# FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY THIRD YEAR

**7.30pm, Tuesday 1 July 2008, at 62 Temple Park Crescent, Edinburgh**

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Emily Seaman.

Apologies for absence were received from Stephen Haley and Anthony Squire.

## 1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 31 March 2008 were approved.

## 2 Matters Arising

- Ben will continue his efforts to recover funds from NopeSport, and complete 2007/8 payments.
- Ken will assume responsibility for liaising with Hugh Ilgunas regarding an OCAD map of Dechmont Law.
- Paul will attend to the 5-hoop tent. Jane Ackland has done some necessary stitching of the material for the 3-hoop tent.
- Although Lorna was initially unaware of this Action item, she will follow it up, and try to see if Woodlands is available at the time of the SOL.
- In Emily's absence, Lorna had arranged the AGM meal.
- Ken and Pat would look into setting a budget for the SOL. Barry had agreed to take entries. Hilary Quick was the Controller.
- Clearly, Paul's efforts at sounding out Ken to take over as Chairman had been successful.
- John had duly booked a meeting room at Pleasance (although, again, the room at 48 Pleasance turned out to be inaccessible, and the meeting was finally held in the old room at the top of the stairs at 46 Pleasance).

## 3 Secretary's Report

John distributed up-to-date copies of the Address List and a Committee List, together with draft Minutes of the AGM.

John had that day received, and distributed, the July issue of the SOA Newsletter prepared by Hilary Quick. There was some discussion on the contents of these Newsletters, and the consensus was that they were most informative, particularly for the programme of courses. Ken and Pat suggested that the club should encourage members to train as officials, by offering some financial assistance. It was agreed that members should be encouraged in this way, and their requests be considered on merit and volume of applications, until the level of liability was better known.

On a more general note, it was suggested that such a policy, together with others on Junior support, Data Protection, etc., be published on the Club's website.

John asked if there had indeed been a suggestion at the AGM that a member of ESOC be asked to act as the Club's Auditor. The meeting confirmed this, and it was also suggested that some sort of reciprocal arrangement might be appropriate (unless, of course, ESOC already had their own arrangements in place). John would amend the draft AGM Minutes appropriately.

ACTION: John

Following comments at the AGM, some work had been done to modify the Membership Form, as published on the website. Ken and Ann had agreed the modifications, and John had sent the amended version to Dave Godfree and Graham McIntyre for the current and proposed websites.

## 4 Treasurer's Report

At this stage, Pat had no comments to make. A handover of the papers had still to be arranged with Ben. It was also agreed that Pat should take over control of the remaining items of O-kit. He agreed to check and consider whether a further order of O-kit was required.

John asked Ken and Pat to supply their signatures for a Change of Signatories form for the bank account. He would take it to a bank branch once he had obtained Paul's signature (as AGM Chairman).

ACTION: John

## 5 Newsletter

Emily reported that the next bumper issue was nearly ready for distribution.

She wondered if, in future, it might be possible to contemplate including colour in the Newsletter. Clearly, she would need to obtain quotes for commercial copying (since personal copying was almost certainly not a practical option). Again, a budget would need to be derived to cover such expenditure.

Ken suggested that, when he was Score Editor, Brad Connor used some layout software which improved the appearance of the magazine, and that this software might be appropriately used to produce a better-looking Club Newsletter.

ACTION: Ken

## 6 Socials

Lorna was hoping to organise a barbecue at Vogrie Country Park, some time towards the end of the Summer, perhaps combined with a small orienteering course.

She also suggested a possible couple of dates in September when a Club Weekend could be held at Woodlands, in Kingussie. The idea would be to combine it with either the 11-Person Relay or a SOL, and to hold a training day for Club members.

She had also been looking further forward to the Christmas Party, and wondered if Kings Buildings might be a suitable venue. They would provide a buffet-style meal, at an approximate cost of £5 per head which perhaps Club members could contribute towards. One major advantage was the availability of a licensed bar. It was suggested that perhaps a small O-course in the KB grounds could be put on beforehand; an added attraction of this was the on-site changing facilities. Emily also suggested that last year's idea of using the church hall at Fairmilehead was a practical proposition, now that the conditions for using it were known (Health and Safety concerns, and BOF Insurance), providing plenty of lead in time was allowed to address the issues.

It seemed that the proposed Street-O programme had been postponed until the Autumn. Paul had offered to put on a barbecue in conjunction with one such event. Ken would check the plans for this programme with Will Mair.

ACTION: Ken

# 7 Chairman

Ken developed a theme he raised at the AGM, regarding how the Club should be promoted, with a view to recruiting new members and retaining existing members. He would like to continue the current family-friendly orientation, but also felt some effort should be devoted to re-developing the elite focus which the Club used to have. He hoped this would help the Club recruit University leavers, as used to happen in the past and was a great strength of the club.

He also stressed that marketing the Club and the sport should be developed. To this end, the Club logo should be used as often as possible on publicity material. An electronic form of the logo was in existence. However, as an adjunct to this, more events would need to be organised to provide a fuller fixture list and development pathway throughout the year. Clearly, liaison with ESOC and ELO would be necessary.

ACTION: Ken

As mentioned at the AGM, the question of a coordinator for the Club's website was an important one. Graham McIntyre had offered to assume either this role, or that of Mapping Coordinator. However, it was felt that the former position was currently the more pressing, and so Graham had agreed to take it on. Dave Godfree was perfectly happy for this to happen, although he would continue to post items on the current site, if people sent him material. In the mean time, Graham had put together a skeleton site which the Committee were welcome to peruse. It was pointed out that, in due course, any Social events should be posted on the website.

Ken asked if details of the new Club Committee could be sent to the "Score" Editor. John would oblige.

ACTION: John

He reported that Paul was happy to continue as Equipment Manager. It was suggested that perhaps an abbreviated inventory of the equipment could be included on the website. Ken would ask Paul if he could draw up something appropriate.

ACTION: Ken

It was suggested that some form of "disposable" control markers could be devised for use in local events in sensitive areas. Members would be invited, probably via the newsletter, to suggest designs for disposable controls for C5 events exposed to a vandalism risk.

ACTION: Emily

Ken raised the question of identifying a Mapping Coordinator for the Club. It was recognised that Dave Godfree could not continue with this role. Ken had spoken with Dave, and suitable candidates would be approached.

ACTION: Ken

He wondered if the Club should pursue twinning with Clubs in other areas and/or regions. The names of BASOC and LOC were mentioned in this context. He suggested this could generate wider opportunities for training, socials, assistance with our 6-Day commitments, a partner for double-whammy weekends, and be attractive to potential new members.

He reported that the SOA were keen to have feedback on the current Competitions structure. He himself felt that it was good to have club-oriented events, such as the 11-Person Relay and the Inter-Club competition (currently associated with the Score Championships). The overall feeling was that this association should be dissolved, the preference being for the Inter-Club to stand on its own. Ken would respond to the SOA appropriately.

ACTION: Ken

# 8 A.O.B.

- It was suggested that a programme of regular training sessions should be re-established, consisting of running nights, circuit training, or Street-Os, varying week by week, and that these sessions be publicised on the website. It was proposed that Rob Lee be asked if he would coordinate the sessions. Ken had consulted Janet Clark about what ESOC did by way of training, but it transpired that their sessions, held on Wednesdays, were rather more technical than what was being suggested for Interløpers. As a complement to ESOC's evenings, perhaps Thursdays might be suitable for the Club. It was mentioned that the Meadows sessions still took place on Tuesdays, at 7.54pm.

- Colin pointed out that the Club needed to find another Planner and an Assistant Controller for Day 6 of the 2009 6-Day Event. John would draw up a form of words to be sent to the e-mail list, seeking volunteers.

ACTION: John

- Following an e-mail from Paul, reporting that the banner pole had been broken, and listing the costs of two possible replacements, the Meeting confirmed the e-mail consensus that Paul should proceed and arrange to buy the more robust replacement.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 23 September at 1 Nettlingflat Cottages, Heriot.

Emily and Chris were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9.30. John Barrow – 27 July 2008