INTERLØPERS

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THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY THIRD YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 4 March 2019, at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Jane Carcas, Max Carcas, Pippa Carcas, Colin Eades, and Rob Lee. Also in attendance were William Ivory and Graham McIntyre.

Representing the SOA, Judy Bell, the recently appointed Regional Development Officer, also attended the Meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Graeme Ackland and Ken Daly.

Several of those present, including Graham McIntyre, William Ivory, and Max Carcas, had gathered before the formal start of the Meeting to discuss Publicity and Marketing, with particular reference to the website. Graham announced that it was his intention to move the contents of the site to a new server, with the purpose of gaining better control over management of content. It had been suggested, and agreed, that the chosen server should be Namesco, with whom we already had our domain name registered.

Separately to this initiative, William had suggested setting up a weekly e-mail system, to be known tentatively as "INTeresting", with the aim of disseminating up-to-date information on events and other news to the Club as a whole. This plan would complement the website, with some material being released on both platforms.

Max then welcomed everyone to the Meeting. He introduced Judy Bell, who had recently taken on the position of SOA Regional Development Officer for the East of Scotland. Judy then summarised her remit.

She would be working two days each week, funded by Sportscotland. Fran Loots had been appointed to a similar position in the West of Scotland. Her main aims would be to promote orienteering, increase club membership, and assist Clubs with their development. As an example, she mentioned that the Edinburgh Clubs should be able to apply for funding from Sportscotland in connection with WOC2022, although the Clubs themselves would be expected to contribute some of their own funds. She was hoping to set up a meeting with teachers' representatives, in order to improve School/Club links. She felt that the key to involving more schoolchildren was to try to encourage more teachers to take responsibility for orienteering. To enable this, it was suggested that Clubs should be encouraged to set up links with local schools; in the case of this Club, those schools near The Meadows would benefit from such collaboration. In addition, a largely untapped resource was the experience which members of EUOC had, which could provide help during the daytime when many INT members would be working.

World Orienteering Day in 2019 would take place on 15 May, and Judy was hoping that ESOC and INT could join forces to set up some kind of event in Holyrood Park.

The Club would also be encouraged to offer help to EUOC during the annual Freshers Week in September. Perhaps a Sprintelope-style event could be put on.

From the SOA's standpoint, increased participation was a major aim. Clubs would be encouraged to put on more training sessions, and register these as Activities; this would require numbers attending to be recorded.

Judy announced that she would be starting a "Lucky Volunteer of the Day" award scheme for an event to be chosen by Clubs. She would select a name at random from the list of volunteers submitted by the Club, and the winner would receive a small token of appreciation.

Club members were being encouraged to nominate a Young Person who had made a considerable contribution to orienteering in his/her Club or community, for the award of Young Orienteer of the Year.

Another SOA initiative was for Clubs to apply for Accreditation under the BOF scheme, initially at Bronze level. This scheme covers the activities of Planners, Controllers, Coaches, etc., and the extent to which a Club puts on intra-Club courses. The emphasis on Coaching included activities such as making a Coaching Corner available at Local Events for competitors, both before and after their runs. John would look into the requirements for applying for Accreditation.

ACTION: John

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 26 November 2018 were approved.

2 Secretary's Report

John had received a letter from Angus Ivory, representing the five members of the Heriot's Boys Team who were attending the World Schools Championships in Estonia in May. They were hoping that the Club would be able to sponsor them to attend this event. They had already been promised £50 each by the ESOA, but would have to find £600 each in total. After a little discussion, it was agreed to offer each team member £80 (the same sum as was given to the Girls team in 2017).

There were still several members who had not yet renewed their BOF membership for 2019. John had sent them a reminder e-mail.

On the subject of membership, Max announced that he and Jane would soon have a new lodger, in the form of a Swiss orienteer. It was hoped that he would be able to represent the Club during 2019.

3 Treasurer's Report

£1000 had been received from ESOC, representing income from the Scottish Night Championships.

Robin noted that the end of the Financial Year, 31 March, was fast approaching.

He reported that most of the RoS grant had now been spent. The only outstanding item was the 3 banners - Lorna would be reminded.

The decision to move the webserver to Namesco would entail some expenditure - a two-year licence would cost approx. £360.

4 Events

Max had written to Katherine Ivory, thanking her for organising the recent Junior Inter-Area Relays.

The Ward family organised the Club Championships at the FVO SoSOL at Barr Wood on 16 December. The winner was Angus Ivory.

John had registered the programme of Local Events for 2019 with BOF. However, at this stage, it wasn't clear when the Braidburn Valley Gala Day would be held, and hence when a Local Event there could be put on.

A Planner and an Organiser were still needed to be found for the SOL at Drummond Hill on 8 September.

John had made a "reserve-the-date" registration with BOF for a SoSOL event on Sunday 6 October. Kinneil Wood had been suggested as a venue, using Ken's updated map.

Max mentioned that he would be organising SOL 3 at Falkland on 14 April, on behalf of ScotJOS.

Graeme Ackland had mentioned that Masterplan Adventure were putting on a Chasing Sprint on Friday 28 June at Callendar Park, Falkirk. The BBC programme "The Adventure Show" would be covering it.

Graeme had also published the Sprintelope Series for 2019; this was now on the Sprintelope Facebook page.

Will Hensman had asked Clubs to agree to lend their SI kits to the 6-Days Company for this year's event. John had duly confirmed the availability of the Club's kit.

Max had yet to try to identify an Events Coordinator to succeed Pat Squire.

ACTION: Max

As regards finding a venue for the 2020 SOA Championships, at the recent ESOA Meeting there was general agreement that using areas on Bute would not work. Other possible areas were considered, including Tentsmuir. However, John Emeleus had pointed out that a drawback to using this area was that the FC would almost certainly not allow its use during May, since there would be sensitive wildlife issues at that time of year. After some discussion it had been agreed that Paul Caban would try to find possible dates in the Autumn so that Tentsmuir could be used. Paul had yet to respond with suggested dates.

An issue had arisen regarding the VHI being held on 21/22 September this year. ESOC had already agreed to hold the Individual on the Sunday, in conjunction with their SOL. However, at the time of the last Meeting, no Club had been asked to put on the Relays on the Saturday. In some circles, there seemed to have been an implicit assumption that Interløpers would assume responsibility. However, this was not brought to the Club's attention, and then only informally, until late December, by which time our programme of events for the second half of 2019 was in place, and there was no way that an additional event of this magnitude could be taken on. What was surprising to the Club was that there had been no evidence of any formal approach from the SOA to anyone. To try to resolve the issue, Judy would liaise with the SOA and Margaret Dalgleish, the Weekend's Coordinator.

ACTION: Judy

5 Marketing

Regarding a leaflet to be produced to advertise the 2019 Local Event series, Judy said she might be able to concoct one from a template she had on her computer.

ACTION: Judy

As mentioned earlier, Graham would undertake a revamp of the website.

William Ivory offered to set up a weekly e-mail-based information system, to be known as "INTeresting".

ACTION: William

Claire Ward had offered to assume responsibility for maintaining the Club's Twitter presence.

6 Mapping

Max had yet to contact Graeme Ackland regarding Portmore Loch.

ACTION: Max

It was recognised that a fairly major update would be needed to the map of Gullane Dunes. Judy mentioned that applications could be made to "Funding For All", a lottery-based grant. She mentioned that BASOC had recently been given £8000. Robin would contact James Tullie for details.

ACTION: Robin

7 Club Captain

Rob reported that approx. 20 members had already entered the SOA heat of the CompassSport Trophy, to be held at Dunrod Hill on 17 March. He would be sending out further information on courses and classes in due course.

He mentioned that action would be needed very soon on coordinating entries to the JK Relays on 22 April. Further ahead was the BOF Weekend on 4-5 May, consisting of a Mixed Sprint Relay, the Individual, and the Forest Relay. Finally, the SOA Relays would take place on 26 May.

8 Juniors

Judy reported that it had not been possible to find an overall Coordinator for the ESOA Junior Training. Instead, it had been suggested that each Club organise its own session, with its own format. So far, RR had agreed to put on one in March, and TAY in April. Perhaps INT could be persuaded to organise a session, maybe some time in May. It had been agreed that such sessions should be targeted at TD3 to TD5 standard.

It was suggested that the achievement of the Heriot's boys in being selected to take part at the World Schools Championships in Estonia in May be recognised. The team consisted (in no particular order) of Angus Ivory, Tommy Thin, Tomas Macdonald, Eunus Rehman, and Amius Marshall De'Ath.

9 Newsletter

Graeme had released Issue 191 to great acclaim. Max mentioned that he had no photos of the CST Final to post on the website.

10 Website

See comments at the start of these Minutes. After a summary was given of the proposals, the Meeting approved the actions.

Graham would follow up his suggested action, and set up a new website.

ACTION: Graham

An e-mail alias would be created on the nameserver to assist with the dissemination of the "INTeresting" content.

ACTION: John

11 Socials

Jane had investigated possible dates for the Club's "Christmas" Social event, and had come up with 16 or 29 March. After some discussion, the date of 16 March was chosen. Jane would circulate the Club with details.

ACTION: Jane

12 A.O.B.

It was suggested that the stragglers who had yet to copy their First Aid certificates from the October course to BOF should be requested to do so.

ACTION: John

The next Committee Meeting would be held on Monday 13 May 2019 at 5 Strathearn Road at 7.30pm.

As ever, Jane and Max were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9:40pm.

John Barrow – 5 May 2019