FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTY FIFTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 30 April 2001, at 161 Dalkeith Road

Present: Graeme Ackland, John Barrow, Ken Daly, Gillian Godfree, Ben Hartman, Colin Inverarity, Tim Lenton.

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Caban, Darina Cunnane, Dave Godfree, and Niall Inverarity.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 12 March 2001 were approved, with the following amendment:

- Under "Socials", the following should have been included:
  "Ideas for future social events included a Pancake Night, a Night at the Opera, and a Cinema Night."

2 Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

3 Treasurer's Report

Paul had sent a message to say that the bank balance was largely the same as at the last meeting.

MDOC had declined the offer of some reimbursement for our use of their laserprinter.

4 Equipment

The saga of the missing trestles has continued, although with some success at last. It seemed that Douglas Murray (MOR) had 10 of them, while Eddie Harwood had 7.

5 Mapping

Gillian reported that Dave was at Dechmont Law as she spoke, and planned to complete the map by Thursday of the current week. Printing of the map would be arranged through Stirling Surveys using the new SOA laserprinter.

6 Events

6.1 Spring Saturday Series

The Blackford Hill event of 17 March went ahead as planned. The turnout was very high for a CATI event, with British Squad members competing.

6.2 ESOA Summer Series

The Club was happy to organise Sprint-O courses at both Yellowcraigs and at Blackford Hill.

Martin Hyman had expressed some concern at whether he would have a map for the Dechmont Law event in time. (However, see Mapping Report.) John would contact Martin to allay his fears, to explain the usual format of such events, and to confirm that Dave would organise a Sprint-O to take place at 7pm.

Gillian would speak to Sheila Strain about the Carberry event, although it seemed that, because of Foot & Mouth restrictions, longer courses might not be feasible.

The Club would offer to stage Sprint-O courses at the ESOC events at Craiglockhart and Hillend on 6 and 13 June.

For all these events, the Club would offer to use the same controls as for the conventional longer courses already planned by the organising Club, would organise the Sprint-O start/finish, and would also arrange to collect in the controls.

6.3 SOA Individual Championships

There had been a proposal to postpone the SOA Championships by one year (as had already been agreed for the whole Scotlandsgaloppen series). Terry O'Brien had asked for confirmation from the ESOA (as organising Area) of such a decision. This Club might be persuaded to stage the Individual Championships in October 2001, provided an Organiser could be found, an area much closer than Rogie could be identified, and if the Relays would also take place on the same weekend. Otherwise, the consensus was to agree with the proposal to postpone the event until May 2002.

6.4 6-Day Event 2001

There had been no news on whether this event would still take place. It was rumoured that the area originally chosen for Day 1 was no longer available, and that the organisers had had to resort to using the only fall-back area. It was pointed out that the organisers were suggesting that 65 helpers would be needed on each Day. It was suggested that the number of Club members already entered should be ascertained from Dave Robertson.

6.5 ESOA Championships 2001

Given that the ESOL event at Archerfield planned for 24 March had had to be cancelled, it was suggested that this area be used instead for the Club's event in the 2001/2002 series, preferably in September/October, and that the event could also host the ESOA Championships.

6.6 Scotlandsgaloppen 2002

Because of the chaos caused to the Fixtures structure by the Foot & Mouth Disease restrictions, major changes to the Fixture List were proposed by the SOA.

It had been decided that the entire Scotlandsgaloppen programme originally scheduled for 2001 would be postponed until 2002, and that the applications for the 2002 Series would now be allocated to the equivalent dates in 2003 (with priority being given to Clubs with no allocated event in the original 2001 Series).

There was some concern that this would mean a heavy workload for the Club if the 2003 6-Day Event remained in place. Whether this happened depended on whether Lochaber 2001 went ahead as planned, or if it were postponed until 2002; in the latter case, Moray 2003 would become Moray 2004.

6.7 6-Day Event 2003

Graeme had e-mailed the Club members with a plea for someone to fill the posts of overall Coordinator, as well as the positions of Publicity Officer, Secretary and Web Site Designer/Maintainer. To date, there had been no response.

6.8 Training Events

Ken wondered if a Club training weekend could be arranged for the Autumn (perhaps in conjunction with another club). It was noted that a training event was planned for Inshriach on 27 May.

7 ESOA

At the last meeting of this Association on 20 March, the allocation of events for the 2001/02 ESOL Series was discussed; unfortunately, no firm dates were yet available from the SOA.

The Club was still prepared to put on Saturday events in the Autumn and Spring, with perhaps an idea of staging some less conventional courses for non-beginners.

There had been a lot of concern over Edinburgh City Council's new policy of charging for access to local areas, areas to which the public normally had free access. It was felt that the Council should be challenged over this policy, to try to have these charges waived. ESOC had drafted a letter to be sent to the Council, and had sought Donald Petrie's advice on its content. It was hoped to finalise this letter at the next meeting of the ESOA, to be held on 15 May.

8 Newsletter

Colin apologised for the delay in producing the next issue, but still hoped to publish it soon.

9 Juniors

Unfortunately, Gillian's proposed CATI for the schools cross-country league did not take place - it was rather wet!

The ESOA were hoping to resurrect the issue of appointing a local Junior Development Officer, with matching financial help from the SOA. It was hoped that, as well as ESOC and Interløpers, ELO might contribute towards such an appointment.

Gillian mentioned that she would be taking part in an Activities day for S1 and S2 pupils in Colinton Dell.

Tim pointed out that there were plenty of potential junior orienteers in Lothian Running Club.

10 Socials

A few events had taken place (such as a visit to the opera and a wine-tasting).

Ideas for future events included further visits to the opera (in June), the cinema, other shows, and a house-warming party at Tim's new home in late May or early June. A suggestion for some hill-walking was made. Graeme mentioned that he was hoping to raise a cricket team to play against the University's E=MCC side in June.

Tim would organise the post-AGM meal. It was agreed that this should once again be at Suruchi's, in Nicolson Street.

11 A.O.B.

There was some discussion about entering a team for the 7-person Jukola Relay in Finland on 16/17 June, using an unwanted CLYDE entry - Gillian had the details.

Ken mentioned that he had a pile of overprinted maps of Loch Vaa, and wondered if anything constructive could be done with them. It was suggested that they should be donated to the National Centre who could make use of them.

11.1 AGM

It was agreed to hold this on Thursday 14 June in the Meeting Room at 46 Pleasance. John would arrange to book the room. Tim (as mentioned earlier) would arrange the post-AGM meal.

Of the current Committee, Graeme and Paul would be standing down, while John, Ken, Dave, Gillian, Ben, and Colin were prepared to stand again (if pushed in some cases). Clearly, candidates for the posts of Chairman and Treasurer were needed, and the names of Dave and Ben were mentioned. Other suggestions for new Committee members were Janine, Brad, Pat Squire, Charlie, Rob Bloor, and Keith Dawson.

The next Committee meeting would be arranged by the new Committee elected at the AGM.

Colin was thanked for his hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9.21. John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 7 June 2001