INTERLØPERS

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SECOND COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY SIXTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 31 January 2022, held on-line using Zoom

Present: John Barrow, Colin Eades, Fiona Eades, Lorna Eades, Robin Galloway, William Ivory, Rob Lee, Ali Masson.

At the last minute, it was decided to hold the Meeting on Zoom.

Apologies for Absence were received from Katherine Ivory.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 8 November 2021 were approved. There were no Matters Arising from those Minutes.

2 Secretary's Report

John reported that several further new members had recently joined the Club. They were Duncan Coombs, Rebecca Harding, Richard Purkis, Michael Stanwix, and Ben Stevens.

After many years, Rachel Kirkland had decided, with her partner Mark Wood, to join FVO. Iain Embrey had joined MOR after he had moved house to Inverness.

Fourteen members from 2021 had yet to renew for 2022. John would send them a gentle reminder.

3 Treasurer's Report

The balance in the Current Account was £3811.

Robin had still to circulate the FAQ information on obtaining Charitable Ststus. He suggested that an Agenda item be included in the next Meeting to discuss this issue.

John then described efforts which he and William had been making for the Club to be registered with an organisation called Benevity Causes. This organisation maintained a database of potential recipients of sponsorshop. The company which William worked for had signed up to this arrangement, and this meant that William could apply to his company to log any time he spent on Interlopers volunteering, and they would pay $15 per hour for such effort. At the moment, efforts were still being made to complete the registration with Benevity, including informing them of our electronic banking arrangements. Once this was complete, William could proceed with submitting claims for any hours spent on volunteer effort for the Club.

4 Events

Arrangements for the SOL at Gullane Dunes on 13 February were now largely in place. Ted Finch had advised that EUOC currently had two start clocks; John would inform Caspian Richards.

For the Local Event at Craigmillar on 5 March, Colin Ledlie was the Planner, and Graham McIntyre the Organiser.

Paul Caban (Planner) and Ken Daly (Organiser) were the two main officials for the Local Event at Kinneil Wood on 9 April.

Mike Stewart and Graham McIntyre, Planner and Organiser, were responsible for the event at Dechmont Law on 7 May.

No officials had yet been chosen for the Local Event on 4 June, and it was also not clear whether the venue would be Almondell or Almondvale. Fiona offered to plan this event, and it eventually transpired that Family Eades would take on all responsibility. Colin would try to get out to the chosen area to check it over.

A full programme of Spring/Summer Sprintelopes would be held, and ELO and ESOC had already made tentative choices of dates. There was some discussion on what form of entry system should be offered: there was some support for allowing punters to enter all events together, and offering a discount, while others favoured an event by event entry.

There were tentative plans for a programme of Local Events in the Autumn, beginning with Braidburn Valley Park at the start of September. The Club had been asked to put on the JHI Relays at Loch Vaa on Saturday 8 October, and Mike Stewart had offered to plan. It was also felt that we should try to stage a Local Event the previous Saturday, though the venue was currently not decided - it could be Mortonhall. Finally, the Club's offer to put on a SOUL at Deans at the start of November had been accepted.

It was recognised that the Club needed to find more volunteers to put on events, and to that end it was suggesed that some training courses be employed, perhaps on-line. There would be funding available to achieve this. The issue should be re-visited, perhaps in the Autumn.

5 Juniors

Nothing to report.

6 Training and Development

The Thursday off-road training sessions were continuing.

It was rumoured that the Tuesday sessions on The Meadows were to be re-started. It was thought that Max and Sheila Strain might know more.

The Stretching Exercises sessions were continuing.

It was suggested that some Techniques Training might be useful, and that an outdoor session at Vogrie could be put on, using ELO's map.

It was agreed to continue the Club's policy of financially supporting members attending Coaching Courses.

7 Marketing

The website had been amended to show the date of posting for News items.

It was suggested that the website could be improved by the inclusion of some new photos.

It was recognised that the entire section on Juniors needed revamped. Lorna would have a look at it to try to get an idea of what might be needed. One improvement might be the addition of links to relevant information on the SOA and BOF websites.

8 Mapping

It was now recognised that any opportunity to map Portmore Loch was lost.

There was a suggestion that an area at Arniston, near Gorebridge, might be suitable, and that Scott Fraser and Oleg Chepelin be asked to take a look around.

9 Captain

Rob pointed out that it would soon be time to think about entering forthcoming Relay events, starting with the CompassSport Trophy Heat, being held at Callendar Crags on Saturday 12 March.

The British Relays would be neld at Haslemere on Sunday 27 March, followed by the JK Relays on Monday 18 April at Caerwent. It looked as if the SOA Relays would take place on Sunday 29 May on Deeside, while the BOF Mixed Sprint event would be on Sunday 12 June at Leeds University. Closing Date information was not currently available for all these events.

(It was subsequently ascertained that the Closing Date for the JK Relays was 13 March.)

Finally, it was expected that the Harvester Trophy event would take place in September.

Rob would e-mail the membership once more details of these events were known.

10 Newsletter

The single-sheet Newsletter for Christmas duly appeared, and Katherine was thanked for her efforts. It was hoped to produce the next conventional issue in the Spring.

11 Socials

There was further discussion on holding an Activities Evening at a Leisure Centre or a church hall. It would also be worth trying to identify a weekend in the Autumn for a Club get-together. On-line Coaching discussions might also prove attractive.

12 A.O.B.

Colin mentioned that the first Restart meeting for the 2024 World Sprint Championships had been held. There was a short discussion on possible sponsorship opportunities, given that Edinburgh University was already known to be a major sponsor. There was speculation as to whether the Royal Bank of Scotland might be persuaded to step up.

The next Committee Meeting would be held at 7:30 on Monday 25 April 2022, at 7 Whitedales.

Robin was thanked for setting up the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9:15pm. John Barrow –17 March 2022