THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY THIRD YEAR

7.30pm, Tuesday 25 November 2008, at 34 Queen Margaret Close, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Stephen Haley

Apologies for absence were received from Emily Seaman and Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 23 September 2008 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

- John had e-mailed Hugh Ilgunas regarding our supplying an OCAD map of Dechmont Law for him to draw on the locations of his permanent controls. Ongoing.

ACTION: Colin

- John had still to talk to Janet Clark regarding the possibility of finding someone in ESOC who might be prepared to audit the Club's accounts.

ACTION: John

- Brad had been contacted, but had no suitable layout software for the Newsletter.
- Ken had tried, unsuccessfully, to contact Will Mair about Street-O, so he would review the options for 2009.

ACTION: Ken

- Paul had still to compile an up-to-date list of Club equipment.

ACTION: Paul

- Ken would respond to the SOA Competitions Review, to say that the Inter-Club Championships did not have to be included in the Scottish Score Championships, Score events being particularly suited to winter, and the Inter-Club probably being more suited to a warmer time of year.

ACTION: Ken

- Ken would respond to the BOF Events Review, although it was acknowledged that it was a fait accompli. It was noted that individuals were free to submit their views to BOF.

ACTION: Ken

- The outstanding action items for the Inshriach SOL had been attended to.
- John had written to the Norman's Law landowners.
- Liaison with ESOC and ELO had still to take place regarding extension of the CATI programme well into 2009.
- Finalising of the Permanent Course arrangements for Craigmillar Park had still to happen.
- Discussion on the taking of the tent to events was deferred until later in the Meeting.
- It wasn't clear if a replacement set of poles had yet been bought for the 5-hoop tent. John would check with Paul.

ACTION: John

- Insertion of copy dates into the Newsletter and on the website had still to be arranged. John would check with Emily for the forthcoming issue.

ACTION: John

- John had checked that the correct web address for the Club was shown on the BOF, SOA and ESOA websites. He had found no links on the 6-Day Co. site.
- Inclusion of the Club's logo and web address on maps would be discussed later.

3 Secretary's Report

Ann Haley had forwarded a letter from Alzheimer Scotland, thanking the Club for its generous donation in memory of Brenda Heyworth.

A note had been received from the BOF Chief Executive, outlining the arrangements for modification of the Fixture List in the light of the reorganisation of the Fixtures Structure, to come into effect in the New Year.

John asked if Colin's name should be forwarded to BOF as the Club's Mapping Representative. The Meeting (and Colin) agreed.

ACTION: John

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat had prepared a draft budget for the Club's annual activities, which was discussed in some detail.

He reported that preparation of the revised Craigmillar Park map by Scott Fraser had cost £200.

There was some discussion on the level of Club subsidy of Relay entry fees. This was brought to the fore by the somewhat disproportionate subsidy of the British Relay teams; unfortunately, one team had been entered but the entrants had not run. It was agreed that a flat figure of £5 per competitor sometimes wasn't suitable; it depended on the actual fees charged by the event, which could vary significantly. Eventually, it was agreed to set the subsidy of the entry fees at 25%, with a fixed minimum level (yet to be set).

The entry fees for the Club's SoSOL at Norman's Law had yet to be agreed.

5 Events

5.1 SOL - 12 October 2008

This event had taken place, with a pleasingly large entry. No insurpassable problems occurred, apart from the fact that the Planner and the Controller had had repeated encounters with a rather persistent capercaillie. On the night before the event, it was decided to modify four courses (by removing 3 control sites) to avoid the area where the bird had been seen. Ken thanked everyone in the Club for their contributions to the event.

All that remained was to complete the finances.

5.2 New Year event

Ken asked the Meeting for approval for him to stage his usual New Year event on Speyside (specifically on Friday 2 January 2009). The Meeting agreed.

5.3 SoSOL - 8 February 2009

Ian McIntyre had agreed to be the Organiser for this event. The Controller would be Clive Masson (ESOC). Access permission had been granted by all the landowners. The ER1 would need to be updated fairly soon.

ACTION: John

5.4 Tay 2009 Day 6 - 8 August 2009

Colin reported that all officials were now in place for this event. Jackie Riley would be the Day Organiser. The main Controller was Lynne Walker, with Paul Caban the Assistant Controller. Graham McIntyre and Colin were the two Planners. A contact within the Club would need to be identified, to coordinate the Club's effort on the day.

5.5 CATI events

At present, there were no Local events planned by the Club in the near future. However, discussions would be held at the forthcoming ESOA meeting with the representatives of ELO and ESOC, to try to derive a programme of such fixtures in the period up to the summer of 2009, in which the Club would, it was hoped, play a full part.

ACTION: John

5.6 2009 SOA Score Championships

It had been finally determined that this event was earmarked for 22 November 2009. Accordingly, it was agreed that Glenearn & Berryknowe would not really be suitable because of the risk of bad weather at such altitudes and the consequent risks to parking and competitors. Hence the preferred choice was Gullane Dunes. John would ask Emily to put a request in the Newsletter seeking a Planner and Organiser.

ACTION: John

5.7 Street-O

It was agreed that a programme of these events be put on during May/June in 2009. There was some discussion on which night of the week; if a Thursday, this would continue the theme of training nights begun this term. Otherwise, Wednesdays were a possibility. Stephen suggested he might be able to put on one such event. An overall Coordinator would be needed; Ken and John would try to find someone.

ACTION: Ken, John

6 Mapping

Colin reported that he now had the Club's maps on his computer. He is also providing limited support for CONDES. Hilary could also provide similar support.

As mentioned earlier, John had been in e-mail contact with Hugh Ilgunas, who had replied to the effect that he would still be interested in receiving a copy of the Club's map of Dechmont Law, so that he could include his permanent control sites. John had forwarded his reply to Colin, who would send him a PDF file of the map.

ACTION: Colin

John mentioned that, last year, Hugh had sent a copy of his OCAD map of Polkemmet, where his department had put out some permanent controls. John would forward a copy of this map to Colin.

ACTION: John

The question of the inclusion of the Club's logo and web address on its maps was ongoing. It was suggested that a list of the Club's mapped areas be included on the website.

Ken reminded everyone that, a year or so ago, Steve Terry had e-mailed with details of a small area near where he lived, which he thought might usefully be mapped. Ken would re-establish contact to try to pursue this.

ACTION: Ken

7 Equipment

Paul was still looking after the bulk of the equipment.

There was further discussion on how to get the Club tent to appropriate events. It seemed to depend on people remembering, or else to have a rota imposed. The consensus favoured the former. Ken would contact Paul.

ACTION: Ken

As mentioned earlier, it wasn't clear if the 5-pole tent had a new pole set. It was agreed to derive a current list of equipment, and put it on the website.

ACTION: Ken

Ken pointed out that the Club could do with replacing some control kites; several of the existing ones were now quite faded and tatty, and the purchase of a dozen or so wouldn't go amiss.

8 Club Captain/Relays

Nothing to report.

9 Juniors

Ann had sent out an e-mail to the Club list, giving details of 5 forthcoming Junior training sessions organised by Ron Nolan.

It was reported that, at the Junior Inter-Area competition held in conjunction with the Inshriach SOL on 12 October, the ESOA team had come 2nd overall.

Mark Haley and Christopher Galloway had been chosen for the World Schools Select Team for the Championships to be held in Madrid in April 2009.

The view was expressed that the East Area could do with more coaches for Juniors. A list of BOF-registered coaches, although all "un-licensed", had now been obtained. It was suggested that a plea be included in the next Newsletter for more members to apply to become coaches.

ACTION: John, Emily

10 Newsletter

Emily was putting together a new issue, to be produced before Christmas.

It was suggested that a piece be inserted, advising that the Club was willing to subsidise volunteers for coaching, CONDES and other training courses, etc..

Approximate copy dates should be included, and also posted on the website.

ACTION: John, Emily

There was also the question of soliciting ideas for making disposable control markers.

11 Website

It was stressed that the site needed continuing contributions from as many members as possible. It was suggested that perhaps a photo arcade be established.

12 Socials

Ken apologised for the lack of a quiz during the SOL weekend, and he would rearrange it.

ACTION: Ken

Lorna was thanked for her efforts in organising this event, as well as the two weekends at Woodlands.

She noted that, in the event, there was no fixed price for food at KB. They were happy to be given a budget to work to, and this turned out to be in the region of approx. £3 per head.

The Hallowe'en night was most successful, with 38 members present. Thanks were due to the Ackland family.

The Christmas Party would be hosted by Rob, Patricia and Max at their new house. The intention was to coordinate it with the Club Championships, being organised by Ben at Riccarton on 14 December. It wasn't yet clear if the Party would be on the night before, or the afternoon/evening after it. The details would be put on the website.

Lorna proposed a Skittles Night at the Sheep Heid in February, and perhaps a Burns Supper. She suggested coordination with EUOC for the latter, who usually put on a very enjoyable ceilidh at about that time of year.

Ken wondered if a Training Weekend in the Lake District would be well received. He also suggested a mountain bike day, possibly in conjunction with ESOC. Another weekend at Woodlands might also be attractive.

13 Training

It was appreciated that training sessions were gradually increasing in number, and a programme would be issued for 2009.

14 Governing Bodies

At the last ESOA Committee Meeting, there was discussion about Interløpers participating in the Saturday CATI Series, with the hope that the Club might be able to put on some events nearer the summer of 2009.

There was some discussion on the BOF plans to reorganise the Fixtures Structure with effect from 1 January 2009. Although the SOA had solicited views on the implementation of these plans, it was recognised that they were now largely set in stone, and couldn't be modified (at least in essence). John had received that day an e-mail from Mike Hamilton, the BOF Chief Executive, outlining the intention to modify how the Fixture List would appear (a) in the period from 24 November leading up to the turn of the year, and (b) from 1 January 2009 onwards.

Ken mentioned that Scott Fraser, the SOA Professional Officer, had been liaising with Midlothian Council's Sports Coordinator on any implementation of plans to develop the use of school grounds for orienteering. This included mapping of the grounds (in which INT member Chalmers Smith had been involved). Scott had been trying to set up a meeting with the Coordinator, and a representative from INT and ESOC; however, this was to be during a weekday, and no-one from Interløpers was likely to be available for this. It was accepted, though, that at this stage Janet Clark (ESOC) could quite satisfactorily represent the two Clubs' interests.

15 A.O.B.

Lorna proudly mentioned that she had been selected for the Senior Home Internationals team. She was duly congratulated!

Ken proposed formulating a Business Plan for the Club. He would prepare a draft for the next Meeting.

ACTION: Ken

Lorna pointed out that, for the CompassSport Cup for 2009, the Club would have some competitive W45s, a group which had been sadly lacking in recent years.

Ken mentioned that, in the 2009 SOL programme, somehow two events had been scheduled for one weekend (albeit in the same area). He felt that this practice could discriminate against orienteers who might not be able to run that weekend (for whatever reason), and thereby would miss two events in the Series. He felt that a polite protest be made so that the practice shouldn't be repeated in future years.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Monday 23 February 2009 at 11 Wilton Road, Edinburgh.

Ann and Graham were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9.44. John Barrow – 16 January 2009