INTERLØPERS

(www.interlopers.org.uk)

Chairman: Colin Eades
1 Nettlingflat Cottages
HERIOT, Midlothian
EH38 5YF

Treasurer: Robin Galloway
7 Whitedales
EDINBURGH
EH10 7JQ

Secretary: John Barrow
3 Charlton Grove
ROSLIN
Midlothian
EH25 9NY

0131-440-2136
info@interlopers.org.uk

THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY SEVENTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 15 May 2023, held at 7 Whitedales, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Robin Galloway, Katherine Ivory, William Ivory, Rob Lee, Mike Stewart. Max Carcas was in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Fiona Eades.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 27 February 2023 were approved. There were no Matters Arising from those Minutes that would not be dealt with later in the Meeting.

2 Secretary's Report

John mentioned that the SOA AGM would be held on-line on Monday 5 June.

Several members had still not renewed for 2023. John had e-mailed them all on 1 May, but so far had received only 1 reply. (Two further positive replies had been received after the Meeting.)

3 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that the Accounts for 2022/23 were with the Auditor.

As requested, the sum of £100 had been given to the ESOA (as well as by all other East Clubs), whose funds were somewhat low. This was mainly because there had not been a recent SOA Championships to boost the coffers.

There was a query over the inclusion of the element of VAT charged on purchases of Club kit, when sold to members.It was agreed that the VAT should be included in the amount charged.

After a short discussion, it was agreed to purchase a basic mobile 'phone to use with the card reader used for the payment of entry fees.

As suggested at the last Meeting, a laptop had been purchased.

A Zoom licence had yet to be purchased.

The subject of the insurance of Club equipment was raised, particularly when kept in storage. Paul would be asked if his Contents policy had any provision for such cover.

4 Events

William reported that the Winterlope Series had been completed with the event at Liberton in March.

100 competitors took part in the Local Event at Craigmillar in March. It was noted that the map had a few inconsistencies.

There were 64 participants at Kinneil Wood in April, 35 at the Sprintelope at Moredun, and 45 at the Almondell Local Event in May.

It was noted that all the Sprintelope maps adhered to a uniform corporate design.

Mike Stewart had arrangements in hand for the Local Event at Dechmont Law in June, and Graeme Ackland would be putting on a Sprintelope at Little France.

Further ahead, organisation of our Day at the 5-Days in August was progressing, under Robin's capable leadership. It was expected that a workforce of approx. 95 people would be needed, and so far about 70 had agreed to help.

Even further ahead, in the Autumn, Mike Stewart would be planning our SOL at Loch Vaa on 24 September, and there would be Local Events on 7 October and 4 November, probably at Braidburn Valley and Mortonhall respectively. It was noted, however, that obtaining permission for using Mortonhall was now much more difficult than previously, involving communication with the Trotter organisation, rather than just the campsite manager.

The Club's final event of the year would be in the SOUL Series on 2 December.

As things stood, the ESOA would be responsible for staging the SOA Championships in 2024, with Interløpers being the Lead Club for the Individual (ESOC having assumed this role in 2021). However, it was realised that the Club would be playing a major role in WOC24, while the North Area would be responsible for the 6-Days in 2025. The matter was discussed at a recent ESOA Committee Meeting, and the outcome was a suggestion that the Areas switch responsibilities, with the North taking on the 2024 SOA Champs, and the East therefore able to take on a bigger role in the 2025 6-Days. The suggestion was put to both the North Area and the SOA Fixtures Secretary, and the outcome was basic agreement from both parties to the suggestion. This clearly relieved the East Area of having to get their act together for next year's SOA Champs.

As far as the Club's responsibilities were concerned, we would be due to take on the Scottish Score Championships in 2024. However, at this stage, no date had been published (although the event was usually held in the Autumn).

After a get-together of representatives from Edinburgh Clubs earlier in the year, an initiative had been developed, known as "Orienteering Edinburgh". This would consist of a series of six Beginners Events, all starting at Festival Square in the City on consecutive Thursdays from 4 to 6pm, starting on 11 May. The first event attracted 21 entrants.

Since it was brought into use, the new Club laptop had performed well. Pre-entries were now being arranged using Race Sign Up (for Sprintelopes) and Fabian 4 (Local Events).

William felt that more effort could be devoted to budgetting for events, to try to arrive at a better basis for setting entry fees, particularly to avoid making a loss.

There was some discussion on the need for First Aid at events. This might depend on the level of event. It was felt that the advice available on the BOF website was rather vague. Mike Stewart would investigate the situation further.

5 Marketing

Some effort had been put into advertising the Kinneil Wood Local Event.

6 Juniors

Laurence Ward had been selected for the British U16 Team to take part in the European Youth Orienteering Championships in Bulgaria, and was also joining the JROS tour to Czechia.

An ESOA JuniorTraining session would be held in conjunction with FVO at Galamuir, near Stirling, on 20 May.

The Jamie Stevenson Trophy was scheduled for 18 June.

7 Training and Development

Thursday off-road training was continuing. Thanks were due to Graham McIntyre for organising these sessions.

There was further discussion on First Aid provision. At present, only 4 current members of the Club had extant Certificates. It was thought that there were about 10 other members who would like to attend a course to obtain a valid Certificate. It was also known that several members of ESOC would also welcome such a course. The ESOA had initiated an investigation into how to have such a course made available.

Robin Strain would be contacted to try to have a SPORTident training session set up.

8 Mapping

The updated map of Almondell was now in use.

Colin, Lorna and Rob had been to Drummond Hill to try to assess what would be needed to bring the map of the area up to scratch. It was soon apparent that a full professional update would be needed. There was currently no LIDAR survey of the area. It would also be necessary to assess the current situation regarding access with all the local farmers. Max offered to investigate.

Paul was currently updating the Permanent Course at Craigmillar.

It was recognised that the Club was somewhat lacking in suitable areas which could be used to hold events up to SOL standard. A suggestion was made that Dalrulzion could be considered.

9 Captain

Rob reported on successes at the JK in April. In the Relays, the M Open team was placed first, while the W Open team was sixth. All other teams completed their courses.

In the BOF Relays in March, the Club's Ad Hoc team of Lucy, Laurence and Colin were placed second.

Rob would soon be sending out an e-mail to the Club regarding entries for the SOA Relays at the end of the month.

The Final of the CompassSport Trophy would take place in the Forest of Dean on 12 November. There was a suggestion that the Rules might be altered to re-define Small and Large Clubs. The cut-off date for assessing this would be the end of September.

Max freported that entries had been submitted for 1 Venla and 2 Jukola teams in Finland in June. One of the Jukola teams would be at full strength, while the other had only 5 members - hence there might need to be some doubling-up.

10 Newsletter

Katherine announced that the next issue would appear after the 6-Days.

11 Socials

Lorna reported that about 25 members attended the social event at the JK.

She suggested that a popular social event could be a Beer & Skittles evening at the Sheep Heid in Duddingston.

It might be possible to arrange a Training Weekend in the Autumn. As an aside, it was noted that the venue for our SOL on 24 September should be corrected in the BOF Fixtures list. John would arrange this.

Finally, it was hoped to be able to have some sort of social get-together during the 6-Days, perhaps on the Rest Day after our day, Day 3.

12 A.O.B.

It was recognised that the Club really needed a password management system, for use with both the new laptop and for access to the website.

There was an issue with the Club's current stock of SI dibbers, in that they only had a capacity of 20 controls. This meant that they were really only any use at small events, such as Sprintelopes.

After some discussion, it was decided to set the date for this year's AGM as 28 September. The Stables Bar at Mortonhall would be checked to see if it would be a suitable venue.

The next Committee Meeting was set for 7:30 on Monday 28 August 2023, at 8 Gilmour Road.

Robin was thanked for hosting the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9:22pm. John Barrow - 01 Jul 2023