FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTY THIRD YEAR

7.30pm, Wednesday 18 January 1999, at 161 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh

Present: Graeme Ackland, John Barrow, Paul Caban, Darina Cunnane, Colin Inverarity.

Apologies for absence were received from Colin Eades and Dave Godfree.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 28 October 1998 were approved.

2 Secretary's Report

The SOA statistical return for 1997/98 was duly submitted.

Jim Heardman, the Coordinator for JK 2000, had written to all Clubs. He wanted firstly, to try to establish the names of the 6 Planners and Day Organisers, preferably by this year's JK (but recognising that this summer's 6-Day and World Championships were dominating most Clubs' thinking). Secondly, he wanted Clubs to think about which jobs they would prefer to do, either for both Individual days, or for the Relay; however, this requirement did not need any decisions immediately, but could probably wait until after H99/WOC99. It was agreed to defer consideration of this until a later meeting.

Graham McFadyen had forwarded a Preliminary Event Submission form for BE2000 from BOF, with the request that it be completed and returned to BOF asap.

There was some discussion on the increased BOF event levy w.e.f. 1 January 1999, and its implications. It was suggested that an article, explaining the implications for budgetting for major events, be submitted to "Score",

Several members had changed address recently. In addition, a new Family (in the persons of Keith, Jane, Liam and Sarah Dawson) had joined the Club.

3 Treasurer's Report

The total income for the SOA Night Championships at Glenearn & Berryknowe was £233; it was expected that the net profit would be about £100.

The corresponding figures for the L O-L event at Archerfield were £322.50 and approx. £200, with about 130 competitors taking part. 4 Club T-shirts were sold at this event.

It was still not known what the unit map cost for Uath Lochans would be.

4 Equipment

At the time of the meeting, Paul had almost all the equipment at his house; the remainder was with Graeme.

5 Mapping

The application to the "Awards for All" programme for a Lottery Grant to assist in the mapping of Mortonhall and Colinton Dell, and perhaps the western part of the current Archerfield map, had been submitted. It was expected to be at least three months before any word on its progress would be received.

It was suggested that it would be possible to use a photo-copied draft of a map of Mortonhall for a Summer Series event, and ask experienced competitors to comment on its accuracy. It was reported that Dave now had a PC at home, so it was hoped that this would speed up the production of the map.

6 Events

6.1 Autumn Saturday events

The event organised by Colin Eades took place on 5 December at Corstorphine Hill. It was thought, in Colin's absence, that about 15 people took part. Unfortunately, the finances were inadvertently mixed up with those for the L O-L event at Archerfield the following day, and the situation had yet to be resolved. EUOC had been paid for the maps for both Corstorphine Hill and the Holyrood event on 3 October.

6.2 LBOA Championships - 1 November 1998

The Club had assisted with the results for the Championships. A thank-you letter had been received from Marjory Foreman.

6.3 SOA Night Championships - 7 November 1998

Despite fears of an impossibly low turn-out beforehand, 47 competitors eventually took part in this event, and the weather on the evening was as good as it could be for the time of year. The availability of the function room at the Glenfarg Hotel significantly added to the success of the event.

6.4 Lothian O-League 1998-99

Despite all the odds, the event took place as planned. Unfortunately, Hilary had to go home feeling unwell on the day. In addition, the maps stock was nearly exhausted (it is suspected that another pack of 500 maps is hiding in someone's attic). Sheila Strain (ELO), the Controller, worked tirelessly during the event. It was suggested that some small token of the Club's appreciation be given; Darina suggested a cross-stitch kit, and would try to find one and to present it to Sheila.

6.5 JOK New Year Chasing Sprint

This impromptu event was held on Blackford Hill. The competitors had, as a challenge at the final control, to consume 4 different Scottish drinks. Paul won the event comfortably.

6.6 Spring Saturday event

The next event to be organised by the Club was to be at Cammo on 6 February. Paul volunteered to help on the day, while Darina offered to try to plan the required courses (White, Yellow, and Orange). She would also check with Janet Clark about the availability of maps.

6.7 Scotlandsgaloppen 2 - 28 March 1999

Now that the event had been registered, and entry fees effectively published, it was agreed to live with the consequences of the effect of indeterminate map costs (and the large increase in BOF levy) on the event finances.

To date, a satisfactory solution to the problem of nearby car parking had not been reached.

Entries were beginning to come in. Fliers would be distributed. Woodlands was booked from the Saturday lunchtime; bookings for this should go to Paul or Pat.

There was no further news on the progress of the map (nor of its unit cost).

6.8 CompassSport Trophy 1999

For this year's competition, the rules had been changed; not only were the make-ups of the teams slightly different, but all Scottish clubs (which had entered) would compete at a single event, to be at the ESOC Dalkeith Park L O-L on 18 April. Results would be determined by all clubs competing against each other, not on a one-against-one basis. The single winning club would then take part in the Final in the South Central on 23 May.

6.9 LBOA Summer Series 1999

At this stage, it was not clear whether the Club would be asked to stage 3 events in the Series, or just 2. It was proposed to hold the first at Colinton Dell early on in the Series, and to try to use Mortonhall for a later date. Barry had already offered to organise the Colinton Dell event. Volunteers would be needed to stage the Mortonhall event; the names of Gordon and Lorna were suggested, but people would be sounded out at the Meadows training session on the evening following this meeting.

6.10 Highland '99 - 7 August 1999

There had been no developments made known for this Series, apart from the fact that electronic punching would be provided using the SportIdent system.

Various other events were mentioned. ELO had asked (as an option) if maps of Glenearn & Berryknowe would be available for either the LBOA Championships (16 May) or the Scottish Score (28 November). After discussion, and the suggestion to check what we charged ourselves for maps for the 1997 Scotlandsgaloppen event and the 1998 Scottish Night Championships, it was proposed to ask for 50p per map if ELO did decide to use the area for either event.

The 1999 Harvester Relays were to be held in the Forest of Dean on 25/26 September.

Looking even further ahead, to the 1999/2000 Lothian O-League, it was pointed out that, if ELO use Glenearn & Berryknowe in November 1999, then we should ask for a date in March or April 2000 if we wanted to use the same area.

7 LBOA

The next Committee meeting of this organisation was to be held on 26 January. John intended to attend.

It was suggested that the LBOA Inter-Club Championships trophy should be engraved, to commemorate the Club's win of 1998.

8 Newsletter

Colin hoped to produce an issue some time in February, and would publicise the BOF Relays.

9 Juniors

It was noted that two new Juniors (Liam and Sarah Dawson) had joined the Club, and it was suggested that they be informed of the Spring Saturday events, and of the existence of the LBOA Juniors activities.

10 Socials

The Christmas party duly took place at Fiona Weir's flat on 18 December; there was a good mix of members present.

A Burns-O would take place at the Acklands' house on Monday 25 January; it would take the form of a Street-O at 6.30pm, followed by a traditional meal at about 8pm.

It was hoped to arrange a Pancakes Night on Tuesday 16 February, at a venue to be decided.

A bowling/skittles evening might be organised for some time in March.

11 A.O.B.

It was noted that the Acklands would be increasing the Junior membership of the Club, probably in June.

Dave and Gillian would be getting married in July.

The CompassPoint management is still considering sponsorship of the Club, and one important point to be agreed was any name that Club teams should adopt for Relay events.

Darina suggested that a plea could be included in the Newsletter, asking for ideas for forthcoming social events.

Colin was thanked for his hospitality.

12 Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held on Monday 22 March 1999 at 7.30pm at 29/4 Prestonfield Avenue.

The Meeting closed at 9.50. John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 24 February 1999