SECOND COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTIETH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 21 August 1995, at 105 Greenbank Road, Edinburgh

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

The Chairman had been doubtful of returning to Edinburgh in time for the meeting, after travelling back from the World Championships in Germany; hence the change of venue.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 19 June 1995 omitted mention, under the Secretary's Report, of the receipt of a letter from Ann Walder, representing INVOC, complimenting the Club on the staging of the SOA Relay Championships at Dunalastair under quite adverse conditions.

In the report of those Championships, it was reported in error that the Club came first and third in the Women's Open class; in fact, there was only one Interløpers team participating in that class, and it won the event.

Apart from these errors, the Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the proceedings.

There were no Matters Arising (that would not be discussed later during this Meeting).

2 Secretary's Report

A letter had been received from the SOA Secretary to inform us that the LBOA Championships were now to be held in conjunction with the ESOC Badge event at Linn of Tummel on 22 October 1995.

Various papers had ben received from BOF, including a Summary of business conducted at the Council meeting on 2 June, a revised list of Accredited Traders, a copy of the Agreement between BOF and the Crown Estate Commissioners, a copy of a new leaflet on Scottish/National Vocational Qualifications in Sport and Recreation, and details of the proposed Club Delegate Conference to be held on 21 October in Leeds. A reply had been requested on the last matter by 24 July, indicating likely attendance; however, given the short timescale, the venue, and the likely level of interest in the Club, no action had been taken.

A circular had also been received from BOF, describing the establishment of a Disability Advisory Group. A presence was to have been made at Strathspey '95, advertising the Group's intentions. In addition, Clubs were asked to publicise the Group in their Newsletters.

Minutes of the SOA Meeting of 15 July had been received, together with a letter explaining the change of membership categories agreed at the AGM in May. The main change provided for a category roughly equivalent to the old Associate Membership, whereby a Club member could join the SOA only, and not have to join the BOF. However, the emphasis was different in that the SOA expected that ALL previously Club-only members would now become SOA members, and that Clubs would be asked to submit membership lists to the SOA periodically.

There followed considerable discussion on this topic, with several points being raised which conflicted with the SOA's intentions; principal among these were (a) that the change made no allowance for Club-only members who were also full members of BOF through another Club (whether affiliated to SOA or not, and whether Closed or Open), and (b) the Club's Constitution did not allow for an immediate change in membership categories, and consequently Interløpers would not be able to implement the change until 1997, even if it agreed with the decision (which this Meeting clearly did not).

It was agreed to write a letter to the SOA, explaining the Club's views on the alteration to the SOA Constitution, and that it would probably, if forced to make a decision, not cooperate with the SOA by not including Club-only members in the lists which were submitted to the SOA. The overall feeling was that, if the Club decided to

accept Club-only members, then this was a matter for the Club and for the Club alone; this did not preclude the Club offering people a membership category of Club+SOA.

A sticking point might be the question of Club affiliation to the SOA. As a compensation for charging all Club members an SOA fee, the SOA was proposing to reduce the Club fee to zero; however, this Club might be prepared to compromise by offering to pay the previous fee of £25 instead.

A quick survey of the membership list was carried out to ascertain the likely number of members affected by this decision. It transpired that there were 10 Seniors and 1 Family who were not also members of BOF through other Clubs; of the 10 Seniors, 2 were resident overseas who would not be interested in SOA membership, and who simply wanted to retain links with Interløpers. This latter reason was probably true of the majority of other members who were currently in the Club-only membership category.

3 Treasurer's Report

There was further reference to Peter Dymoke's offer to reorganise the investment of the Club's financial resources; however, his letter was still languishing somewhere in 22 East Preston Street, and the Chairman had, understandably in the circumstances, been unable to unearth it at short notice.

Charlie reported that the SOA Relay Championships finances were still not finalised; however, it really only remained to hand over some receipts, and for some expenses claims to be settled.

John apologised for not contacting Scott Balfour, regarding the requirement for attendance at First Aid courses as part of qualifying as a BOF Club Coach. The consequence of this inaction was that it was not possible to come to a decision at this Meeting about subsidising attendance at such courses. However, Colin I. reported that he had spoken briefly with Scott, and it seemed likely that periodic attendance at First Aid courses to keep the qualification up-to-date would be needed.

The question of renewing the application for the Circuit Training slot at the Moray House gym was discussed. Steve pointed out that the overall loss during 1994/95 was £94. It was agreed to seek renewal for the Autumn Term in the first instance, and to review the situation at the end of 1994.

Steve mentioned that Pat Squire had made it known that he needed names and dates of birth of all Club members who wanted to renew their affiliation to the Sports Injury clinic at Moray House for 1995/96, by 2 October, together with the fee of £10.

Steve asked if anyone knew an address for Mark and Rebecca Mon Williams, so that he could try to obtain their contributions for accommodation at Woodlands during Strathspey '95. He also reported that the week made a net profit of £30 for the Club, but this was because he had had to make an instant decision during the last day to set a round-figure per-night fee of £3 per person.

John asked for details of the finances of the Summer Series event at Colinton Dell, so that he would know how much BOF levy to calculate at the end of the year. Steve reported that the net income was £47.83, but that total entry fee income was £56. An amount of £14 had been received for Map Sales, but no-one at the Meeting could remember (or even knew) the name of the person who had bought them; it was thought that it was someone from the TA depot at Lanark Road. Scott would be asked if he could remember the name.

Steve also mentioned that £43 had been received at the Inch Park event. It had been previously agreed (at the Meeting of 30 January) that Anthony could retain this amount (less the sum due for BOF levy, assessed at £5.37), to assist with his expenses in attending representative events during the Summer.

4 Equipment

It was suggested that an equipment inventory be prepared, prior to the SG7 event at Anagach on 17 September.

Charlie said he would check the condition of Ken Ovens' clocks, since he thought they might have suffered somewhat during the very damp conditions at the SOA Relays.

5 Mapping

The purchase of several Colinton Dell maps by the TA representative, during the event there on 26 April, had prompted the idea that the map could do with some considerable updating; there had also been a suggestion

that it could include the grounds of Merchiston Castle school. John mentioned that he knew a member of staff at the school, who might be able to provide an introduction to the Headmaster in order to ascertain the level of interest (if any) which the school might have in such a project. The question of the whereabouts of the original artwork for the map was discussed, and it was pointed out that Roger Vander Steen was originally responsible for the map; John mentioned that Roger still taught at George Watson's College, and should therefore be contactable. As mentioned in the Treasurer's Report above, it was suggested that Scott be asked if he could remember the name of the person from the TA at Lanark Road (at the north end of the current map), so that he could be approached to ascertain the likely level of interest which he, or the TA, might have in extending, and/or redrawing, the map. It was also suggested that it would be worthwhile to try to obtain an order-of-magnitude estimate for the professional production of a new map, and Colin E. said he would approach Jon Musgrave to that end. It might also be appropriate to ask Jon to organise a Club mapping day on the extended area.

6 Events

6.1 Strathspey '95

The Meeting wholeheartedly agreed that the week had been splendid, and that the availability of Woodlands had contributed significantly to the enjoyment. Pat Squire was to be thanked for organising the week there.

Although it had been agreed at the last Meeting to try to resolve the issue of the distribution of any profit from Day 3 between the participating Clubs, this had not happened. However, the Meeting agreed that the view expressed by ELO was not acceptable to this Club. It was agreed to try to elicit a response from STAG and, once term had begun, from EUOC (probably through Gordon Riemersma). A copy of Pat Squire's original letter, together with a copy of ELO's response, and an up-to-date view of the Interløpers Committee, would be sent to each of the other Clubs, to try to achieve a consensus. However, it remained the view of this Club that a simple equal division between the Clubs was quite unfair, and totally failed to recognise the huge contribution in terms of man-hours put in by the six major officials, completely at their own expense.

It also seemed to be necessary to reiterate the policy, which some thought had been settled after Deeside '93, of recommending to Club seniors that they forego a run on the Club's organising Day. It appeared that the allocation of start times could only be arranged in 40-minute blocks, not randomly throughout the day, and that therefore this did not allow for adequate manning of areas of responsibility by the Club; hence the need to try to persuade as many members as possible not to run on the Club's own Day.

6.2 11-Person Relays - 20 August

A Club team had participated in this event. The general feeling was that the courses were too long, and that the effort involved in getting to the event (1.5 hours from Edinburgh, 5 miles along forest roads, several hundred metres to the assembly area from the car park) considerably lessened the enjoyment. It was also felt that the competition was not particularly representative of Scottish clubs, since there were only a dozen or so teams, from about 8 clubs.

6.3 Scotlandsgaloppen 7 - 17 September 1995

There was no real news about progress with this event, whether in the planning or in the organising. Colin E. would check with Graeme A. and Colin McN..

There was some discussion about the format of the Club Weekend at Woodlands on the same weekend. The house would be available from the Friday night until the Sunday morning. It was to be hoped that members would arrive on Friday, or maybe early Saturday, and then spend Saturday setting up Sunday's event at Anagach, before perhaps using the event's controls for training exercises.

6.4 Lothian O-League 1995/96

John had been approached by Janet Clark (ESOC) about the possibility of swapping our date (11 February 1996) with theirs (3 December 1995). Their problem was that they had two major forthcoming events (the Badge event at Linn of Tummel on 22 October, followed by the SOA Night Championships at Beecraigs on 12 November). They were also not happy at being given the December date without much chance of input to the LBOA before the allocations were made.

This Meeting was quite sympathetic to ESOC's plight. Apart from the problem of choosing an area on which to hold our event, the feeling was that it made little difference to Interløpers whether we held the event in December or in February.

The discussion then turned to the perennial problem of finding a Planner and an Organiser for the event. Dave rashly offered to Organise once again, and his offer was immediately seized upon and accepted. Several names were suggested as potential Planners (such as Ken Daly, Steve Conway, or Rob Lee).

The choice of area was then discussed. Kinneil Wood was suggested, and John agreed to find out from John Biggar whether the area was available. If so, he would also be asked whether LINOC could provide a Controller. Robin Strain would be kept informed about the consequences of these investigations.

7 LBOA

Nothing further had been heard about any LBOA Committee Meetings.

John had yet to receive from Pat Squire all the past papers relating to the LBOA.

8 Newsletter

Colin hoped to produce the next issue within two weeks, so that details of the Club Weekend could be made known to members in good time. He also wanted to publicise a request from the organisers of the World Mountain Running Championships (to be held in the Pentlands and on Arthur's Seat on 9/10 September) for people to volunteer as marshals; about 120 would be needed on the Sunday. Colin E. shocked the Meeting by offering to write a Chairman's article.

9 Juniors

The only activity of note was the continuing representative honours being earned by Anthony Squire. However, it was noted that a fair number of potential juniors occupied a large portion of the Club tent during the 6-Days.

10 Socials

Colin E. reported on the holding of a knock-out competition held in conjunction with Strathspey '95; it was based loosely on the points scored during the week in the official competition. Given the nature of the rules, it was hardly surprising that Carol McNeill won by a mile.

As for future social events, it was agreed that a Hallowe'en night should be held and, after some debate, Colin E. offered his flat as the venue, on Tuesday 31 October. It was noted that the Club Weekend would take place on 16/17 September, in conjunction with the Scotlandsgaloppen event at Anagach. It was mentioned that Eva and Rudolph Riemersma had once again offered their home as the venue for the Christmas party. There had been a suggestion for a Games Night, apparently emanating from Graeme Ackland and Jane Hailey.

11 A.O.B.

Colin I. reported that there had been no suggestions at all for a design for a T-shirt. There was some discussion about whether production of a new T-shirt or a sweat shirt should be pursued. Charlie would investigate potential suppliers. It was also suggested that it might be a good time to organise another run of O-suits although, as everyone agreed, they should be made of a much lighter material. Rudolph would be asked if he still had the name of the contact in Stockholm who supplied the previous batches.

Thanks were offered to Steve for his hospitality, at short notice.

The next Meeting was arranged for 7.30pm on Monday 9 October 1995, to be held at 22 East Preston Street (hopefully with more success than this time).

The Meeting ended at 10.10pm. John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) - 31 August 1995