FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTIETH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 19 June 1995, at 58 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh

Present: Steve Ambler, John Barrow, Colin Eades, Colin Inverarity, John Kenworthy, Charlie Walton

Apologies for absence were received from David Simmons.

John Kenworthy was welcomed to his first Club Committee Meeting.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 27 March 1995 were accepted as an accurate record of the proceedings. There were no Matters Arising (that would not be discussed later in this Meeting).

2 Secretary's Report

Various papers, etc., had been received from BOF and SOA. Among those from BOF were copies of a new form ER.1P, which was intended for registering (for insurance cover purposes) a series of non-entry-fee "events", such as Club training runs, barbecues, and the like. The SOA had intimated to each Club in the Lothians and Borders that the Area was responsible for staging the 1997 Scottish Individual and Relay Championships; some disquiet was expressed that the Club might be landed with responsibility for yet another SOA Championship event, having organised two Individual and one Relay events within the past four years. The SOA had also asked Clubs to reply if they were interested in applying to put on a Scotlandsgaloppen event in 1996; the Meeting felt that, given the Club's workload in the last two years, it would not seek to stage such an event in the coming year.

Letters had been sent to the BOF, the SOA, the LBOA, "CompassSport", and "Score" with details of the new Club Committee for 1995/96.

3 Treasurer's Report

Steve reported that at present there was a large balance in the bank account. This was because of the SOA Relay entry fees, and the fact that very few bills had yet been paid for that event.

Peter Dymoke had made tentative suggestions for a more productive reorganisation of the Club's funds.

There had been two requests for financial support. One, from Anthony Squire, was to support his attendance at the Junior World Championships. The Meeting agreed to subsidise this trip according to the accepted rule, viz. one half, or £50, whichever was the lesser amount. The amount claimed was £160; consequently, the sum to be offered would be £50.

The other request was from Scott Balfour, who had attended a First Aid course in connection with his application for a BOF Club Coach award. There followed some discussion about Club Coaches, and whether there were any others in the Club suitably qualified. It was suggested that BOF might have a list, and John agreed to check this. A check should also be made as to whether attendance at the First Aid course was a one-off qualification, not needing to be repeated. John would confirm all these points, and discuss the matter with Scott. The final question of Club subsidy could then be decided at the next Meeting.

4 Equipment

It had been agreed that Pat Squire would continue to keep most Club equipment, although he was no longer on the Committee. A few flags and punches had been lost at the Summer Series event at Inch Park.

It was reported that the 6-Day event trestles were being kept in store at Coylum Bridge. It was therefore expected to be a formality to apply to use some of them at the Scotlandsgaloppen event at Anagach in September. The contact was Roger Garnett of ESOC.

5 Mapping

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of using Dalmeny Estate for orienteering, but it was not known if any approaches had been made in the past to use the area. It was suggested that it might be suitable for use for a Summer Series event. The area would be kept in mind.

6 Events

6.1 Summer Series

The event of 26 April, organised by Scott Balfour at Colinton Dell, had taken place. Anthony's event at Inch Park had also happened, on 31 May.

6.2 SOA Relays 1995

This event had taken place on 28 May, and was largely successful, despite the very wet weather. The Club was delighted to receive sponsorship of £500 from Rambler Systems, which had provided tyvek control cards and team numbers. The display of results was rather limited, and was also affected by the wet conditions. With more manpower, a more effective public address system would have been possible. The weather also meant that no Prize Giving was possible, since (a) that for the Individual was held on the Sunday, and (b) by the time that had been completed most competitors had either left or were sheltering in their tents.

As for finances, Charlie reported that the budgetting was still going to be very tight. It was accepted that the BOF levy had to be paid. It was hoped that it would still be possible to negotiate with Perth regarding map costs, and the question of payment of SOA levy remained open (as far as this Club was concerned).

The preparation of results was in hand. It was expected that the copying would be carried out at a friendly school.

Special mention was made of the work that Ann Haley put in on processing entries and control cards; her system worked very well.

Colin Eades had planned 63 courses, involving about 96 control sites. There was only one course with a problem, which involved two boulders about 300 metres apart.

As for Results, the Club came 3rd in the Open class, and were first and third in the Women's Open.

6.3 CompassSport Cup

The Club had competed against ESOC in Round 3 of this year's competition, held at Cademuir on 18 June, and had lost by 25 points to 30.

An entry form had been received for the 1996 competition, and it was agreed to enter. Steve gave John a cheque for the entry fee.

6.4 Strathspey '95

It was expected that the Club would be asked to be responsible for the Finish and Assembly areas on Day 3. Those members entered for that day would be allocated random start times, to assist in manpower organisation. Woodlands was definitely booked, and several spaces were still available.

Pat Squire had written to the other Day 3 clubs, with our suggestion (discussed at the January Committee Meeting) for the dispersal of any funds from the Day. So far, the only reply had been from ELO, to the effect that they felt that any funds should simply be split equally between the organising clubs. This Meeting, on the contrary, felt that this system completely failed to recognise the significant effort put in by the major officials for as much as two years before the competition. It would be necessary to seek the views of STAG and EUOC before coming to any final decision. It was suggested that representatives of all the clubs concerned could confer at the 6-Day event.

6.5 11-Person Relays - 20 August

It was agreed to enter at least one team for this event. Entries would be coordinated during the 6-Day event.

6.6 Scotlandsgaloppen 7 - 17 September 1995

The event had been registered with SOA and BOF. Ken Davidson of Grampian would be the Controller, and Colin McNeil would Plan the courses. The Organisation was sort-of in a satisfactory situation.

Woodlands was also booked for this event. It was hoped that as many members as possible could come up on the Saturday to help set up the event.

6.7 Lothian O-League 1995/96

The Club had been allocated event 5 in this series, to be held on 11 February 1996 at a venue yet to be decided.

It was suggested that a colour-coded event be staged around the middle of June 1996, to be timed for the 3rd round of the CompassSport Cup, perhaps to be held at Archerfield.

7 LBOA

John had been contacted by Alan Robertson recently, on the evening of an LBOA Committee meeting, to try to find out what the Club was doing about representation at that Committee's meetings. Currently, it was hoped that a Club Committee member would attend LBOA meetings, on some sort of a rota basis, although clearly there had been no-one present at the meeting just held.

8 Newsletter

Colin suggested, and the Meeting agreed, that the issue should appear before the end of school term.

9 Juniors

There was some discussion on the success or otherwise of the LBOA Summer Series events in attracting significant numbers of Juniors to orienteering. This year, the programme had been rather fragmented, with poor publicity within schools; consequently, there had been a rather poor response from schools and

junior groups. The early start time, together with the latest start time of about 7pm, was called into question, given the overall poor attendance at the events.

There followed some general discussion on the question of Junior Development. It was recognised that the Club did not have sufficient resources to be able to develop any significant initiatives on its own. It would be more sensible to offer to help out in the progress of any SOA/BOF organised campaigns.

10 Socials

No events were likely to take place before the 6-Day Event.

Ann Haley had suggested a barbeque, perhaps to be coordinated with a resurrected Club Weekend.

Colin E. suggested that some sort of knock-out competition could be held in conjunction with the 6-Days.

Other suggestions for social events should be communicated to Charlie. For events such as Hallowe'en parties and Burns Suppers, venues were needed. Treasure hunt-style events were likely to attract members.

11 A.O.B.

Steve asked the new Office Bearers to sign a form to enable signatures to be changed for the Club's bank account.

A suggestion was made that the Club could do with a new line in T-shirts or sweat shirts. After some discussion, it was agreed that a design competition for T-shirts should appear in the Newsletter.

John K. reported that he was trying to keep in touch with the SOA Computer Interest Group.

The next Meeting was arranged for 7.30pm on Monday 21 August 1995, to be held at 22 East Preston Street.

The Meeting ended at 10.35pm. John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) - 4 July 1995