INTERLØPERS

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THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY FOURTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 24 February 2020, at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Jane Carcas (later), Max Carcas, Ken Daly, Robin Galloway, William Ivory (later) and Rob Lee.

Apologies for absence were received from Graeme Ackland and Angus Ivory.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 2 December 2019 were approved.

2 Secretary's Report

John had sent out a copy of his new Membership List to the whole Committee.

Several new members had joined the Club. These included Will Rigg (ex-EUOC), Iain Embrey (a teacher at Musselburgh, and partner of Zoe Harding who is about to complete her medical studies), Mike Stewart (a refugee from ESOC), and the offspring of Andy and Kate Kitchin (Sam, an M12, and Bethan and Laura, both W10).

The Minutes of the most recent Committee Meeting were now on the website, under the Committee tab.

John had been in e-mail correspondence with Ben Hartman, the SOA Finance Director, on the subject of reclaiming Gift Aid on SOA subscriptions. When this subject was first discussed, about three years ago, a total of 14 members signed the tax Declaration form. However, Ben had recently submitted a major claim to the authorities, and the claim included the names of 39 members of the Club (albeit including 3 whose membership had lapsed). The claim for the whole of the SOA covered about 600 members, realising the sum of over £3500 in reclaimed tax. John had also e-mailed the membership to try to encourage those who had not yet completed a Declaration to do so.

Max had been in contact with the ESOC President, Walter Clark, on the issue of the Club becoming an SCIO (as described in the Minutes of the last Meeting). It seemed that the SOA was treating ESOC as a sort of guinea pig, and would follow the progress of negotiations, to see if the procedure could be recommended to other Clubs. Max expected the issue to be discussed at the forthcoming SOA Development Day.

As a result of an "interview" which Max had recently had with Judy Bell, he was pleased to report that the Club had been awarded Bronze status in the Club Accreditation scheme. We had received a framed certificate to mark the achievement, and this was handed to John for safe keeping.

3 Juniors Report

Mairi, Fiona, Angus and David recently attended an SOA Young Leaders course.

There were several good performances at the Big Weekend, and at the recent SOA Night Championships.

The Committee as a whole were impressed by recent Juniors results, and were looking forward to a continuation of this form at the forthcoming Relay events.

4 Training and Development

Katherine was planning to put on a Training session for ESOA Juniors in advance of the main courses at the Local Event at Polkemmet on 4 April. Unfortunately, FVO had decided to hold a Local Event themselves at the Falkirk Wheel, only 15 miles from Polkemmet, on the same afternoon, so this might affect attendance at our event.

Further Junior Training sessions were planned for 29 February at Butterdean (ELO), at Colinton Dell on 2 May (Judy Bell), and at Covenanters Wood (ESOC) on 13 June.

It was reported that Paul Rayner was planning to set up Edinburgh O, an initiative to try to attract people working in the City to try out orienteering at lunchtime, in the period leading up to the World Sprint O Championships in 2022. The SOA were in favour of this scheme, and planned to begin putting on introductory events in March/April this year, probably based around the Exchange area. The events would use the MapRun smartphone application.

5 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that the Club's share of the surplus from the 2019 6-Day Event, amounting to £640, had been received. (This compared with £1120 received in 2017.)

He also anounced that he had set up a 32-Day Notice investment account at the bank, with initial capital of £11004. This left approx. £4500 in the current account.

Max mentioned that he had entered a team for Jukola, and two Venla teams, and had paid the entry fees himself. He expected to be able to recoup most of this from other team members.

6 Events

Arrangements for the Craigmillar Local Event were largely in place. However, a flyer was still needed for the website. It was reported that Graeme Ackland had done some mapping at Little France to extend the Craigmillar map.

The event at Polkemmet in April was also on track. Katherine would be putting on a training session for ESOA Juniors before the start of the main event.

Chris Dibben and Philippa Ascough were the main officials for the event at Colinton Dell in May. It was reported that one of the main pedestrian bridges was out of action, which would place some constraints on planning courses. It was pointed out that Chris and Philippa should ideally attend an Event Safety course beforehand.

Paul had things in hand for Dechmont Law in June. Ken would be the Controller.

John would find out at the forthcoming ESOA Committee Meeting about the Club groupings for the SOA Championship Weekend in August. Colin Eades, the Individual Planner, had visited the area recently. It was mentioned that a list of What Not To Do had been drawn up after the experience of running the Relays at Binning Wood in 2017, and this list would be offered to the ESOC Organiser for this year's Relays.

ACTION: John

It was still not clear when the Braidburn Gala in 2020 would be taking place. An added complication was that ELO would be holding their 40th Anniversary event on 29 August, the expected date of the Gala. However, it was agreed that INT would hold a Local Event around that time, whether on the 29th or 5 September, regardless of when the Gala does happen. William mentioned that Angus and David might be able to plan courses.

It was suggested that we aim to hold a Local Event on 3 October, possibly at Mortonhall (although some reservatons were expressed that this area had been used several times in recent years). It was also suggested that we try to find a student to plan the courses.

Ken was on track to plan courses for the SoSOL at Kinneil on 8 November. Graeme Ackland had yet to be approached to see if he would be interested in planning the SOUL event on 7 November.

It was agreed that we should follow up the success of the Freshers event in 2019 with another one this year. After consulting the calendar, the date of Wednesday 16 September was agreed upon.

Graeme had drawn up a list of Wednesday evening Sprintelope events for this Spring and Summer. INT were down to put on 5 of these events.

There had been no announcement yet of possible dates for SOL events in 2021. The Club preferred to bid for an early date, so that Gullane Dunes could be used before the ground-nesting birds embargo came into force. It was suggested that Colin Eades might know what the embargo dates were. John would contact Paul.

ACTION: John

As mentioned earlier, Max had entered a team for this year's Jukola Relays in Finland, and two Venla teams.

7 Marketing

Max had yet to write up his notes from the Strategy Meeting held on 9 December.

Regarding setting up a sub-group to oversee the development of the website, it was suggested that Graham McIntyre should be contacted for his thoughts.

A suggestion was made that the new Club sail banners could be deployed at the forthcoming "Edinburgh O" sessions in the City.

It was recognised that the Club really needed a marketing "guru", and that someone younger would be welcome. Jane offered to get in touch with some people

ACTION: Jane

8 Mapping

It was reported that a map of the Little France area now existed.

Robin had put in a request to the Gogar Campus Group for help in producing a map of the area around the RBS Head Office.

Pat Blashill of Stirling Surveys would prepare maps of various areas around Livingston.

9 Club Captain

The next major event which Rob needed to coordinate teams for would be the BOF Relays on 21 March. The closing date for entries was 1 March. He had a specific problem in that there were 4 people available for the M Open team, but a team consisted of only 3.

Entries for the Scottish Heat of the CompassSport Trophy on 15 March closed on 8 March.

As yet, Rob did not know the closing date for entries for the JK Relays, taking place on 13 April.

10 Newsletter

It was reported that the next issue was "in production".

11 Website

Already covered in other Sections.

12 Socials

Jane had planned a happening for Sunday 1 March. There would be a communal run at 3pm from the Castlelaw car park, to be followed by a Pasta Party at 5 Strathearn Road at 5pm. Potential attendees were to be asked to bring a bowl, a fork, and a drinking vessel The Club Champion's name would be announced at the party.

Suggestions for future social events included a Beach Run and BBQ, and perhaps a visit to a local pub after one of the SprINTelopes.

13 A.O.B.

It was mentioned that an upgrade for OCAD was quite expensive, and it was suggested that Graeme be consulted as to whether it was thought to be worthwhile.

Jane had been investigating costs of acquiring various items for the proposed Emergency Kit, and had ordered "a rucsac's worth". She would send the invoice to Robin. She would also prepare a Contents List. It was suggested that a short article should be written for the Newsletter, emphasising competitors' responsibility for their own safety by seriously considering carrying a whistle during events.

ACTION: Jane

Max had been in e-mail correspondence with BOF about the membership statistics. It had been eventually realised that the situation regarding how Juniors were counted for previous years once they became Senior could not be resolved easily.

To ensure that the Club acted constitutionally, there was a short discussion on setting the date for the AGM in June, given that John would be out of the country from 12 April to 13 May. It was agreed to go for Monday 8 June at the Charwood Bar and Restaurant, with the Meeting starting at 7pm, followed by a meal at approx. 8pm..

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7:30pm on Monday 25 May 2020.

Jane and Max were thanked for their hospitality once again.

The Meeting closed at 10:00pm.

John Barrow – 23 March 2020