INTERLØPERS

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FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, THIRTY EIGHTH YEAR

7.30pm, Wednesday 28 August 2013, at 3 Charlton Grove, Roslin

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Rachel Kirkland, Rob Lee, Barry Owen, Mary Ross.

Apologies for absence were received from Max Carcas and Graham McIntyre.

Ken welcomed Mary to her first Committee Meeting as the newly elected Newsletter Editor.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 10 April 2013 were approved.

At this point, Ken explained that, in future, the list of Action Items from previous Meetings would be distributed as an Annex in advance by the Secretary, in the form of a spreadsheet listing the Actions with their dates of inception, a brief description, the member to whom they were assigned, their current status and any other notes. John had been able to create a draft of the first such Annex, which was passed around the Meeting.

The intention of this procedure was to speed up the business of Meetings, by only referring to Actions where they would naturally be discussed in the body of the Meeting.

2 Secretary's Report

John had received notification, first from the SOA President Roger Scrutton, and then from Lisa Farquhar of Tiso's, announcing the setting up of a discount scheme available to all SOA Club members for purchases at Tiso's in Edinburgh. The discount card would be made available to members on production of proof of membership, either with the confirmation of membership renewal sent out by BOF, or else a copy of the letter from Lisa herself. Ken suggested that an e-mail be sent out to the Club membership, announcing this scheme.

This issue took on more importance with the recent announcement that Tiso's were holding a Warehouse Sale over the period 30 August to 2 September.

ACTION: John

John mentioned that BOF were holding a Club/Association Conference on 19 October at Stratford-upon-Avon, on the subject of "Volunteering", and inviting potential participants to register. Ken suggested that another Club-wide e-mail announcing this was appropriate.

ACTION: John

A message had been received from SOA President, Roger Scrutton, regarding the establishment of a "Matched Giving" scheme involving several companies. John had passed the covering letter to Mary for inclusion in the Newsletter, and had posted the list of participating companies on the Club website.

John had received an announcement about the staging of the annual Peter Palmer Relays. He had forwarded the information to Jane Ackland. Colin and/or Lorna would check with Jane to find out if any action had been taken. See later under "Club Captain" and "Juniors".

He also mentioned the SOA Activity Weekend on 27 September at Glenmore Lodge. However, the membership had already received notice of this, via the SOA Newsletter.

Robin Strain had announced to Club Secretaries that the certificates for the 2012/13 SoSOL Series were available on the ESOA website. Initially there had been a hiccup in accessing these, a situation yet to be resolved. Ken suggested that John check the situation with Robin and, once the certificates were accessible, this should be announced in the Club Newsletter.

ACTION: John, Mary

Consideration of the Treasurer's Report was deferred until Pat's arrival.

3 Events

3.1 Street-O Series 2013

This Series went ahead as planned, and was a great success.

3.2 Moray 2013

Day 2 at the 6-Days proceeded without a hitch. Robin Galloway was to be congratulated for organising the Club's efforts A great barbecue was held at the end of Day 4 - thanks to Max for organising this.

3.3 CATIs

Unfortunately, the CATIs originally planned for 17 and 31 August at Howden and Braidburn had to be postponed. There proved to be just not enough time to set up permissions and plan the events, because of the effort required for the 6-Days. The events had been cancelled in the BOF Fixtures List, and marked as Postponed on the ESOA website. Janet Clark had suggested that there would be some available dates in the Spring for which these events could perhaps be resurrected.

After some discussion, it was decided that the third CATI, on 21 September at Kinneil, should also be postponed. John would inform the ESOA, and cancel the event in the BOF database. He would also ask Janet if she could suggest suitable Spring dates.

ACTION: John

3.4 Club Championships

Discussion of this event was deferred until Pat's arrival, since it was one of his offspring who won the event in 2012.

3.5 INTrepid Weekend

Provisional registrations had been made for this Weekend, an Urban-O on Saturday 8 March at Howden, and a SoSOL on Sunday 9 March at Dechmont/Deans. It was pointed out that permissions, maps and officials would soon be needed.

Ken then explained how the INTrepid Weekend would complement the Development Project being prepared with West Lothian Council (WLC). The Project was primarily focused on the Livingston area, where WLC were keen to have all Primary schools grounds and three public parks mapped. They also wanted teachers at each school trained to deliver O and a couple of permanent courses set up. Between them, Graeme and Ken had already mapped Howden. To achieve all this, a Grant Aid bid would be required (probably a Commonwealth Games Legacy Grant or Awards for All). The bid was likely to be for £10K and require a contribution from the Club that applied, probably £2.5K.

The link between the Project and the INTrepid Weekend was the requirement to update the Dechmont Law map for the event and for the base map for the Permanent Course on Dechmont Law. Ken suggested that this was one way the Club would benefit from the Project, and more specifically the Grant Aid bid if the Club were to be the applicant.

After some discussion, it was suggested that Stirling Surveys be asked to provide a quote for updating the Dechmont Law map. Ken would then produce a paper to seek Committee approval to proceed.

ACTION: Ken

Pat, Colin and Graeme would be asked to join Ken in finalising the Grant Bid (currently being drafted by WLC and Ken).

ACTION: Ken

As an aside, it had not yet been established what the current state of the mapping of Beecraigs was. John had spoken to David Lane and John Biggar at the Gullane SOL, and they were of the opinion that the area was currently unuseable because of excessive windblow. However, it was felt that small portions of the area would be, or soon would be, suitable for re-mapping and use for schools and introductory sessions. Ken thought that this should be added to the Development Project, and requested that a second approach be made to David and John to try to obtain copyright of the map.

ACTION: John

3.6 Club Championships

Some discussion ensued about holding this year's Club Championships. It was agreed that last year's experiment of holding them in conjunction with another event had worked quite well, so it was suggested to try the same for 2013. The preferred date was 10 November, at the ESOC SoSOL on the North Pentlands. John would check with ESOC that this plan was acceptable to them. Ken would see to the handicapping. Pat would coordinate proceedings.

It would also be good to plan some sort of social gathering for later in the day. Max would be contacted, and details published in the Newsletter.

ACTION: John, Mary, Ken, Pat

3.7 Spring 2014 CATIs

Once suitable dates had been selected, it was suggested that two events be staged, probably at Kinneil and Craigmillar (noting that the date of 22 February had already been registered). It was hoped that Barry and Paul would organise them.

3.8 SOC 2014 - 24/25 May

An Individual Organiser was still to be identified. It seemed that Janice Nisbet was happy to plan all the courses, but would probably need help on the day to put out controls. Ken was currently acting as Organiser, and mentioned that there was a possible problem with parking. John had referred the Club's disquiet about the original club groupings to the ESOA Committee, and the eventual agreement was for ESOC and TAY to organise the Relays, while INT would be responsible for the Individual along with ELO, KFO, RR and EUOC.

3.9 SOL 2015

On a more general issue, the SOA had enquired if the Club had any plans to use Drummond Hill in the near future, since we had successfully obtained the transfer of the map copyright, but had not planned any recent events there. After discussion, it was suggested that the Club apply to hold a SOL on the area in the Spring of 2015 (thus avoiding the capercaillie season), and also perhaps make a weekend of it with some other format of event on the Saturday. John would consult Paul on the possibility of obtaining a suitable date.

ACTION: John

3.10 SoSOL 2013/14, 2014/15

The event in the forthcoming Series would be the Sunday half of the INTrepid Weekend, at Dechmont/Deans, on 9 March 2014.

It was suggested that we take up Dave Prentice's offer to use the map of Culteuchar (the extended Glenearn & Berryknowe map) for a SoSOL in the Autumn of 2014.

3.11 Urban-O Series 2014

Ken wondered if the Club should put on an Urban-O Series in 2014. It seemed to be generally agreed that these were successful Series, and that we should continue with them.

3.12 Turnhouse Hill

Ken mentioned that he had promised to send John a PDF of the map of Turnhouse Hill in the Pentlands, but had not yet done so. He suggested that the map be used to help identify landowners, with a view to seeking permission to hold an event. He added that Hector Haines was interested in planning the event.

ACTION: Ken, John

3.13 6-Days 2017

The Club had volunteered to act as joint Lead Club (with MAROC) in staging the Royal Deeside 6-Days in 2017. Jon Musgrave had agreed to act as Coordinator.

3.14 Club Anniversary celebrations

There was some discussion on exactly when the Club had been formed. As far as John was concerned, the first time people had competed as Interløpers was in the Autumn of 1971, but at the time the Club was a Closed one (only ex-EUOC members being eligible to join). With the continuing prospect of small numbers, the Club decided to become Open in 1974. However, the first AGM was not held until the Scottish Championships in the South West in May 1976.

It was felt, therefore, that any celebration of a significant Anniversary be deferred until at least 2021.

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat mentioned that he would prepare a draft Budget for the Year for the next Meeting. This would include the allocation of £2.5K for the Grant Bid for Livingston maps.

The 2013 Urban-O Series made a net surplus of £210 (after payment of BOF levy).

Two members (Lorna and Jane Ackland) had received financial assistance towards their Coaching Awards (Levels 2 and 1 respectively), amounting to approx. £400.

John asked for a cheque for £46 for renewal of the Club affiliation to BOF.

Members had still to pay for O-tops from the second order. 32 tops were obtained, 5 of which were for Juniors; however, some of the Adult tops had been ordered for Juniors. It wasn't clear yet what the overall cost would be, and subsidising Juniors had to be taken into account. However, CompassPoint had agreed to keep the unit cost the same as for the first order, so with a little subsidy from the Club the Junior tops would probably be £10 less than the Adult tops (£30), i.e. £20. Ken would ask CompassPoint for the invoice.

ACTION: Ken

5 Equipment

An adequate display board was still to be obtained.

ACTION: Paul

It was suggested that a replacement String (for String courses) be sourced, perhaps with some coloured material. The current one was now rather dilapidated.

ACTION: Ken, Paul

6 Club Captain

The only forthcoming Relay event was the Scottish Inter-Club Team Relay (otherwise known as the 11/8 Person Relay) on the weekend of 14/15 September. It was agreed to enter one Team (either 8 or 11, depending on the response from members). It was also agreed to fully subsidise the entry fees.

ACTION: Rob

There were still some 2012 entry fees for Senior Relay Team members outstanding, in addition to those for 2013 events.

ACTION: Rob, Pat

The issue of subsidising entry to the Peter Palmer Relays on 7/8 September was discussed. It was agreed to offer a full Club subsidy. Pat would check with Jane Ackland.

ACTION: Pat

7 Training

Various date options were discussed for the Training Weekend, but the early Autumn dates that were available tended to clash with Junior events. The October and November dates were also not ideal, so Pat volunteered to seek names for the weekend of 7/8 December 2013, and if there were enough interest he would complete the application form and hand two deposit cheques to Lorna to book Woodlands. He also agreed to check if Graham McIntyre would plan and Max Carcas help with the social side.

ACTION: Pat

8 Juniors

It was confirmed that a team had been entered for the Peter Palmer Relays, and that the Club would pay the entry fees.

Jane Ackland was coordinating the entry of an ESOA team for the Junior Inter-Area Championships on Deeside on 5/6 October. Well over half the ESOA squad were Interløpers.

9 Child Protection

Barry reported that Max, Jane Ackland and Pat had successfully obtained PVG clearance. Robin Galloway had still to respond.

He had sent out an e-mail, pointing out that any members who had successfully completed a Coaching Course would not also need to apply for PVG clearance.

10 Newsletter

Mary had been liaising with Ann, and had set a copy date for the next issue of 27 August. To date, she had received three articles. Ken promised to provide a Chairman's Chat, and asked everyone to try to contribute articles.

ACTION: Ken, All

11 Website

In Graham's absence, there was little to discuss.

However, Ken said he would follow up the writing of the Elite section of the site, having had no response so far from Murray.

ACTION: Ken

12 Socials

Apart from the successful BBQ at the 6-Days, there had been no other recent social events. However, there was a prospect of several opportunities in the near future, with the Club Championships, Hallowe'en, a Training Weekend, and a Christmas Party.

John would update Max on these suggestions.

ACTION: John, Max

13 Marketing

The scanning of the Event Record Card, and posting it on the website, had still to be done. Pat handed John a sample card for him to carry this out.

ACTION: John

Ann had still to send the material from the Junior Handbook to John for posting on the website. John would remind her.

ACTION: John, Ann

There was also the issue of updating the Event Registration card, the use of which was a requirement for BOF insurance purposes - it wasn't sufficient to rely on electronic recording of competitors' details. Ann had been asked to look into this. John would ask her if she had made any progress.

ACTION: John, Ann

14 A.O.B.

Ken felt that the creation of the Action List as an Annex was a positive step, and it had allowed more detailed discussion during the body of the Meeting. In future, as mentioned, the aim would be for the Secretary to keep this updated, and distribute it with the Minutes and just before each meeting.

The next Committee Meeting would be held on Wednesday 13 November at 11 Wilton Road, Edinburgh.

Ken expressed the thanks of the Meeting to John and Jo for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.00. John Barrow – 31 October 2013