FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTIETH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 27 March 2006, at 50 Buckstone Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Paul Caban, Stephen Haley, Chris Godfree, Ben Hartman

Apologies for absence were received from Brad Connor, Barry Owen and Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 16 January 2006 were approved.

2 Matters Arising

Paul was still to attend to the issue of mapping the grounds of Merchiston Castle School.

ACTION: Paul

Brad had not been able to undertake his action item from the last but two Meetings.

ACTION: Brad

An entry for the 2006 CompassSport Trophy had been sent in.

So far, organisers for 4 of the Summer Street-Os had been found.

An order for O-tops would be placed (to include a few extras).

The Running Nights had started. However, they would now take place on the first Monday of the month, and the next 3 would be organised by Gillian, Paul and Gillian respectively.

Lorna was designing a Club banner, and was thought to be close to placing an order.

3 Chairman's Report

Paul summarised the proceedings at the SOA Executive's Development Day, which he attended partly on the Club's behalf. The business largely concerned the future directions for the SOA, including the conversion to a Public Limited Company by Guarantee (like the Scottish 6-Day Event Co. and the BOF). This would involve the Executive Officers taking on Personal Liability, financially, and there would also be some restructuring of the Executive Committee. Certain posts would remain outside the Executive Committee, such as Fixtures, Squad Chairmen and Competitions.

A motion for consideration at the BOF AGM was a reorganisation of the membership structure. This would involve all current non-BOF members taking out some level of BOF membership (even Club-only members). Non-members would be expected to pay increased entry fees at events. However, at this stage, some elements of the changes were not to be made compulsory. (In any case, as was pointed out, it would be impossible to enforce the payment of any fees to BOF for those members who wished to remain affiliated on an informal level, or for those who were already BOF members through other Clubs).

4 Secretary's Report

John mentioned that BOF had announced the availability of clothing for all Coaches at level 2 and upwards. The current SOA Handbook would be checked to see if any members of Interløpers would qualify for this.

ACTION: John

5 Treasurer's Report

Ben was trying to tidy up the finances for the end of the Financial Year on 31 March. He would appreciate expenses claims from John and Barry.

Ben had yet to pay the ESOA for the SOSOL fee and the Junior Squad contribution, but asked for Kirsteen Kershaw's e-mail address. John would oblige.

ACTION: John

For the SOSOL at Norman's Law, only the levy payment remained outstanding. Richard Webb had (subsequent to the event) been to Norman's Law to undertake further ground survey work, and was expected to submit an expenses claim. The Meeting agreed that this could be paid.

The Club's share of the 2005 SOA Championships surplus had yet to be paid. However, the ESOA had not met since before the Club's last Committee Meeting, and indeed the ESOA Treasurer had been away on an extended holiday in New Zealand. The matter would be discussed at the next ESOA Meeting on 25 April.

Ben reported that the finances appeared to show a break-even situation for 2005/06 (provided the share from the above surplus was received). Approx. half of the costs of the Drummond Hill and Norman's Law maps were charged to the events, so that these showed a slight loss compared with the surpluses attributed to other events. EUOC would be invoiced for the maps used for the BUSA Relays at Kinneil Wood (approx. £113).

Ben would liaise with Peter Dymoke over the auditing of the books.

6 Stephen

Stephen and Brad had still to meet up to discuss the composition of the Club's Welcome Packs. Stephen asked for authority to purchase approx. 10 ring binders for these Packs, and the Meeting agreed.

7 Newsletter

Barry reported that the next issue was "close to happening". He would appreciate material "soon". It was agreed to include a note to the effect that this would be the last issue which non-renewers would receive.

8 Events

8.1 Spring CATIs

Ken would be staging the event on 8 April in Holyrood Park. Paul was still hoping to arrange another in the grounds of Kings Buildings on a Saturday in May. It was agreed that, given the turnouts at recent CATI events, these events definitely repaid the efforts put in to organise them (although Paul refused to take responsibility for organising ALL of them).

8.2 2006 Street-Os

Dates for 4 of these events had now been fixed, and they would be starting in mid-June.

8.3 SOSOL 2006/07

The dates for this Series had now been announced. The Club was considering staging its event on the new map of Calder Wood. However, the available parking might involve crossing a main road. There would also be a problem with bracken in the Autumn should such a date be chosen.

8.4 SOL 2007

It was suggested that, once an Organiser for this event had been identified, he/she should choose whichever date was preferred (whether 4 March or 22 April).

8.5 2007 6-Day Event

There was some confusion over which Day the Club had been allocated, on which area. John would check, and inform the Committee.

ACTION: John

John mentioned that Duncan Coombs had indicated that some land ownership on the Gullane Dunes/Archerfield map had changed. Apparently, Giles Weaver had given up the Jamie's Neuk woodland, which had been taken over by Muirfield Golf Club.

9 Mapping

The mapping of the Riccarton campus was going ahead, and the Club had been asked if we would agree to contribute about £400 towards this venture. This was agreed.

Graeme had asked if the Club would pay for a new photogrammetric plot of the Braids (to cost about £200). There were questions on what access we would get of the area, including its possible use for night events.

There was a suggestion that an area just NE of Eddleston (known as Portmore), on the east side of the A703, might be usefully mapped. It was apparently a mixture of open land and woodland.

10 Equipment

It was suggested that a 3-hoop tent would be useful, being a lot lighter than the existing conventional style Club tent, and more easily erected than the 5-hoop version.

11 ESOA

The JDO, Becky Carlyle, had announced that she wanted to take up an au-pair position in Sweden over the Summer, and hence would not be able to continue with her work with Primary Schools. However, there was a possibility that she would return to this, once she commenced her PhD in Edinburgh in October and, in any case, she had set up several initiatives which could be continued by some EUOC members until July. The issue would be discussed at the Area Committee's next meeting on 25 April.

The SOSOL dates for the 2006/07 Series had been announced, and Clubs would be invited to bid for dates.

12 A.O.C.B.

There was a discussion on entering Relay teams. The BOF event had already been attended to, but there remained the JK, Scottish and the Harvester. Anthony would be kept informed as details became available.

ACTION: John

It was agreed to try to book the Pleasance Meeting Room on Thursday 8 June for the Club's AGM.

ACTION: John

Paul was thanked for his hospitality.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at The Steading on Monday 15 May at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm. John Barrow – 5 May 2006