FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTY FOURTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 31 January 2000, at 22 East Preston Street

Present: Graeme Ackland, John Barrow, Paul Caban, Colin Eades, Dave Godfree, Gillian Godfree, Colin Inverarity, Tim Lenton

Apologies for absence were received from Darina Cunnane.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 6 December 1999 were approved, with the following observations:

under "6.5 Spring Saturday Events", Colin E. had in fact not volunteered to organise the first event; Steve Ambler or Pat Squire would be asked instead;

under "11 A.O.B.", there was some doubt as to whether the suggestions for tours to the Spring Cup and Jukola Relay had been for 2000 or 2001. This was not resolved.

2 Secretary's Report

John summarised the current position with regard to membership renewals. He mentioned that Megan Smith had opted to join the Club this year, and that Catherine Biggin had joined as a new member. John Mitchell had re-joined, together with his partner Rachel Kirkland, as an SOA Family. There had been a suggestion that Kim Buckley might be joining KFO, now that she was living in Dunfermline.

Together with the BOF Public Liability insurance policy certificate for 2000, a flier had been received from Richard Weston, offering equipment insurance at an annual premium of £25. However, given that each claim on the policy was subject to a £50 excess, and that usual losses of equipment involved the odd control marker with a value much less than this excess, it was felt that there was nothing to be gained from taking out such a policy. Paul pointed out that, while the equipment remained under his roof (including his shed roof!), it would be covered under his house contents policy.

3 Treasurer's Report

Paul reported that the current bank balance was £6378.43. He pointed out that some money needed to be spent soon on the production of the maps of Colinton Dell, Craigmillar, and Mortonhall since, under the terms of the Lottery grant, it had to be spent within one year.

The Forestry Commission had still not submitted an invoice for the permit for Uath Lochan. However, a whisper had been heard via Donald Petrie that someone in Forest Enterprise had been getting rather agitated about non-payment of this permit fee. Paul would try to find out what needed to be done, and would settle any account if needed.

Graeme reported that Marsela McLeod, the new Assistant Professional Officer, had intimated that maps of Loch Vaa, to be used for the BOF Elite Championships on 11 June, would cost £1 each.

An order had been placed with CompassPoint for another batch of O-suits. Paul mentioned that some of the original stock had still to be paid for by members.

There was some discussion over the finances for the British Elite Championships/Scotlandsgaloppen 2 on 10/11 June. Although the map costs for Loch Vaa were known, no decision had yet been arrived at with

regard to entry fees. It was known that there would be a £270 access charge for the Classic Race area. The driving force for settling on some financial matters, such as the entry fees, was that advertising for the event would need to be decided on very soon.

The discussion evolved to considering the Short Race. Ben Hartman would be planning, but it wasn't clear where the venue would be. One suggestion was to use the Loch Vaa map, but to extend it southwards and to the other side of the main railway line. An alternative was to use an area originally intended for WOC Training. The main problem with either suggestion was that mapping effort would be required in each case. Paul pointed out that a saving could be made on toilet provision if the assembly area for each day were in the same place, and this could be arranged if the first suggested area for the Short Race were selected.

There was also some discussion on starting times for both days. It was pointed out that only Elite competitors would be taking part on the Saturday, so this would mean quite a short range of start times. However, taking into account the need to keep the Elite competitors separate from the SG runners on the Sunday, it might prove quite hard to fit everyone in, without starting the Elites quite early, and then getting all the SG runners away in time to provide the last starters with sufficient time to complete their courses before the these had to be closed to allow the organisation to tidy up. One way to get round this problem might be to use separate Starts, so that it might be possible to start the SG courses earlier.

4 Equipment

Nothing to report.

5 Mapping

Corrections to all three of the new city areas were in progress, with several people carrying out some ground survey. It was pointed out that printing would need to be organised very soon, since Mortonhall had been advertised as the venue for the ESOA Saturday event on 1 April. Graeme would chase up Dave Peel.

Graeme pointed out that the quoted scale on the map of Braidburn Park was in fact wrong.

There was a suggestion that an up-to-date copy of OCAD should be acquired. Dave would investigate.

6 Events

6.1 Club Championships - 19 December

This event duly took place, in brilliant (although very low) sunshine. Paul somehow managed to emerge through the tortuous handicapping system as the first Club Champion. Thanks were due to Ken for organising the day.

6.2 Spring Saturday Events

Steve Ambler organised the first event, at Braidburn Park on 29 January. 20 people had turned up, including a good number of Club members.

Ben was due to stage the next event, on 4 March at Craigmillar. Permission had been obtained from the City Council, although the road leading to the dump was not available for parking; this would have to be at Inch Park.

Paul would try to find someone to do the Mortonhall event on 1 April, perhaps Gordon Riemersma or Scott Balfour.

6.3 Club Street-O

The Street-O, held in conjunction with the Burns Night at Paul's house, was very successful. Gillian won, while Graeme was last.

6.4 SUSA Relays

These would be held in conjunction with the Saturday event at Craigmillar on 4 March, with Ben planning and Graeme organising. The Relays would take place after the public CATI event. It was suggested that the Club might enter a non-competitive team, to give EUOC some competition.

6.5 JK 2000 - 21-24 April 2000

Ann Haley had agreed to coordinate the organising of the String courses on both Individual days. There was a need for tartan objects and Loch Ness Monster artifacts.

6.6 ESOA Summer Series

Dave offered to plan a massed-start course, to be held at 7pm, on both days (17 May and 7 June). It was suggested that the course on 17 May be held in Craigmillar (rather than Inch Park for the CATI); this would be appropriate, since there was a proposal for events during that week to have a Millennium theme, and the Council had used Millennium funds to carry out some significant work in the Craigmillar area.

It was noted that ESOC planned to hold a SportIdent trial prior to their usual CATI format at the Craiglockhart event on 12 February. The trial would take place at 9.30am, and intending participants were asked to contact Janice Nisbet prior to the day. It was also rumoured that ESOC might use SportIdent at their O-League event at North Pentlands on 27 February.

6.7 BE2000 + SG2 - 10/11 June

See under "Treasurer's Report".

6.8 ESOL 2000/2001

There was some discussion about our preferred date for organising an event in this series. The consensus was to go for a Score event in October at Glenearn & Berryknowe. John would contact Robin Strain.

6.9 SOA Championships 2001

ESOC had been approached about the suggestion to hold the whole weekend in the Glen Affric area, and they had been quite positive. Donald Petrie had provided some information about appropriate areas, the mapping for which only existed on Stirling Surveys' computer, and which therefore had not been used before. This might have been an issue, since INVOC were planning to use the WOC Classic area for the Highland Fling in June this year, and this would have meant that holding a National event on the area the following May might have been contrary to the rules (being within 12 months).

Keith Dawson had offered to plan the courses for the Individual.

6.10 Scotlandsgaloppen 2001

Graeme felt that the Club should apply to organise a Short Race on the new map of Archerfield in conjunction with one of the events in this series, preferably in March. It was suggested that the weekend could be part of the UK Cup. EUOC would be prepared to hold a ceilidh on the Saturday night, as an added attraction.

6.11 6-Day Event 2001

Peter Halling, the Event Coordinator, had been touch, with a suggestion for the main Controller for Day 5 (the day for which Interløpers were the lead club). John Colls, an ex-member of ESOC now resident near Melbourne, would be interested in taking on this rôle; he was intending to spend several periods of at least a month in the UK before the event. Peter wanted to know if potential Planners for the Day would be happy with such an arrangement. Graeme suggested that Ben and Heather Hartman be consulted, as they had indicated a willingness to take on the job of Planners.

6.12 6-Day Event 2003

A meeting was to be held at Graeme's house on 10 February at 7pm. Donald Petrie would be present.

7 ESOA

Duncan Priddle, one of the City of Edinburgh's Rangers based at Hermitage House, attended the meeting on 11 January. He outlined the areas which the Ranger Service were responsible for; these included Cammo, Corstorphine Hill, Colinton Dell, East and West Craiglockhart Hills, and Blackford Hill and the Hermitage. He asked that Clubs intending to use any of these areas let the Ranger Service know in advance, although he pointed out that there was not likely to be any significant objection to such usage. He also asked if we could let him have a copy of the new map of Colinton Dell when it became available.

It was agreed that the Summer Series events should be registered as soon as possible by the Clubs, so that the series would be included in the March/April "Score" fixture list.

The Committee would meet next on 29 February.

8 Juniors

Nothing to report.

9 Newsletter

Colin reported that there would "probably" be a new issue soon.

10 Socials

The Skittles evening at the Sheep Heid duly took place on Thursday 20 January, with 11 people present. The Burns Night also happened on 27 January, preceded by the Street-O.

It was rumoured that a Pancake Night might be held on 7 March, at the Eades household.

It was also suggested that those attending SG1 on 5 March might be interested in an Indoor Athletics event at the Kelvin Hall on the same evening.

11 A.O.B.

The next meeting would take place on Monday 3 April 2000, to be held at 30 Blackwood Crescent at 7.30pm.

Colin and Lorna were thanked for their hospitality and comestibles.

The Meeting closed at 10.00pm. John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 12 February 2000