FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY FOURTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 1 February 2010, at 2 Broombank Terrace, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Lorna Eades, Rachel Kirkland.

Apologies for absence were received from Colin Eades, Mark Haley, Emily Seaman and Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 2 November 2009 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

- Formulating a Business Plan for the Club was still outstanding.

ACTION: Ken

- Writing a potted history of the Club was continuing. John mentioned that Lucy Fryer had been able to update the EU Sports Union Alumni web pages with material supplied by Robin Sloan and Geoff Peck, making them much more complete for the early years of EUOC. Although not directly affecting Interløpers, this information described several people who went on to become members of our Club after graduating.

ACTION: John

- Ken had asked Colin to arrange to add Club details to Interløper maps as a proactive action.

ACTION: Colin

- It was believed that the "Award For All" scheme had now ceased. However, there were other avenues to pursue to obtain funding for the Norman's Law and Dechmont Law mapping proposals. See under "Mapping".
- See under "Equipment" for a suggested course of action on the Club tent.
- It was understood that Iain Cackette had been working on a template publicity flier.
- The SOA Coaching Questionnaire had still to be completed. Hilary would be consulted on how to proceed.

ACTION: Ken, John

- It was still not clear if any spending would be needed on Junior support. See later under "Juniors" and "A.O.B.".
- A 1-year licence of the new SI software had been purchased.
- See under "Mapping" for the drawing up of a suitable mapping contract.
- The selection of a design for new O-tops was ongoing.

ACTION: Ken

- Pat announced that, with confirmation from Les Dalgleish that the Club would not be liable for any copyright fees for use of the Inshriach map in October 2008, auditing of the 2008/09 Accounts had now been completed by Ben Bate.

- A Levy Return had been registered for the 2009 Scottish Score Championships.
- Alastair Lessells had agreed to control the Scottish Sprint Championships.
- Murray Strain had agreed to coordinate the 2010 Street-O Series. See under "Events".
- The 2009/10 SoSOL at Calder Wood on 9 May had been registered.
- See under "Events" for details of the 2011 SOL event.
- A system to notify key Club officials of new members had still to be devised.

ACTION: John

- It wasn't clear yet if the master CATI Registration Card had been modified to include a Tick Box to allow beginners to indicate their wish to be kept informed of forthcoming events. John had extracted the list of competitors at the Braidburn CATI in September 2009 who had shown such interest, but a system had still to be devised to keep these people informed.

ACTION: John

3 Secretary's Report

Following an approach to Ken, John had contacted Toni Louhisola, who is the BOF-appointed Head of Performance for Orienteering, working at the EU Centre for Sport and Exercise in Pleasance. Toni had expressed an interest in joining the Club.

It was now possible for Membership Secretaries to check the status of membership renewals on the BOF website. John would do so.

ACTION: John

A message had been received from Caroline Povey at BOF, giving details of a "Thrillseekers" campaign being run by the BBC in conjunction with its "Countryfile" programme. The campaign would try to encourage people who expressed interest in a range of activities, including local orienteering events. Organisers of such events would register them with a central contact. John was asked to circulate Caroline's message to the rest of the Committee. If the campaign was sufficiently successful, it would be extended beyond its original ending date, and this might mean that the Calder Wood SoSOL could be registered.

John mentioned that he had renewed the Club's website registration with Namesco for a further two years.

There had been a rumour that the SOA was reviewing its Levy arrangements for 2010. At the 2009 AGM, it had been agreed that the £6 ceiling on Level 2 and 3 events would be removed altogether, meaning that many more events would be liable to the Levy. However, apart from those who attended that AGM, the decision was not common knowledge, there having been no general announcement to Clubs, and the AGM Minutes had still not been published on the SOA website.

There was some discussion on a draft paper presented by a group of O stalwarts on the extension of the current 3-Level event structure to a 4-Level one.

4 Treasurer's Report

The 2008/09 Accounts had now been audited.

The Scottish Score Championships made a profit of £380 (after negotiations with TAY over the cost of maps). It was noted that the Planner had waived his expenses.

The Club Championships at Craigmillar made a profit of £314 (mostly because of slightly elevated entry fees).

The Festive Frolic event at Loch Vaa was postponed, because of deep snow. So far, £130 had been committed for maps and Ken's expenses. However, it was hoped that the maps could be re-used at the re-scheduled event next January.

A budget had been set for the Scottish Sprint Championships (based on the SOA Levy, as modified at the 2009 AGM). At the stage of setting the entry fees, it was not known that the SOA Levy would be restored to pre-AGM levels. Costs were less because of using Kings Buildings.

£417 had been received from the 6-Day Event Company as the Club's allocation of the profit from Tayside 2009.

To date, the money given to the Club as part of Stephen Haley's BOF award had not been used. There was some discussion as to how this should be spent: ideas included a trophy for Juniors at the Club Championships, a subsidy for O-tops for Juniors, or a subsidy towards organising a Junior Training weekend.

5 Events

Thanks were expressed for the efforts of all officials at the Mortonhall CATI, the Scottish Score Championships and the Club Championships.

5.1 2009 SOA Score Championships - 22 November

John would ask Pat Squire to supply him with the paperwork for the event, to archive for BOF Insurance purposes.

ACTION: John

As an additional responsibility, the results for the Scottish Inter-Club Championships (held in conjunction with the event) had to be calculated. Paul had managed to achieve this, after much effort, and Ken had verified the results. Ken would notify the winners.

ACTION: Ken

5.2 Scottish Sprint Championships - 6 March 2010

It seemed that there was a potential clash of times with the University Hares and Hounds 5-mile event taking place from Kings Buildings on the same day. The issue had yet to be resolved, involving the KB House management.

Ann had mentioned that she would need the SI software; however, it was pointed out that Robin Strain usually supplied this, as part of his normal support for events. Ken would liaise with Ann, and would discuss the supply of SI units with her and Robin. He would also discuss the question of prizes with Ann. It was noted that Alastair Lessells had agreed to control the event.

5.3 SoSOL 2009/10

Robin Galloway would be planning the courses, and John Barrow would organise the event. Crawford Lindsay (ESOC) had agreed to be Controller. John had that day e-mailed West Lothian Ranger Service, seeking permission for use of the area. A pressing question was in finding an adequate car park. At the Club's previous event on the same area, in February 2007, an industrial estate on the SW side of the area had been used.

There was a possibility that the SOA round of the CompassSport Trophy might be held in conjunction, but a decision on this would be deferred until full permissions were in place.

5.4 Street-Os in 2010

As mentioned, Murray Strain had agreed to coordinate this Series. Ken had suggested names of likely planners, including John Mitchell (assisted by Rachel), Richard Webb and Donald Reay.

There was some discussion over which day of the week the events should take place on. Current commitments were ESOC's evening sessions on Wednesdays, and the Club's own training sessions on Thursdays. It was suggested that Ken should liaise with Murray and Toni Louhisola (the new Head of the Centre for Excellence at the University) to discuss the issue.

ACTION: Ken

5.5 SoSOL 2010/11

This event would almost certainly take place at Devilla on 12 September 2010. Barry Owen had agreed to be Planner. The Organiser might be Graham McIntyre. The event would incorporate the JHI, which would have to be run first. A Controller had yet to be appointed. KFO had given permission for the use of the map. Permission for use of the area, as well as a suitable parking location, had still to be obtained. It was hoped that there could be joint marketing of the event with the Park World Tour, to be held on the previous Friday. The SoSOL would almost certainly need to be registered independently of the JHI and the Park World Tour event.

ACTION: Ken, John

5.6 2010 Club Championships

Last year's winner was Jonny Gallier, who automatically became the organiser of this year's event. No date or venue had yet been chosen.

5.7 New Year event - 2 January 2011

This event was re-scheduled from the 2010 event, which unfortunately had to be cancelled because of deep snow.

5.8 SOL 2011

The original plan had been to arrange to extend the map of Norman's Law. However, it was recognised that it was now too late to submit a bid for grant aid in time to map this area for the SOL date. Work was required to secure permissions, followed by estimates, then a BOF grant aid bid, and finally a contract. However, some effort should be spent in finding out more information about ownership of (a) the woodland, which was in some doubt at the time of the Club's last event there in 2008, and (b) the area which could be added on to the existing map. It was suggested that Richard Speirs could be asked to make some investigations. It was also suggested that an application should be submitted in the summer for BOF grant aid to extend the Norman's Law map

ACTION: Ken

However, Ken had obtained permission from the SOA for the use of Dalrulzion. Two dates had been suggested by the SOA Fixtures Secretary, 27 February and 6 March. It was decided to proceed with Dalrulzion on 6 March. John would arrange for an initial registration on the BOF website with Paul.

ACTION: John

5.9 2011 SOA Relays

No venue had yet been chosen; this depended to some extent on the choice of venue for the Individual event.

5.10 2011 6-Day Event

So far, there was no information about our involvement in this event.

5.11 CATIs

Given the busy programme the Club had during the Spring, it had not committed itself to any ESOA CATIs so far. However, it might be that one or two could be fitted in. It was suggested that Colinton Dell (possibly with its map merged with the map of the grounds of Merchiston Castle School) could be used.

Looking further ahead, the 2011 Street-O Series and a SoSOL in 2011/12 would need consideration.

6 Mapping

It was suggested that a BOF grant aid bid be drawn up for the re-mapping of Norman's Law and Dechmont Law. Ken had obtained a draft contract from Terry O'Brien.

It was also suggested that Colinton Dell and Merchiston Castle School could be merged on to a single map. There was also mention of a small area on the grounds of the old gasworks at Newhaven.

ACTION: Ken

7 Equipment

It was suggested that, given the apparent difficulty of obtaining a replacement pole set and fabric repairs, our losses should be cut, and we should buy a new tent outright. Paul would be asked to try to find out prices, and to advise Pat before going ahead with a purchase.

ACTION: Paul, Ken, John

8 Club Captain

Anthony had reported by e-mail. Salient points were as follows.

Entry forms for the JK had been received. Early entries would close on 7 March, which he was aiming for. He had targetted potential runners for the M Open and W40 relay classes.

He had continued to solicit interest in attending the Jukola Relay, and some expressions of interest had been received.

As mentioned elsewhere, the CompassSport Trophy round had been postponed because of the snow conditions. To date, no re-scheduling been possible.

9 Juniors

Mark also reported by e-mail.

Christopher and Matthew Galloway had both been selected for the Scottish Junior Squad.

There had been many Club members attending the Junior Training sessions.

The CATI which Mark planned at Mortonhall (with Paul's assistance) in November went well, with a very good turn-out despite the weather. Thanks were expressed to Mark for a job well done.

10 Newsletter

Emily had e-mailed the Club list, asking for contributions for the next issue, and setting a copy date of 21 February.

11 Website

It was suggested that photos on the website be rotated. It appeared that access to modify the site by others was likely to be difficult, if not impossible.

12 Socials

Lorna suggested that we could liaise with EUOC and hold another Skittles evening (in view of the success of the previous occasion).

It had been suggested that a Club Weekend could be held at Woodlands on 13/14 March. However, this was becoming less and less likely to happen, so it was agreed to postpone it until the Autumn.

Lorna mentioned that the Food Court at Kings Buildings could be used at no charge for our AGM. All that would be needed would be a date - this could be set at the next Committee Meeting.

13 Training

Nothing extra to report.

14 Marketing

Ken mentioned that the fliers templates were still with Iain Cackette.

15 A.O.B.

- Lorna reported that she had had a meeting with Toni Louhisola and Sarah Dunn.
- Ken mentioned that he had a CD by from the SOA, which was a course for training Planners. He would run through it with Robin Galloway, and was happy to present it to others in the future.

ACTION: Ken

- Ken wondered if a team should be entered for the Elite Women's class at the SOA Relays. He would make enquiries of interested parties.

ACTION: Ken

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21 April 2010 at 34 Queen Margaret Close, Edinburgh. (Approval for this had been obtained from Ann subsequent to the Meeting.)

Rachel was thanked for her hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.10. John Barrow – 1 March 2010