INTERLØPERS

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FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTIETH YEAR

8pm, Thursday 17 September 2015, at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Pat Bartlett, Alex Carcas, Jane Carcas, Max Carcas, Ken Daly, Colin Eades, Pat Squire.

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Lee and Mary Ross.

Max welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 20 May 2015 were approved.

2 Action Items

The Action Items spreadsheet had been previously distributed. Comments on the Items follow in the order on the spreadsheet.

- John had responded to an e-mail from Alison Campbell (EUOC), who had asked for help with putting on the Scottish Universities Championships, at Riccarton. He had pointed out that each of the proposed dates, in October 2015, involved a clash with other events. To date, there had been no reply. However, the previous evening, John had learned from Andrew Lindsay that the event had now been pencilled in for 15 November. He would try to find out more information, to see if the Club could help out.

  ACTION: John

- Pat S had trawled through the fixture list, and had derived a series of possible dates for putting on Local Events in the coming Autumn. The dates of 7 November and 12 December were settled on, possibly at Blackford Hill and Corstorphine Hill respectively. Jane and Max offered to stage the Blackford event. John would check the dates with Janet Clark (ESOC).

  ACTION: John

- There was some discussion about choosing a date for an event in the 2015/16 SoSOL Series. John suggested the possibility of holding the event at Riccarton, and inviting EUOC to consider holding the Scottish Univs Champs in conjunction. He would get in touch with Andrew Lindsay to discuss this possibility.

  ACTION: John

- It was recognised that volunteers would need to be identified very soon to plan and organise the SOUL and SOL events which were to form the INTrepid Weekend on 9/10 April 2016. Eliburn and/or Deans was suggested as a potential venue for the SOUL, while Culteuchar and Dron was pencilled in for the SOL. Given the possibility that lambing and/or shooting activities might affect the availability of the latter venue, Max offered to check out the list of landowners which John had received from Davie Frame (TAY). If this area proved difficult, an alternative of Tentsmuir was suggested.

  ACTION: Max

- Max and Graeme had suggested that an extension of the Gullane map westwards and southwards towards Aberlady Bay might make the combined area suitable for holding the SOA Championships in 2017. This possibility had been welcomed at the previous evening's ESOA meeting. Max had already written to Jen Edwards (SNH) and Robin Strain, in his capacity as a member of Gullane Golf Club.
- Creation of a Business Plan was Ongoing.
- It was felt that, now that the WOC and 6-Days were in the past, it would be worth approaching Hilary Quick about holding an Event Safety Training course for potential planners and organisers who had not yet attended one.
- It wasn't clear what the situation was regarding updating the Mortonhall map. The Galloways had offered to take this on, but it wasn't certain that they had had the final go-ahead. John would e-mail them, and suggest that they liaiase with Graeme Ackland.
- There had been no further word regarding the Tiso posters.
- There had been no further progress about filling jobs on the central organisation for the 2017 6-Days. However, now that WOC was over, attention could be paid towards this. Pat S would e-mail the Club again, asking for volunteers. It was pointed out that, given the experience this year, it would be worth contemplating seeking professional event organisers to run the campsite.

  ACTION: Pat S

- A replacement String had now been purchased.
- Updating some of the control sites at Craigmillar was still outstanding.

  ACTION: Paul

- The Dechmont Law permanent course map updating was now complete. It just remained to replace the plates at the control sites.

  ACTION: Ken

- The A-frames had still to be ordered.

  ACTION: Ken

- Most of the information to carry out a Software Licence review had now been collated.
- Work on writing up the Club History was still to be undertaken.

3 Secretary's Report

John asked if the BOF-loaned SI kit had been returned after the 6-Days, and was assured that it had been.

He mentioned that the annual BOF Club and Association Conference would be held in Stratford-upon-Avon on 10 October. The Club was entitled to two places. However, no interest was expressed in attending.

4 Treasurer's Report

Pat managed to write a cheque to BOF for the Club affiliation fee, before having to leave at short notice to attend to a potential family crisis.

5 Events

5.1 World Championships

It was suggested that formal letters of thanks be sent to Graeme, Graham, Colin, Lorna, Ann, and others who had made huge contributions to the recent successful World Championships.

5.2 Highland 2015 - Day 4 Thursday 6 August

Pat Squire was also due thanks for coordinating the Club's efforts in manning the Blue and Green Starts at the 6-Days.

5.3 Local Events

The possibility of staging two events in the ESOA's programme of Saturday afternoon events, on 7 November and 12 December, was discussed under Actions.

5.4 INTrepid Weekend 9/10 April 2016

Discussion of this Weekend was mostly carried out under Actions.

5.5 Other Future Events

It was suggested that the Club should stage another Summer Urban Series in 2016.

5.6 Event Safety Training

Now that the dust had settled after WOC, Pat S would contact Hilary Quick with a view to setting up an Event Safety Training course.

ACTION: Pat S

6 Mapping

The Mortonhall and Gullane updates/extensions had been discussed under Actions.

Ken mentioned that he would be working on mapping Almondell and Seafield Law in West Lothian. He also suggested various extensions which might be contemplated, including incorporating Nether Wood in the Calder Wood map, the Jack Kane Centre in the Craigmillar map, the ongoing saga of extending Norman's Law, and the possibility of mapping Portmore Loch near Eddleston. Max was potentially interested in the latter, and would consult Graeme about it.

ACTION: Max

We should also consider applying to the SOA for some funding.

7 Equipment

This Item was already dealt with in Action Items.

8 Club Captain

The only pressing issue was the forthcoming Final of the CompassSport Trophy, being held on 18 October near Kendal. It was suggested that reference to this be made in the Newsletter; John would try to find out from Mary if Rob had asked her to include anything.

ACTION: John, Rob

9 Training

Nothing to report. However, it was pointed out that all sessions really needed to be registered as Club Activities, for insurance purposes.

ACTION: Ken?, John

10 Juniors

This item was actually discussed at the start of the Meeting.

Alex would try to obtain details from FVO and MAROC about the production of their club jackets.

Various camps had been held whch Club members had attended. James and Freddie had been to one on Deeside. Alex had attended one in Stockholm. Chris Galloway had attended the Antwerp Sprint in Belgium.

There had been some good performances by Club Juniors at the recent 6-Days.

It had been announced that Bill Stevenson and Maureen Brown would be standing down as ScotJOS Team Leaders, after many years in these positions. At this stage, no successor had been appointed. It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent, recognising all their hard work over the years. There would also be a formal presentation in due course.

At this stage, it was expected that the ESOA Junior Training sessions would soon be starting for 2015/16, although there had as yet been no communication from Ian Pyrah.

Several Club members had been included in the East team which competed at the recent Junior Inter-Area Championships. Jane Ackland had coordinated this event, and it was agreed that she should be formally thanked for her efforts.

Forthcoming representative events included ScotJOS and BOF Weekends, EuroMeet (Chris), the Junior European Cup in Germany (Alex), and the Junior Home Internationals in Ireland (James and Freddie).

11 Child Protection

Nothing to report.

However, it was mentioned that Mike Hamilton, in his recent eNews, stressed that the subject of Safeguarding needed to be taken seriously. To date, in 2015 there had been four issues, two within orienteering, and the other two involving members; one had resulted in a prosecution.

12 Newsletter

Mary had not received many contributions in response to her initial plea, and had issued a further request for articles.

13 Website

There were a few favourable comments about the website.

Jane wondered if setting up a Club Facebook page would provide a quicker way of disseminating information, and providing a link to it from the website. She would investigate.

ACTION: Jane

Colin mentioned that an episode of the Adventure Show would be broadcast towards the end of the month, featuring the Long Race from the World Championships. John subsequently discovered that the programme would be shown on BBC2 at 7pm on Sunday 27 September - he would include a mention on the website.

14 Socials

Jane was thanked for organising the BBQ at the 6-Days.

There was some discussion about holding the Hallowe'en Party. The date of Friday 30 October seemed suitable. Mary and Graeme Ross would be asked if they would like to organise it, at the usual venue at The Meadows; otherwise, Max and Jane would take it on. It was suggested that families with young children in ESOC could be invited to swell numbers.

There was also discussion about the Club Championships and the Christmas Party. The only suitable event to "piggy-back" on seemed to be the SOA Score Champs. at Pitmedden on 22 November. Rob would be sounded out once he returned to Edinburgh. It was also suggested that the Christmas Party could be held the same afternoon/evening, at a venue yet to be chosen.

15 Marketing

The reference in the Minutes of the last Meeting was misleading, in that a Marketing Plan should be considered in addition to a Business Plan.

16 A.O.B.

- Ken summarised the status of the Development Plan. Permanent Courses for Eliburn, Almond, and Dechmont were now in place, and West Lothian Council were arranging to print 2000 maps. The course at Polkemmet was nearly finished. Next year, he intended to work on Almondell and Seafield Law.
- There was a query over the "official" date of the Club's anniversary. John mentioned that the first time that members competed as Interløpers was in 1971, with the Club's status being Closed. The status changed to Open in 1974, but the first AGM was not held until 9 April 1976.
- Jane suggested that the discount offered to Club members by Run & Become should be made more prominent on the website, with a reference on the Home page.
- It was pointed out that signatories for the Club's bank account would need to be changed, now that Max had taken over as Chairman. John would obtain a form from the bank.

ACTION: John

The next Committee Meeting would be held on Wednesday 25 November at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh.

N.B. Subsequent to the Meeting, because of a clash with the ESOA Meeting, the date was amended to Wednesday 2 December, at the same place and time.

Jane and Max were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10.45. John Barrow – 23 November 2015