INTERLØPERS

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FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY FIRST YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 8 May 2017, at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Jane Carcas, Max Carcas, Ken Daly, Robin Galloway, Rob Lee.

Apologies for absence were received from Colin Eades, Mairi Eades, Mary Ross, and Pat Squire.

Max welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 27 February 2017 were approved.

2 Action Items

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

- Two attempts had been made to contact Rob Hickling to try to identify a Controller for the SOL on 29 October at Drummond Hill, so far to no avail. Robin had made good progress in completing the paperwork to obtain permission from the Forestry Commission, but Colin had still to supply his input.

ACTION: Robin, Colin

- John had yet to follow up the issue of persuading members to complete Gift Aid declarations under the SOA scheme.

ACTION: John

- Certificates for the 2016 SOL Series had now been distributed.
- The Club had yet to be circulated, asking for parental approval for inclusion of any Juniors' e-mail addresses in the Club list.

ACTION: John

- The Club had been informed of the request for support at the Mid and East Lothian Schools events.
- There was some discussion on the choice of venue for SOUL 10 on 28 October. It was decided to suggest to Murray Strain, the Planner, that he choose an appropriate area. Max would write to Murray and to Graham McIntyre, the Organiser. It was noted that permission for any area under West Lothian Council jurisdiction should be sought with at least eight weeks' notice.

ACTION: Max

- The revision of the Event Registration form was still Ongoing.

ACTION: Rob

- Investigations into what components should constitute a Club Survival Kit were Ongoing. Rob had still to get in touch with Jon Musgrave.

ACTION: Rob

- There was an Ongoing Action item for Ken to investigate the question of registering Training sessions as BOF Activities.

ACTION: Ken

- Investigations into mapping Portmore Loch were Ongoing. It was suggested that Graeme Ackland be consulted.
- Preparation of a Business Plan was Ongoing.

ACTION: Ken, Max

- Paul was still to liaise with the Council regarding obtaining replacement plates for those damaged or lost on the Craigmillar POC. Ken would be asked to investigate the matter as well.

ACTION: Paul, Ken

- Ken would pursue the status of the various software the Club had taken out licences for. It was suggested that a list of the various packages should be posted on the website, though of course details of software keys and passwords should not be included.

ACTION: Ken, John

- Creation of the Club History remained Ongoing.

3 Secretary's Report

John noted that he had received initial notification that the Jamie Stevenson Trophy would be held on 25 June. Jane Ackland was on the Organising Committee.

Rona Lindsay had been in touch, mentioning the existence of the Aldi Scottish Sport Fund (https://www.aldi.co.uk/scottishsportfund). This fund could perhaps provide assistance for a smallish mapping project or maybe some equipment, up to a maximum of £500. Applications from sports clubs in the Lothians and Borders would need to be submitted within the period 28 August to 1 October.

A message had been received from the organisers of a "Women in Sport" week, being held on 19-25 June. From the content of the message, it seemed fairly clear that the way in which orienteering is organised, from a gender equality point of view, meant that such a commemoration would not really be particularly relevant.

It was noted that the Club (in the persons of Jane Ackland and Katherine Ivory) had proposed to hold a training session in Holyrood Park for any Juniors intending to take part at the Scottish Schools Championships on 2 June. The session would be held on Wednesday 24 May, which was also World Orienteering Day.

Rona Lindsay had also been touch with regard to the initiative of SOA Focus Clubs (described on the SOA website at http://www.scottish-orienteering.org/soa/page/focus-clubs-initiative). This was largely to do with Club Development, including the concept of several Clubs working together coordinated by one Club Development Officer.

The City of Edinburgh Ranger Service had been in touch, asking for a further supply of map packs for the Craigmillar Permanent Course. John would liaise with Paul.

ACTION: John, Paul

4 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that all the banking activities were now fully electronic.

To date, the bank balance was approx. £16000, although a significant proportion of this figure was already committed. Items in this category included the Awards for All grant for mapping.

The update for Binning Wood would cost £400. This figure was quite low, since the area really required a full re-map and, because it belonged to ELO, it had been agreed to do just enough updating to make it acceptable for the SOA Relays.

Sales of Club jackets were going quite well. Lorna was currently the stockholder.

Contrary to previous reports, it seemed that there would be a charge of £600 for the parking field at Binning Wood.

Rob mentioned that he would have expenses for arranging the JK and British Relay teams. Entries of teams for the SOA Relays would be made directly to Simon Firth, in an attempt to avoid on-line entry system charges.

Pat had asked the Meeting to consider the issue of event entry fees for helpers at Club-organised events. It seemed that a variety of mechanisms was employed by other clubs, including the issue of vouchers to be used at future events. However, it was thought that such a system could prove unnecessarily complicated. The issue might also depend on the level of event, whether a local one or a major event where there were many helpers needed, perhaps from several clubs. For events using on-line entry, it was possible to define Helper rates, both Senior and Junior. Eventually, it was agreed that the question of subsidy of fees for helpers should be left to event organisers' discretion, recognising that helpers at Local Events could probably be given free runs.

The Girls team from George Heriot's School, who recently took part at the World Schools Championships in Sicily, had written to the Club, asking if there was a possibility for some Club subsidy. Each team member had had to raise £700, partly caused by a late decision to move the event from near Rome to Sicily, thus involving an extra, relatively expensive, flight. Between them, the team had managed to raise £500 towards their costs. Because Pippa was one of the team members, Max and Jane left the room, while the remainder of the Meeting discussed the issue. It was decided to offer each team member the sum of £80. John would write to each member.

ACTION: John

5 Events

Pat had submitted his Report before the Meeting.

The first three events in the West Lothian programme had taken place, with reasonable turn-outs.

The calendar for the remainder of 2017 was looking very healthy, and officials for nearly every event had now been identified.

It was noted that an Event Safety Course had been arranged for Tuesday 16 May, although it seemed there had been no general announcement. Pat would be asked to advise the Club appropriately.

John asked if any decisions had been made about venues for the 7 October and 4 November Local Events. At this stage, there was no definite information. It was suggested that the respective Organisers and Planners should be asked about where they would like to put on the events.

ACTION: John

At Pat's request, there followed a discussion on a possible event programme for 2018. It was known that no Club involvement in any major events would be needed, and there would be no 6-Day Event until 2019. It was generally agreed that we should seek to put on a SoSOL event, and incorporate SOUL and SOL events in a further INTrepid Weekend, bearing in mind possible constraints of lambing, capercaillie, and vegetation. On balance, it would seem that an Autumn date would be preferable. Further discussion on venues could be had at a later date. It was also hoped that a programme of Local Events, similar to those held during 2017, could be arranged during 2018, together with the usual Summer Series of Urban SprINTelopes.

6 Marketing

Ken and Pat had had discussions on flyers, with respect to the Local Event series, and more generally about publicity posters.

7 Mapping

Mapping for Binning Wood had already been mentioned.

Ken reported on the status of mapping projects in West Lothian.

So far, there were completed maps for nine areas, viz. Almondell, Almond Park, Almondvale and Howden (requiring some updating), Calder Wood, Deans (urban), Dechmont Law, Dedridge (urban), Eliburn, and Polkemmet.

He had reconnoitred a further five areas, and had started some mapping; the areas included Whitrigg and Blaeberry Woods, Ravenscraig, Seafield Law, Pumpherston, and Camp Bridge and Murieston Parks.

Most of these areas were really only suitable for Local Events, but a few (such as Dechmont Law, Calder Wood, and Ravenscraig) could support a SoSOL-standard event.

8 Development

Lorna Eades and Jane Carcas represented the Club at the SOA Development Summit on 1 April.

9 Club Captain

Rob reported on the JK and British Relays. At the former, the only podium position was achieved by the Intermediate Women's team of Pippa Carcas, Leah Bartlett, and Mairi Eades, who were 2nd. At the British, the Junior Ad Hoc team of Mairi, Matthew Ross, and Pippa were 3rd, while the W40 team of Lorna Eades, Mary Ross, and Claire Ward were also 3rd. The Mixed Ad Hoc team actually won their race, but were declared non-competitive because Freddie Carcas ran twice.

Rob had entered 11 teams for the forthcoming SOA Relays.

Mention was also made of the Harvester, on 25 June in The Lakes, and the LAMM on 3/4 June, somewhere in The Highlands.

There was some discussion about travel options for attending the CompassSport Trophy Final on 22 October. The event was being held at Virtuous Lady, near Tavistock in Devon, and there might be direct flights to Exeter. Further discussion would take place once the SOA Relays were over.

10 Juniors

John felt that formal mention should be made of the Girls team from George Heriot's School, which took part in the recent World Schools Championships. The team comprised Clara Lister, Jasmine Mitchell, Tara Verden-Anderson, Pippa Carcas, and Heather Taylor.

11 Newsletter

Mary had suggested that the next issue of the Club Newsletter should be in June.

It was still her wish to stand down at the forthcoming AGM.

12 Website

John continued to try to keep most basic information up to date.

13 Socials

Nothing to report.

14 Marketing

Already discussed.

15 A.O.B.

There was a brief discussion about setting a date and venue for the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. It was decided to settle on the date of Thursday 22 June, and try to book the Balfour Suite at the Charwood Restaurant (as was used successfully in 2016). John would make the booking.

ACTION: John

The next Committee Meeting would be held on a date decided by the new Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Max and Jane were thanked for their hospitality once again.

The Meeting closed at 10.00pm. John Barrow – 13 June 2017