FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, TWENTY EIGHTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 8 March 2004, at 3 Charlton Grove, Roslin

Present: John Barrow, Ken Daly, Gillian Godfree, Ben Hartman, Colin Inverarity.

Apologies for absence: Darina Cunnane, Helen Murray.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 12 January 2004 were approved. Any Matters Arising would be dealt with under the relevant heading.

2 Chairman's Report

2.1 Equipment

Gillian reported that she, and some other Club members, had carried out a survey of the state of the Club equipment in Paul's attic and shed (as well as making enquiries about obtaining some new items of equipment).

As far as the new tent was concerned, Gillian had repaired the fabric of the tent. However, four of the main poles were broken, and have been replaced with four from the old tent. The fabric of the old tent itself was considered to be beyond repair so that, together with the replaced broken poles, the entire tent was useless. Hence, there was a need to buy a new one (preferably in time for the SOL on 25 April). It was agreed that we should go for a large hooped model (like the one ESOC had recently purchased). These cost £332 each. It would be nice if a green one could be obtained. David Jenkins, the UK importer of such tents, would be approached.

At Paul's house, there are now five plastic boxes (in the style of milk crates). These contained (i) material for a CATI event, (ii) Car Parking/Registration items, (iii) Start items, (iv) Finish items, and (v) material for computer Download and Registration.

It had been determined that some new water carriers were needed, since there was now only one which didn't leak. They could be obtained from CompassPoint at £15 each. It was agreed to buy two.

As for Banners, there was only one Start and no Finish. It was agreed to buy a Finish banner at a cost of £65.

A new item of equipment suggested was some wet-weather clipboards. It was agreed to buy four at £20 each.

It was also suggested that a new set of master-map boards should be acquired, since the present set consisted of pieces of hardboard in all shapes and sizes, most of which were now quite dilapidated. Paul had agreed to handle this acquisition.

The Club currently owned one large O-sign. It was agreed to buy a further large one, together with some direction signs (since the current hand-made ones had seen better days).

As far as timing devices were concerned, it was agreed that an electronic flip-over clock, like the one ESOC has, was far too expensive. It was agreed that the manual one the Club currently owned would be quite satisfactory, provided it could be set up on a much more sturdy base.

It was still suspected that the Club's two electronic clocks were not quite functioning properly. However, once it was pointed out that the two clocks operated slightly differently from each other (one being a Start clock, with a switchable bleeper, and the other simply a Finish clock, although both had digital displays of perhaps questionable integrity), it was agreed that a further check of the operation of the clocks should be carried out to ascertain their status. If they

appeared to be faulty, then attempts to consult Ken Ovens might be pursued. Otherwise, they might well be perfectly serviceable.

Gillian suggested, and the Meeting agreed, that the use of cardboard boxes to store equipment should be avoided if possible, since these could rapidly disintegrate.

It was agreed that the stock of mini-kites was satisfactory. Although most of the newest batch were not attached to canes, this allowed more versatile use of them.

2.2 Junior SOL Trophy

It had been agreed with the SOA that the Club would purchase an 8.5"-high trophy, with would be engraved with the words "Scottish Orienteering League" and "Junior Women". Thus it could be presented in future to whichever class was appropriate at the time. The cost would be £62, and delivery would be around the end of April.

2.3 SOL 2005 - 2 October

Donald Petrie had been investigating accessibility for this event, specifically of Drummond Hill, near Kenmore. The owners were the Forestry Commission, and the area was potentially available between August and February. It was agreed that John should write to the SOA Secretary with our plan to use the area, but pointing out that a new map would be needed and that, if the Club decided to proceed with this, it would probably be appropriate for the map copyright to be transferred from the SOA to Interløpers.

ACTION: John

Quotes would be needed from professional mappers. It was suggested that a "baseline" quote be obtained from Peel Land Surveys, and other quotes should be sought from Jon Sutcliffe, Stirling Surveys, and Jon Musgrave. Ben suggested that a sample mapping contract be obtained from another Club, or perhaps by consulting Rob Bloor, who had organised the placing of contracts for the maps for Moray 2003.

He also suggested that a blanket "Awards for All" application should be submitted to cover the mapping of this area, together with Norman's Law and Calder Wood. Gillian agreed to obtain quotes for Drummond Hill; we already had quotes for Norman's Law, while quotes for Calder Wood had not yet been sought.

Gillian would seek permission from the Forestry Commission.

ACTION: Gillian

No Controller had been appointed as yet. It might be necessary to seek one from the SOA Controller of Controllers, Peggy Gordon (although she usually preferred it if Clubs were able to find their own Controller if at all possible).

2.4 EPO / ESOA Summer Series

The Club had agreed to stage two events in the Summer Series. Barry and Lorna would put on one at Craigmillar on 19 May, while Paul would organise the second at Colinton Dell on 16 June. John agreed to register these events, in time for them to appear in the Fixture List in the May/June issue of "Score".

ACTION: John

If anyone could be found to organise the EPO series, it was suggested that these could utilise the "green" course at the events. It was hoped to be able to persuade EUOC to take on the organising of the EPO.

The full Series was now looking as follows:

28 April	EUOC	Holyrood
5 May	ELO	Yellowcraig/Butterdean
12 Nay	ESOC	Hillend
19 May	INT	Craigmillar

26 May	(RR	Eildon Hills)
2 June	KFO	Pittencrieff/Townhill Wood
9 June	ELO	Newhailes
16 June	INT	Colinton Dell
23 June	ESOC	Glentress

3 Treasurer's Report

Ben reported that the sum of £1000 had been received from the Scottish 6-Day Event Company, representing the Club's "expenses" in taking on the main rôle in the Central Organising Committee for Moray 2003. (This sum was arrived at after the COC Clubs and the Equipment Team had agreed on a split of 50%/25%/15%/10% for INT/ELO/KFO/Equipment Team.)

Consequently, the current bank balance was in the region of £6000.

John mentioned that the ESOA had asked if all Area Clubs would provide a contribution of £50 to their Junior Squad for this year. In addition, the Club still owed the ESOA £5 for the preparation of the results of our SOSOL event in October 2003.

Ben pointed out that the end of the Financial Year was approaching. He asked that expenses claims be submitted in time for him to make appropriate payments.

There was some doubt about whether Peter Dymoke could continue as Auditor, given that he had indicated that he wanted to rejoin the Club. John pointed out that there was no stipulation in the Constitution that the Auditor should not be a Club Member. He would get in touch with Peter.

ACTION: John

4 Secretary's Report

John reported that he had, that day, registered the WWW address "www.interlopers.org.uk" for the princely sum of £9.99 +VAT for two years. He had arranged that this address would forward all requests to the Club's top page on the SOA site, at /www.scottish-orienteering.org/clubs/int/ which, in turn, contained a hyperlink pointing to Dave's new pages.

It would be suggested to Graeme Ackland that he should include a link on his front page pointing to the new pages.

John would circulate all SOA Club Secretaries with the new address (especially in view of the fact that the entry in the Fixture List in the latest issue of "Score" for the Club's SOL on 25 April pointed to the old page).

ACTION: John

John reported that he had been in touch with Janet Clark regarding applying for permission for the use of Archerfield for the Junior Inter-Regional Championships being organised by Suse Coon at the end of June this year.

5 Socials

It was mentioned that the Pancake Night duly took place on 24 February.

Helen had suggested that members might like to attend Salsa Celtica on Thursday 25 March.

6 Newsletter

Colin promised a further issue "soon".

7 Juniors

In Scott's absence, there was nothing to report.

8 Events

8.1 SOA Relays 2005 - 29 May

It seemed that TAY were now not in favour of the Club using Kinnoull Hill for the SOA Relays in 2005. As well as doubt about whether a suitable car-parking field could be found, they didn't want the ability to stage local events on the area to be compromised by any embargo placed on it if the Relays did go ahead there.

Consequently, the consensus was that we should seek another area to put on the event. Names of several areas were mentioned, including Faskally (a STAG area), Tentsmuir and Moncreiff Hill. Gillian would send the e-mail she received from TAY to Ken to see if any purpose would be served by raising the access issue at SOA level.

It was pointed out that the ESOA still needed to find a Coordinator for the weekend, and possibly a Treasurer. Ken mentioned that he had been speaking to Phil Smithard (KFO), who sounded fairly positive. Ben volunteered to act as the Treasurer.

9 Mapping

Donald Petrie had being trying valiantly to sort out the permissions for Norman's Law. It seemed that the main landowner was ex-directory, and that multiple attempts to contact him by letter resulted in no reply.

10 ESOA

Ken reported that Ron Nolan had been organising some good-quality training sessions for Juniors, with Ann Haley's help.

He also mentioned that an article on orienteering had appeared in a recent issue of The List magazine - the article featured BOF, SOA, STAG, ESOC, and the National Centre. He would try to get the information updated.

He said that Tiso's were planning another Club Night, on Tuesday 27 April from 6.30 to 8.30pm, probably at their Rose Street store. Substantial discounts would be offered to holders of Club membership cards, or to those who could show evidence of BOF membership.

Publicity had been discussed at the last ESOA meeting. It was felt that some degree of regularity in provision of material to the Press was most important, and it was hoped to find an individual from within the East Area to take this on. The supply of good black and white photographs was essential. Club contacts were Ken himself, Janet Clark (ESOC) and Robin Strain (ELO).

The appointment of an Edinburgh-based JDO was still not determined.

Dates for the 2004/05 SOSOL had not yet been fixed.

Ken had been in touch with Phil Smithard (KFO), regarding the position of Coordinator for the 2005 SOA Championships weekend. Phil sounded interested, with the proviso that he would appreciate some help with tracking down a fair number of KFO trestles which had still not been traced since the Arisaig event at Lochaber 2001.

The Committee would next meet on 27 April.

11 SOA

Ken mentioned that Clubs were encouraged to consider the new Club Template and to fill in some details in the margins on the Club Plan.

The SOA AGM would be held on Saturday 24 April, in the Crieff Hotel, High Street. A new President would be needed, since Mike Atherton had indicated that he wished to resign after having served for three years in that position.

12 A.O.C.B.

Gillian reported that preparations for the Club's SOL event on 25 April were well in hand. She had acquired prizes for place-getters. There was some discussion about the need to hold a prize-giving, given that many competitors left events quite soon after finishing, and tended not to wait for any prize-giving. However, given that electronic punching allowed the quicker identification of winners, it was agreed to hold a ceremony, at least for the Junior classes.

Ken mentioned that Terry O'Brien had suggested that the format of the 11-Person Relay could be reviewed, with the possibility of removing one or two tiers of competitor for less well-endowed Clubs, leading to an 8-Person or even a 5-Person competition, taking place at the same time as the 11-Person. It was generally agreed that this would be an organisational nightmare.

The issue of when the Club should opt for organising an event in the 2004/05 SOSOL series was briefly discussed. It was pointed out that in 2005 we would be involved with 3 major events (the SOA Relays, a Day at Deeside 05, and the SOL on 2 October). Hence a date in the early part of the Series would be more acceptable. At present, the only other constraints were that TAY wanted an October date, while KFO had opted for June 2005. It was agreed that we should ask for a date in late September, or possibly 14 November as a second choice. The venue would probably be Archerfield.

There was some discussion of when to hold this year's AGM. It was agreed to settle on the date of Thursday 17 June, at the same time and venue as last year. John would make the appropriate arrangements.

ACTION: John

John and Jo were thanked for their hospitality.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Monday 10 May 2004 at 27/16 Maxwell Street, Edinburgh.

The Meeting closed at 21.12.

John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 16 March 2004