orienteering would have been introduced), and perhaps to get some contact names in the schools. It would perhaps be worthwhile to ask Lagganlia to inform the school leaders that further development of any interest could be pursued through contacting the Club. Another approach would be to find out which schools went to the Lothian O-League events. John pointed out that a factor in the numbers decline could be attributed to the demise of the Scottish Schools Orienteering Association, an organisation which had been instrumental in introducing the sport to many juniors in the early days in Scotland, by encouraging teachers to attend instructors courses and hence to spread the word in their own schools. He wondered if there was a possibility of asking the Scottish Sports Council to help in the re-formation of an SSOA, and suggested that Brian Porteous might be able to provide some information.

John agreed to reply to Lindsey Knox's letter.

ACTION: John

## 12 A.O.B.

In Jane's absence, it was not possible to find out how many members had shown an interest in applying to join the Moray House Sports Injury Clinic. However, Pat agreed to coordinate the application, and would check what period the membership offer applied for.

Initially, it was agreed that the next Meeting would be held at 8 pm on Monday 27 January 1992 at 26 Swan Spring Avenue, Edinburgh. However, early in the New Year, the Secretary discovered that he had double-booked the date, so the remainder of the Committee kindly agreed to a postponement of the date of the next Meeting until Monday 3 February 1992, at the same time and venue.

The Meeting closed at 11.10 pm.