INTERLØPERS

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FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY SEVENTH YEAR

7.30pm, Wednesday 10 April 2013, at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Max Carcas, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Chris Galloway, Ann Haley, Rachel Kirkland, Rob Lee, Barry Owen.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 6 February 2013 were approved.

2 Matters Arising (Action Items)

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

ACTION: Ken

- The writing of the Club History was still to be carried forward.

ACTION: Ken, John

- It seemed that there were no specific details of course duration or level of coaching relating to the nature of any First Aid course. Barry felt that it was likely that a full-day course would be appropriate for the Emergency Aid qualification, which was a pre-requisite for any Coaching qualification. Further information should be sought on the SOA and BOF websites.

ACTION: John

- Ken indicated that he had some information which would enable a more detailed knowledge to be obtained of the terms of the various software licences which the Club had signed up to.

ACTION: Ken, John

- Barry was keen for members to apply for PVG membership.
- An Event Programme for 2013 had still to be formally drawn up. See later under "Events".
- John had replied to John Knox of the "Bridgend Inspiring Growth" group regarding the possibility of holding a CATI in Craigmillar Woods. At present, no volunteer had been found to put on an event there in the Spring.
- There had been some correspondence with the Friends of Burdiehouse Burn Valley park regarding the possibility of setting up some sort of orienteering facility in the park. It was the considered conclusion of the Club that opportunities for orienteering were quite limited - the area was not very interesting, and at present there would not be any effort available to develop any map of the area. There might be a chance of developing it as a location for Urban Orienteering by combining it with the surrounding housing estates, but that would need careful planning, and of course opportunities for using such an area for Juniors would be limited. John had replied to this effect to the Friends, a reply which was graciously acknowledged.

- No further action had been taken on the idea of a 3-Parks event.
- See under "Events" for a discussion of plans for this year's Street-O Series.
- A mention had been made in the Newsletter regarding the possibility of a further "Big Weekend". See under "Events".
- John had spoken to John Biggar and David Lane regarding the future use of Beecraigs. It was their opinion that, at the moment, the area was unuseable - the amount of wind-blow was prohibitive. However, Ken was keen to see the area kept under consideration in the context of the Development Project centred on Livingston. Accordingly, John was asked to find out from John/David what resources existed for the map of the area, and to ask if we could become heirs to such material.

  ACTION: John

  In the mean time, Barry said he would keep an occasional eye on the area for any tidying up which the owners might decide to embark on.
- A Weekend Coordinator for SOC 2014 had been chosen, in the person of Margaret Dalgleish (ESOC). In addition, Tim Sands (SOC) had been appointed Controller for the Individual. John would try to find out from Janice Nisbet if she would appreciate the appointment of an Assistant Planner. There was still a need for a Day Organiser for the Individual.

  ACTION: Ken
- The process of collecting Relay entry fees for 2012 was continuing.
- It seemed that Rachel's problem with navigating between tabs on the website had been resolved.
- John had carried out some reorganisation of the contents of the "Committee" tab.
- Paul would be asked to source a better solution for the display of maps and other printed material at events.
- Ken had further circulated the Club, asking people if they wanted any more O-tops.
- The update of the Dechmont Law base map was still ongoing.

  ACTION: Ken
- The checking of the state of the permanent controls at Craigmillar was still to be done.

  ACTION: Ken
- Ken had made some progress with details of the Development Plan, but needed to do more work before reporting to the Committee with fuller details.

3 Secretary's Report

John summarised the outstanding membership renewals for 2013, of which there were only half a dozen or so.

He also reported that he had been in discussion with Janet Clark, regarding club groupings for the 2014 Scottish Championships weekend. The groupings for 2011 had been INT+TAY+ELO+RR and ESOC+KFO+LINOC+EUOC. Janet had suggested that TAY might be better grouped within that led by ESOC, since the Relay Organiser was a TAY member. However, this met with some disquiet from the Meeting, since they felt that the groupings thus became significantly unbalanced (even though LINOC were no longer in existence). John was asked to get back to Janet to propose that another club (not LINOC) comes back in the other direction.

ACTION: John

John mentioned that he had received an e-mail from the Editor of the "Primary Times", a newsletter which was distributed to all Primary Schools, asking if we wanted to include information about local orienteering events. Janet Clark had replied, and suggested that the programme of ESOA Beginners' Events could be published.

4 Treasurer's Report

The SOL in March attracted a much larger than expected entry, with the consequence that the surplus was closer to £1800. Pat distributed a Balance Sheet for the event.

The overall surplus for 2012/13 was now expected to be approx. £1600.

Pat asked if Committee Members could submit their expenses for 2012/13 as soon as possible. He hoped to finalise the Accounts so that they could be audited before the AGM.

As a point of policy, there was a short discussion on the official mileage rate which event officials could claim. For the SOL, this was set at 20p. However, in future, 25p should be used. This would bring the Club rate into line with that used by the SOA and the BOF.

As an aside, Ken expressed his thanks to everyone for the success of the SOL, in particular Colin and Pat.

5 Events

5.1 Street-O Series 2013

It was decided to try to organise this Series on Wednesday evenings, starting in late May. Preferred dates would be 29 May, 12 and 26 June, and 10 July. Suggested venues were Buckstone, Liberton, the Gyle, St. Leonards, Swan Spring, and the Meadows.

ACTION: Ken

5.2 Moray 2013

There was some discussion over holding a BBQ at the 6-Days. The preferred day was after proceedings on Day 4, but was not fixed. A venue would be needed.

ACTION: Max

5.3 CATIs

Ken reported that Paul had said he would be happy to organise some CATIs in the coming months. However, it was expected that it was now too late to fit one in in May, since this would clash with the proposed Street-O Series. Paul would be asked to suggest some dates, starting 2 or 3 weeks after the 6-Days. Possibilities might include 17 and 31 August, 21 September and 12 October. Venues could be Howden (Livingston), Braidburn, Cammo, and maybe some others.

ACTION: Ken

5.4 "Big Weekend"

After some discussion, it was suggested that the next such event should be held in the Spring of 2014, possibly on 8/9 March. Dates would be checked with Paul. Barry suggested that the weekend could be named the "INTrepid Weekend".

ACTION: Ken

5.5 SOC 2014

Now that the Individual Planner had been decided upon, it remained to find an Individual Organiser, and perhaps an Assistant Planner.

ACTION: Ken, John

5.6 SOL 2014

Ken reported that all available dates for this Series had now been allocated.

However, it was suggested that the Club should aim to put on a SOL in the Spring of 2015, possibly at Drummond Hill (although no dates had yet been allocated). Ken also mentioned that Dave Prentice (TAY) was keen that Interløpers should put on a larger event at Culteuchar (a northwards extension of our original map of Glenearn & Berryknowe).

ACTION: Ken

6 Equipment

Both 3-pole tents were now fully equipped, and there was one spare pole.

The only other current requirement was for Paul to source an adequate display board.

ACTION: Paul

7 Club Captain

The Club had taken part in the 2013 CompassSport Trophy SOA round, held on 17 February at Birsemore, organised by MAROC. To everyone's relief, we did not qualify for the Final - the prospect of sending as full a team as possible to the Forest of Dean in October was too much to contemplate.

Rob was still in the process of collecting 2012 entry fees from Senior Relay Team members, in liaison with Pat.

ACTION: Rob, Pat

It was agreed that the same policy of subsidy for Relay entries should apply in 2013, viz. Seniors would be asked for £10, Students for £5, and Juniors would pay nothing.

Rob reported that there were two winning teams at the JK Relays, the Open Men (Oleg, Murray and Alan Cherry) winning for the third year running, and the Intermediate Men (Alex Carcas, Samuel and Matthew Galloway).

8 Training

The usual training sessions were continuing.

There was some discussion on putting on a Training Weekend. A volunteer, a date and a venue would be needed. It was suggested that Lorna try to find out if Woodlands was available. There might be a problem with some WOC-embargoed areas nearby, but it ought to be possible to find some useable areas. The dates of 7/8 or 21/22 September were suggested. Pat offered to coordinate interest, and Graham McIntyre would be approached to see if he would still plan, and check that the ROMP would still be available.

ACTION: Ken

9 Juniors

Chris reported that his brother Samuel had agreed to provide an article for the Newsletter on (a) the JK, and (b) the World Schools Championships.

Congratulations were offered to Chris for his selection for the JWOC team, as well as to the Intermediate Team for winning at the JK Relays.

It was confirmed that the Club would pay the entry fees for the Jamie Stevenson Trophy event on 16 June. Jane Ackland would be organising teams.

10 Child Protection

Barry mentioned that he had posted a brief piece on the website, under "About Us". Most of the information could be obtained by clicking on the link to pages on the SOA website. Rob directed Barry to some useful information on a Ski Club website.

Barry also reported that he now had I.D. Checker status.

Max and Robin had attended a Child Protection course, and now needed their I.D.s checked by Barry.

The Club was now officially a Secondary Organisation, under the PVG scheme.

11 Newsletter

Ken congratulated Ann for the latest issue of the Newsletter.

Ann mentioned that unfortunately the Club's Newsletter wasn't selected to be in the top ten of British Orienteering Club newsletters (chosen by Nick Barrable).

She announced that the next issue would be in May. As usual, she would appreciate plenty of articles, in particular some from the Elite members.

12 Website

To a large extent, this Item had already been addressed. However, there was a strong preference to have "News" more dominant on the Home page. Ken agreed to ask Graham, and also ask him to circulate to the Committee the guidance for loading information on to the web.

ACTION: Ken

13 Socials

As mentioned under "Events", it had been suggested to hold a BBQ at the 6-Days.

John offered to organise booking the venue for the AGM.

ACTION: John

14 Marketing

Pat suggested scanning the Event Record Card, and posting it on the website, perhaps under Juniors.

Ann suggested including the material currently in the Junior Handbook on the website. She would send the material she had to John (and Ken for the Development work).

ACTION: Ann, John

15 A.O.B.

- Colin queried whether the Club tent would be needed at the British Championships being held in two weeks' time in Surrey. He wasn't aware that anyone was taking a car, so the question was if the Club could subsidise taking the tent as extra airline baggage. In view of the sum involved, it was agreed to proceed with this idea. An alternative might be to ask ESOC and ELO whether any of their members could take the tent for us in their car. A budget of up to £50 was agreed.
- Rachel asked whether anyone else was planning to attend the SI workshop on the forthcoming weekend. However, it seemed that she would be on her own.

- After some discussion, the date of this year's AGM was fixed as Thursday 20 June, to be held at The Steading at 18:30 (with a meal to follow at about 20:00). John would make the booking with The Steading.

  As for Committee positions, Ann indicated that she would be standing down this year. Ken said he would like to, but was not confident that he would be able to find a successor.

  ACTION: Ken

The next Committee Meeting would be held on a date and at a venue to be decided by the new Committee elected at the AGM.

Ken expressed the thanks of the Meeting to Jane and Max for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.02. John Barrow – 3 May 2013