FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY FOURTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 28 April 2010, at 34 Queen Margaret Close, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Mark Haley, Rachel Kirkland.
Apologies for absence were received from Emily Seaman and Anthony Squire.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 1 February 2010 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

- Formulating a Business Plan for the Club was still outstanding. Ken intended to send out a draft to the Committee for comment before the AGM.

  ACTION: Ken

- Writing a potted history of the Club was continuing.

  ACTION: John

- Addition of Club details to Interløper maps was ongoing.

  ACTION: Colin

- The SOA Coaching Questionnaire had still to be completed.

  ACTION: Ken, John

- Choice of a design for new O-tops would be discussed later in the Meeting.
- A system to notify key Club officials of new members had been largely agreed.
- It was agreed that those CATI competitors who indicated that they would like further information should be sent a copy of the Newsletter, as well as a list of useful websites.
- John was now routinely checking the BOF website for membership renewals.
- John had obtained the remaining paperwork for the Pitmedden event.
- The Inter-Club Champions had been informed of the result of the Championships, held in conjunction with the Score Championships.
- This year's Street-O Series would be held on Wednesdays. See "Events".
- See under "Events" for details of the Club's SoSOL in the 2010/11 Series.
- The 2011 SOL event was now registered.
- See under "Mapping" for more details about the suggested mapping projects.
- Ken had investigated the small area in Newhaven, and had concluded that it was not worth putting any effort into mapping it.
- See under "Equipment" for the discussion of the purchase of a new tent.
- Ken had a BOF/SOA Planning Course CD, and would try to provide a tutorial to any Club member who asks.
- Ken had not yet been able to liaise with potential team members for a Womens Open team for the SOA Relays.

3 Secretary's Report

John reported on those members not renewed for 2010. There were 5 National, 6 Local and 2 Club-only members. It was suggested that these members be contacted a final time to try to find out their intentions.

The City Council had been given 50 copies of the Craigmillar permanent course map packs to sell at their Hermitage base. A formal application had been made to the Council for registration on their financial system, so that (a) the Council could submit a Purchase Order, and (b) the Club could then supply the goods and submit an Invoice. This had all been achieved.

The British Army O.C. (in the person of Chris Huthwaite, also an ESOC member) had applied to use Gullane on Wednesday 6 October for a closed event (although Club members would be welcome to take part). They had also wondered if the Club might be able to supply a Controller for the event. The Meeting agreed to this use of the area, but the selection of a Controller would be treated separately.

Simon Gardner had asked if Gullane could also be used for the BUCS Relays on 20 March 2011. The Meeting agreed, but asked that the Organisers arrange for the map to be updated as required. Details of permission requirements would be obtained from ELO who used the area for their SoSOL on 7 March. Similarly, BUCS might need a Controller from the Club. It was agreed that map copyright fees would be waived for both this event and the BAOC event.

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat reported that the Accounts for 2009/10 had not yet been finalised. However, they should be finished and audited by the time of the AGM.

There had been a high turn-out (238 entries) for the Scottish Sprint Championships at KB on 6 March. Because of this, and because of doubt about how the SOA Levy would be implemented leading to a somewhat higher entry fee, the event made a total profit of about £700. There had been no charge levied by The King's Buildings for use of their facilities.

5 Events

5.1 Scottish Sprint Championships - 6 March 2010

Thanks were expressed to the organising team, led by Ann Haley, and the Planner, Graeme Ackland, for the success of this event held at KB on 6 March.

5.2 SoSOL 2009/10 - 9 May 2010

Most arrangements were now in place for this event. Ken had spent quite a bit of time sorting out parking arrangements in the industrial estate to the SW of the area; he had secured the use of the "Food Options" car park, and also identified that the approach road was adopted and without parking restrictions. He forewarned that we should stay off the waste ground alongside the road.

Ken had also obtained a quote from a company in Hamilton for the supply of two toilet cubicles. It was expected that the unit map cost would be of the order of 70p. Pat would have a think during the remainder of the Meeting as to whether the stated entry fees would be adequate.

John would prepare a Final Details sheet to be handed out on the day. This would include mention of a String course, which Ken had persuaded some "willing" members to put on. Ken would try to decide on numbers of maps needed per course, based on numbers at past SoSOL events. John would find out from Robin Strain about the use of the SportIdent hardware and software.

ACTION: John

5.3 Street-Os

Five areas had been suggested to Murray for this Series: Buckstone, the Gyle, Liberton, Greenbank and Tranent, in no particular order. It had been agreed that the events would take place on Wednesdays in June.

5.4 SoSOL 2010/11 - 12 September 2010

Permissions needed to be obtained from the Police and the Forestry Commission. Barry Owen would be Planner, and Graham McIntyre would Organise. John had registered the event on the BOF website. The event would incorporate the SOA round of this year's CompassSport Trophy. Ken was still trying to find a Controller.

ACTION: Ken

5.5 2010 Club Championships

Attempts were being made to contact Jonny Gallier, the potential organiser of this year's event. No date or venue had yet been chosen, but would need to be soon so that the event could be registered.

5.6 New Year event - 2 January 2011

Registration was in place.

5.7 SOL 2011 - 6 March 2011

Provisional registration of this event had now been made. (Subsequent to the Meeting, it had come to our attention that our preferred venue could fall foul of the JK 2012 plans.)

5.8 2011 SOA Relays

There was still doubt about the venue for this event; this depended on the choice of venue for the Individual event. The current preference was for Auchingarrich, although there had been a suggestion that the JK 2012 team had their eyes on the area.

5.9 Oban 2011 6-Day Event

The Club had been asked to take on Day 4 of this event, on Thursday 4 August 2011. Our partner Club would be Moravian. It was thought that the venue would be a few miles south of Creag Mhic Chailein, and was a little difficult to access.

5.10 SoSOL 2011/12

Just putting down a marker for an event in this Series.

5.11 JK 2012

There had been a suggestion that the Sprint event could be held at Riccarton. It was thought that the Club could usefully offer to put on this event, since it was close to home, and meant that our involvement in the other events (Classic, Middle or Relays) would be correspondingly diminished. John would remind Ken to write to the SOA.

ACTION: John, Ken

5.12 CATIs

At present, the Club was not due to stage any such events. However, if an opportunity arose and a volunteer stepped forward, it would probably be possible to find a date in the current programme. Colin was asked to prepare a small piece for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

ACTION: Colin

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

6 Mapping

Addition of the Club's details to our maps was still largely outstanding.

There had not yet been any progress on the plan to update the maps of Norman's Law and Dechmont Law. It was pointed out that permission needed to be obtained before the former map could be extended, and then Estimates would be needed for the work. Once these were obtained, a Grant Bid could be submitted, before any Contract could be drawn up.

It was mentioned that Jegor Kostylev, Graeme Ackland and Murray Strain all had some mapping experience.

7 Equipment

Ken would ask Paul to investigate the purchase of a new tent to replace the broken 5-pole one.

ACTION: Ken

John mentioned that the Club's Finish banner had gone missing. It wasn't clear when this was last in the Club's possession. In the mean time, he would try to borrow one from ESOC for the Calder Wood SoSOL.

8 Club Captain

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

Congratulations were due to all at the JK Relays, in particular the Women 120+ Team who retained their title.

He would be arranging team entries for the BOF and SOA Relays soon.

Not enough interest had been shown in either the Harvester Trophy or the Jukola events to justify entering INT teams.

9 Juniors

Mark reported on Junior activities since the last meeting.

There had been lots of Club members at the Inter-Area Championships.

The Junior Training sessions continued to attract good numbers. A small per capita charge would be made from now on, to help cover the cost of hiring indoor facilities during the winter months.

Christopher and Matthew Galloway would both be going to Sweden in the summer with the Scottish Junior Squad.

The Jamie Stevenson Trophy and Scottish Schools events were both coming up soon.

Lorna mentioned that she and Ann had attended the recent SOA Coaching Conference - she was asked to submit an article for inclusion in the Newsletter.

ACTION: Lorna

It was pointed out that the £50 which Stephen Haley won last year had not yet been spent. After some discussion, subsidised Junior O-tops was the chosen option, and a new trophy was a reserve option.

10 Newsletter

It was noted that Emily had expressed a preference to stand down at the AGM.

11 Website

Ken noted (with approval) that the content of the website had been updated in the previous few days.

12 Socials

There had been very little social activity recently, and no events were pending. However, Lorna promised to arrange the post-AGM meal.

ACTION: Lorna

13 Training

It was noted that numbers at the weekly sessions were beginning to increase.

14 Marketing

Development of the Club's fliers templates was still to be undertaken; however, this work was now on the back burner, because the volunteer is away to University, and we have enough other business that requires our attention.

15 A.O.B.

- There was discussion on when and where to hold the Annual General Meeting. Lorna would investigate the possibility of hiring a room at King's Buildings again. The date of Thursday 17 June 2010 was agreed. The Meeting approved the venue chosen last year for the post-AGM meal (the Tusitala), and suggested that it be chosen again (or perhaps The Steading or The Buckstone as alternatives).

  ACTION: Lorna

  Of the current Committee, Lorna and Emily had expressed a desire to stand down, while the remainder would be happy to continue in Office. Mark suggested that he could share the duties of Junior Representative with Christopher Galloway.

- Ken distributed suggested designs for new O-tops, and indicated that he had already had some responses. Those present expressed their preferences, stressing that all text should be shown on the back of any design. A short list was drawn up. It was suggested that plain samples of the Trimtex and Noname materials be obtained, to try out for size and texture. As far as sponsorship was concerned, it was pointed out that CompassPoint could not offer a better deal on Noname tops if we went direct to Matt Speake, so they would offer something else.

- Pat had concluded that leaving entry fees as they were for the SoSOL would be OK. It was expected that there could be quite a substantial turn-out for the event, which would improve the prospects for at least breaking even.

The next Committee Meeting would be held, after the AGM, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 August 2010 at a venue to be decided by the new Committee elected at the AGM.

Ann and Mark were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.15. John Barrow – 8 June 2010