INTERLØPERS

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THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY SEVENTH YEAR

7.30pm, Wednesday 6 February 2013, at 34 Queen Margaret Close, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Ann Haley, Rachel Kirkland, Barry Owen.

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Lee.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 12 November 2012 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

- The creation of a Business Plan for the Club was still in hand.

ACTION: Ken

- Ken had e-mailed a selection of the membership, and some others, asking for contributions to add to the Club History. So far, responses had been received from Ann, Martin Hyman, Steve Terry, Robin Sloan, and Geoff Peck. Some work was now needed to coordinate these into a coherent History. Ann had a photo which she thought was taken at the 1977 SOA Championships, showing some of the prize-winners at that event; she wanted to have confirmation from someone else as to its actual date/venue, and maybe some of the names.

ACTION: Ken, John

- John had had a further look at the BOF qualifications database, specifically at the categories of Coaching, Controllers, Organisers, First Aid, Event Safety Workshop, and C.P. Disclosures (now known as Protecting Vulnerable Groups, or PVG, membership). It seemed that there were some discrepancies, but the basic data was generally valid. There was a suspicion that the database took a while to be updated.
- From the BOF database inspection referred to above, it looked as if there were just 3 qualified First Aiders, Ann, Paul and Jane Ackland. It was felt to be wise to encourage those who helped with Junior Training to attend a course: the names of Jane Carcas, Pat Bartlett and Robin Galloway were suggested.

ACTION: to be agreed

- It was felt that a more detailed investigation into the terms of the various Software Licences should be undertaken.

ACTION: John, Ken

- Colin had apparently taken action to acquire a set of poles for the 3-pole tent. After discussion with Paul, it seemed that there was nothing special about the tape to be used with the Maze set, and that normal red/white tape could be used.

- John had found the errant e-mail with the revised Membership Form, and had posted the Form on the website.
- Barry had checked with Hilary Quick on the status of INT applications for PVG membership. He had subsequently handed out application forms to Pat Bartlett, Graeme and Jane Ackland, Jane and Max Carcas, and Robin and Lucy Galloway. Ann was now on the list of approved SOA Identity checkers (but had not yet moved over to the new system). Barry now had a username for the Club website, but so far had not posted any material.

ACTION: Barry / Ongoing

- Ken had circulated the Committee with details of the Development Grant bid.
- An Event Programme for 2013 had still to be drawn up.

ACTION: Ken

- Discussion of organising CATI events would be held later under "Events".
- In the event, Ken wrote an article for the Newsletter about the Club Championships handicap.
- John had contacted Rob Hickling, but Rob had not found a Controller for SOL 1. However, Ken had phoned round, and just secured the services of John Biggar.
- John had forwarded permission e-mails to Pat and Colin for SOL 1.
- John had circulated the membership, asking for volunteers to plan the Individual at SOA 2014, but there had been no response. Accordingly, he had re-contacted Janice Nisbet who confirmed that she would be happy to take on the job.
- As referred to earlier, there was no need to obtain any specialised tape for the Maze set.
- Rob had made some progress in collecting entry fees for 2012 Relay events.
- Ken had asked for feedback on refining the website, but received no comments despite knowing a few verbal comments had been passed.
- As mentioned earlier, Barry now had a username for the website.
- The revision of the Registration Cards would be discussed later in the Meeting.
- Apparently, a digitised form of the Club logo was now in existence.
- As referred to in the previous Minutes, John had been able to confirm that the BOF Rules contained a specific reference to the Organiser's responsibility for delaying or cancelling a competition in the event of extreme weather.

3 Secretary's Report

John reported that he had received a message from a John Knox, who was involved with a proposal to restore Bridgend Farm, on the outskirts of Craigmillar Woods. He was wondering if we would be able to put on an event in the Woods, in support of the proposal. John had replied initially to point out that we had staged events there in the past, and that in principle it was fairly straightforward to organise another at quite short notice. However, in view of the Club's commitment to SOL 1, John had pointed out that it would be April or May before we could contemplate putting on even a CATI. The Meeting agreed with this, and it was decided that it would be a case of finding a volunteer. John would reply to John Knox appropriately.

ACTION: John

John also reported that an approach had been received from Gilbert Clark, of the Friends of Burdiehouse Burn Park, who were keen to see the area used for orienteering. It had been made clear that the Friends had access to some funding, which could be used to help pursue this objective. The initial approach had been made last August/September, and John had replied then to the effect that the Club might be prepared to assist in setting up something. No more had been heard at that time.

John had later discovered from Graeme Ackland that he had done some preliminary work on the area a few years ago, and had drafted a map. The Friends had recently got in touch again, asking what would need to be done to further the aim of developing orienteering on the area.

After some discussion, and perusal of Graeme's draft map, the general opinion of the Meeting was that the area was rather uninteresting and limited, in that it was very narrow in places, had few features, and also involved a road crossing (at the Lasswade Road). It was also open to potential vandalism, so that the question of setting up any permanent course might prove tricky.

Ken agreed to speak to Graeme to try to take it further. In the mean time, John would draft a reply for the Friends.

ACTION: Ken, John

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat reported that the Big Weekend in October 2012 made a net surplus of £560 (roughly in line with the budgetted figure). Of this, £400 came from the SOUL event, and £160 from the SoSOL.

Entry fees for the CompassSport Trophy Final amounted to £400, compared with the budget of £250. This increase was attributed to the proximity of the event to Edinburgh, and the consequently increased entry from the Club.

The SOL on 3 March was budgetted to bring in a surplus of approx. £700.

In all, the overall surplus for 2012/13 was expected to be approx. £500.

For future 6-Day Events, the level of surplus was expected to drop; this was because of increased parking charges, as well as the introduction of a professional equipment team.

5 Events

5.1 CATIs

It was agreed to try to find an Organiser for a CATI to be held at Craigmillar (as part of the ESOA Saturday Series) in April or May.

5.2 3-Parks event

James Ackland and Samuel Galloway, together with their respective families, were keen on putting on a 3-Parks event (along the lines of a similar event in Glasgow in 2012). The initial suggestion had been to stage it in January, but it was quickly realised that the timescale was simply too short.

The Committee reaction was favourable, but it wasn't clear whether James and Samuel wanted it to take place as a sort of fund-raiser before the World Schools Championships. If it could wait until later in the year, say August, the Club would willingly support it, and could also subsidise it.

ACTION: John / Ken / Pat

5.3 Street-O Series 2013

A Coordinator needed to be found for this Series. A plea would be included in the next Newsletter.

ACTION: Ann

5.4 Moray 2013

The Club's main officials for our Day at Moray 2013 were Robin, Ken, and Paul. There might be a problem with MOD permission for part of the area.

Ken had asked LOC to assist INT and BASOC with Day 2 of the 6-Days.

5.5 "Big Weekend" 2013

There was some unease expressed with the name of this weekend. It was suggested that an appropriate name could be solicited via the Newsletter.

ACTION: Ann

It was suggested that the SoSOL component of the next weekend could be held at Dechmont Law.

As an aside, there was a short discussion about the demise of LINOC (the remaining members having joined ESOC and RR). This led to a discussion about the copyright of the Beecraigs and Kinneil Wood maps. Ann checked and confirmed that Kinneil was an INT map. It was agreed that the Beecraigs map would be useful for the Development Project, especially the West Lothian Council proposals to do more Schools orienteering, and therefore the Meeting asked John to enquire with John Biggar as to its future updating and copyright.

ACTION: John

5.6 SOC 2014

Now that the Individual Planner had been decided upon, it remained to find an Individual Organiser, and a Weekend Coordinator.

ACTION: Ken

5.7 SOL 2014

Paul had sent out an e-mail about this Series. At the tine of this Meeting, John couldn't recall any details. However, subsequently, it transpired that the dates of 16 March, 27 April, 22 June, and 14 and 28 September had provisionally been allocated for events in the Series.

Given the details above, it was now possible to draw up a draft Event Programme for the next 18 months or so.

6 Equipment

As mentioned in Matters Arising, current issues had now been addressed.

A set of SPORTident equipment had been received on long-term loan from BOF; it was currently with Paul, and was intended for Development work.

7 Club Captain

Rob was in the process of collecting 2012 entry fees from Senior Relay Team members. Pat said he would chase up Murray, who also owed money from 2011.

ACTION: Rob, Pat

The Club had been entered in the 2013 CompassSport Trophy competition, with the SOA round being held on 17 February at Birsemore, organised by MAROC. However, it was unlikely that the Club would take part in the Final (if it qualified), since this would be held in the Forest of Dean on 20 October, and it clashed with a BASOC 3-Day event which many Club members were expected to want to go to.

8 Training

The usual training sessions were continuing.

There were still no arrangements made for a Training Weekend.

9 Juniors

Several Club Juniors were routinely attending the ESOA Training sessions.

The issue of Junior relay entry fees was briefly discussed, and it was agreed to continue to pay the entry fees for the Jamie Stevenson event in full.

Ann mentioned that Freddie Carcas was now in the SOA Junior Squad (ScotJOS). James Ackland wasn't, but had still been selected for the World Schools team, together with Sam Galloway.

10 Child Protection

Barry pointed out that any member providing Coaching, or otherwise falling under the Scheme, must obtain a PVG membership (ex-Disclosure).

11 Newsletter

Ann announced a deadline of Monday 18 February for contributions to the next issue, and she would send out an e-mail. As usual, she wanted lots of articles.

12 Website

Graham had presented a website training session, hosted by the Acklands on 19 January. About 7 members attended, and found it most useful.

It was mentioned that some found the site a bit sparse. To this end, members were encouraged to contribute to the site.

Rachel had encountered a problem with navigating between tabs. She would send the details to Ken, who would forward them on to Graham.

ACTION: Rachel

It was suggested that John move some of the information currently under the Committee tab to the parent About Us tab.

ACTION: John

13 Socials

It was intended to organise a Bowling night, but no date had yet been set.

There was no other Socials news.

14 Marketing

As mentioned in Matters Arising, a digitised form of the Club logo was now available. However, in Colin's absence, the details were not known.

It was agreed to obtain another A-frame / display board. John would contact Paul to find out where the first one had been sourced.

ACTION: John

15 A.O.B.

- Ken had contacted CompassPoint for the third time to try to obtain a price for a further order of O-tops.

  ACTION: Ken

  Ken mentioned various other matters, mostly involving Mapping.

- Colin and Graeme had investigated the area around Portmore Loch, near Eddleston. If it were found to be worthwhile, it was felt that the Club should undertake mapping the area as part of a coordinated mapping programme. (Post Meeting: Paul had considered the area before, and found the landowner very anti public access, so it would require clear permissions prior to any mapping commitment.)

- Graeme had prepared base maps of Howden Park and Meldrum Primary. Ken was undertaking the survey of Howden, and liaising with the Council over Meldrum and other areas.

- It was recognised that the Permanent Course map of Dechmont Law needed updating. In addition, the status of the permanent controls at Craigmillar needed to be checked; it was suspected that some had been vandalised again. Ken would check with Paul.

  ACTION: Ken

- Ken described some work associated with the Development Plan. He needed to write up a piece describing the terms of the BOF loan of SPORTident equipment. He had also been liaising with John Lewis at West Lothian Council about mapping some country parks, and possibly establishing Permanent Courses in at least two of them.

  ACTION: Ken

- In the move to obtain/update members' qualifications, six names had been identified to attend an Event Safety Workshop, while two were also earmarked for a First Aid course.

The next Committee Meeting would be held on Wednesday 10 April 2013 at a venue yet to be decided.

Ken expressed the thanks of the Meeting to Ann and Graham for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9.54pm. John Barrow – 27 March 2013