INTERLØPERS

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FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY SEVENTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 5 December 2022, held at 7 Whitedales, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Robin Galloway, William Ivory, Rob Lee. Max Carcas was in attendance to assist in the Marketing topic, as raised at the AGM in October.

Apologies for absence were received from Fiona Eades and Katherine Ivory.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 5 September 2022 were approved. There were no Matters Arising from those Minutes.

2 Secretary's Report

John announced that Roanne Lilley, ex-EUOC and currently with SYO, would be rejoining as an INT member.

Benevity Causes had been in touch, asking us to renew our Self-Certification in the New Year. John would try to do so.

John mentioned that he had had correspondence with Peter Brooke, BOF Operations Manager, earlier in the year, to try to establish the requirements for maintaining event records for the purposes of complying with the BOF Public Liability Insurance Policy. The outcome was essentially that copies of Event Results and the Risk Assessments should be sufficient to cover these requirements.

John asked if an individual in the Club could be identified to serve as the contact for SPORTident. It was agreed that Paul should be approached to see if he would be happy to assume this role. While on the subject, John wondered if some investigation could be carried out into the ideal format for creating an Event Results file suitable for submitting to the BOF Results database. It might be a good idea to consult Robin Strain.

John confirmed what most people knew already, that Pat Squire had moved down to Belper in Derbyshire to be nearer to his two sons. He would be remaining with the Club as a Club-only member. John would be in touch, expressing the Club's appreciation for all his activities during his time with the Club.

It was noted with profound sadness that Donald Watson, one-time member of the Club and recently living in Fribourg in Switzerland, had passed away. John would be in touch with his widow, Ariane Burke.

3 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that the BOF Levy for the JHI Relays had still to be paid. There was a possibility that this event might make a loss.

In addition, it had been drawn to our attention that SOA Levy was due on the Middle Distance event - this was the case for all events with a (discounted) Senior entry fee of more than £10.

Lorna mentioned that the new Club kit would soon need to be paid for.

Katherine would need to be paid for Newsletter expenses, including postage for the Christmas issue.

Entry fees for the CompassSport Trophy Final amounted to £601.

Robin suggested that we should contemplate increasing entry fees for Local Events. These events had been making very small profits for some time.

4 Events

There were approx. 60 participants at the Braidburn Valley Local Event in October.

The JHI Relays and the Middle Distance event at Loch Vaa were considered a great success.

The Livingston SOUL attracted about 110 competitors. Unfortunately, one stake was mislaid.

Several Local Events had been registered for Spring 2023.

Further ahead, we were scheduled for Day 3 at the 6-Days in August 2023. We would also be putting on a SOL at Drummond Hill on 24 September.

It was hoped to put on Local Events in October, November and December. However, the event in December might become a SOUL, on 2 December.

It was felt that several Club members could benefit from attending an Event Safety Workshop. Roger Scrutton would be approached to see if he could set one up, perhaps for all ESOA Clubs.

It was suggested that we could put on an introductory event in Holyrood Park in October 2023, perhaps aimed at University Freshers (similar to what was organised by Max a few years ago).

There was some discussion about the Club Championships. After some delving into past records, including Newsletters and Minutes, John had been able to draw up a list of winners since 1999 when the Championships were first held. It seemed that the current holder was Robin Galloway, who won in 2019. Because of the COVID-19 lockdown and curbs on holding events, there had been no event since then. Indeed, Robin had eventually found the trophy lurking on a shelf. When the discussion was first raised, it had been suggested that the 2022 Championships might be held in conjunction with the RR event at Teviothead in November. However, it proved difficult to make arrangements in time, and so it was now agreed that they should take place at EUOC's Big Weekend at the end of January. Robin would try to devise a cunning plan to derive a winner. In the mean time, he and Colin would arrange to have the engraving of winners' names on the trophy brought up to date.

A meeting of Edinburgh Clubs' representatives to discuss WOC24 had been due to be held in December, but this had been put back by Fran Loots until 11 January. Colin and Max agreed to represent Interløpers. As an aside, there was a suggestion that an Edinburgh Clubs webpage be set up.

5 Marketing

The overall marketing of the Club, and orienteering in general, was discussed at some length. Points raised included the following.

It was suggested that the WOC24 logo be included in all literature from now on.

Schools Young Professionals

There was a need to engage as many teachers as possible, to try to work towards recovering the situation that used to be in place many years ago whereby there was involvement in the sport in many schools. To assist in this, there was a clear need to appoint a Junior Development Officer for the East of Scotland.

Max suggested that the EUOC students could be more involved in marketing activities, perhaps by organising informal Lunch-O events. It miight help if Richard Oxlade became involved in these exercises.

It would also be worthwhile to investigate whether we could settle on a consistent system for sign-up to events. At present, there were at least three providers, viz. SIentries, Fabian4, and Racesignup, each one with its own interface.

It might be fruitful to arrange to advertise our activities among local running clubs.

6 Juniors

Colin mentioned the help that Mairi had provided to Colinton Primary School with some introductory sessions on Wednesday afternoons. Graeme Ackland had provided a map of the school grounds.

7 Training and Development

Lorna reported on the successful Club Weekend held at Lagganlia in September. Various training sessions were held on the Saturday, and then on Sunday participants took part in the SOL at Anagach.

Lorna also mentioned that she proposed to re-commence the Stretching Exercises sessions on Wednesday evenins.

Off-road Trainng Sessions were continuing on Thursday evenings.

8 Mapping

Ken was in the process of applying Lorna's revisions to a redraw of the map of Almondell. One major revision involved converting what was a field into a housing estate. Graeme Ackland had it in hand. Dave Peel had been approached with a view to printing the new map.

9 Captain

The next major activity would involve entry to major events in 2023. First would be the SOA Heat of the CompassSport Trophy on 12 February at Faskally. The Final would take place in Somerset in October.

The main major events were the British Championships Weekend on 25/26 March in Berkshire, the JK Weekend on 7-10 April in The Lakes, the British Sprint and Middle Distance Championships on 6/7 May in N. Ireland, and the SOA Championships Weekend on 28/29 May. Other events include the Jukola Relays on 17/18 June, and the Harvester at the end of June (Max would investigate the former for more details).

10 Newsletter

It was reported that Katherine was working on the Christmas issue. Max was handling address label production.

11 Socials

The Club Weekend had taken place towards the end of September. In addition, Robin had organised a trip to a concert on 29 November.

A Burns Supper would be held chez Carcas on the Saturday evening of the Big Weekend (28 January).

There was a possibility of arranging a further Club Weekend on 11/12 March. Those attending would be able to take part in events at Darnaway and Errochty. It was hoped to be be able to book accommodation at Lagganlia.

There was a query over occasional pub evenings after the Off-Road Training sessions. Graham and Paul would be asked for their views.

12 A.O.B.

William had circulated a document showing detailed descriptions of the responsibiilities of major Club Office Bearers, based on a similar document belonging to BASOC. So far, only the front page had been edited with Interløpers-specific changes. It was suggested that individual Officers review their own sections as appropriate. Changes could be recorded on a Google document, the location of which William would make known.

As reported under "Events", Fran Loots had been making arrangements for a revised date on which representatives of Edinburgh Clubs could meet to discuss WOC24. More advetisements for various rôles for the competition had appeared. There were also opportunities for Sponsors to be approached.

The next Committee Meeting was set for 7:30 on Monday 27 February 2023, at 5 Strathearn Road.

Robin was thanked for hosting the Meeting once again.

The Meeting closed at 9:38pm. John Barrow –17 January 2023