

INTERLØPERS

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THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY EIGHTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 13 May 2024, held at 5 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh

Present: John Barrow, Colin Eades, Lorna Eades, Robin Galloway, Katherine Ivory, William Ivory, Rob Lee. Max Carcas was also present.

Apologies for absence were assumed from Mike Stewart.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of 26 February 2024 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 reported that there were two new members. Firstly, Iain Whiteside, an M35, had joined as a Full member, while Tom Lines had signed up as an SOA-only member. Rob would contact Iain in connection with his joining an SOA Relay team.

It had been announced that World Orienteering Week would take place on 18-24 May. As William pointed out, the Club would already be contributing to this Week in the form of a Sprintelope on 22 May. BOF had asked Clubs to complete a short on-line survey with regard to the Week by 15 May. Colin would respond to this survey.

ACTION: Colin

John had been reviewing membership renewals (or, rather, non-renewals). These included Alex Carcas, Tim Morgan, and Caspian Richards. Alex was currently in Adelaide, and Caspian had already indicated that he preferred not to renew for this year. However, as a result of John's enquiries, Alastair Flynn, Niall Inverarity, and Colm Moran had now renewed.

Katherine presented an update to the attempts to appoint a Club Development Officer (CDO). Applications for grant funding had been successful, in that £2500 had been awarded by the Orienteering Foundation, and £1000 by the SOA. The Club would make a further £3000 available. An advertisement had been placed, and there had been one positive response; however, unfortunately, that offer had been subsequently withdrawn. As a starting point, Katherine herself suggested that she could devote 1 day per week to the position to try to start it going. She would draft a proposal.

ACTION: Katherine

3 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that the Accounts for 2023/24 had now been completed and were with the Auditor.

One rather mystifying item of Income was £464 received from STAG for "City Race Expenses". Robin would enquire further.

Approximately £1000 had been received from Benevity Causes since the last Meeting.

BOF Levies for the Livingston SOUL in November and the Craigmillar Local Event in March had been paid.

The Club's contribution to ESOA's funds had also been paid.

4 Events

The Club had to pay City of Edinburgh Council £50 for using Craigmillar Castle Woods for its Local Event in March. It was suggested that ESOC be asked if they had been requested to pay a similar fee for any local areas they had used recently.

ACTION: Robin

The event itself had gone well, with 80 competitors.

The remaining two Winterlopes had taken place.

Unfortunately, the Club's next two events had had to be cancelled. The SoSOL at Calderwood was called off because high winds made for potentially dangerous conditions. However, the Polkemmet Local Event was cancelled because of a disappointingly low pre-entry.

The year's Sprintelope programme had begun, with the Ward family organising one at Buckstone. The next one would be at Gracemount, with Mairi Eades planning and the rest of the family organising.

Remaining events in the Series would be held in July. The first would take place at the Bioquarter on 3 July. Tricia Alston and Ann Haley would organise one on 24 July at St. Leonards, while the Chepelin family would undertake the remaining event on 31 July at Pathhead.

The remaining Local Event of the Spring would be put on by the Dibben/Ascough consortium on 8 June at Kinneil Wood.

The Autumn programme had also been firmed up. A Local Event would be held at Braidburn Valley on 5 October, and another would take place, possibly at Colinton Dell, on 7 Decemer. The Scottish Score would be put on at Vogrie on 9 November, with Mike Stewart planning.

Looking further ahead, a programme of events in Spring 2025 might be pencilled in. There could be a Local Event on 1 March, while the cancelled SoSOL at Calderwood could be resurrected for 6 or 7 April 2025. There might need to be negotiation with RR to avoid a possible clash.

The programme at the start of May 2025 had become more complicated. The Scottish Championships Weekend appeared to have been brought forward to 3/4 May, and the Club would be responsible for the Individual at Barry Budden on the Saturday.

A Local Event could be staged on 7 June, at a venue to be decided.

Looking even further ahead, it was suggested that we could apply to put on a SOL on 14 September 2025.

There was a short discussion on setting entry fees for Sprintelope events. It was agreed that £4 for Seniors and £2.50 for Juniors and Students would be acceptable; Robin confirmed that, at that level, any such event would not be losing money.

5 Marketing

Max commented on the imminent arrival of WOC24 and the WOC Tour, from 11 to 16 July. He emphasised that this would present a great opportunity to obtain publicity. He would be in touch with Bill Lothian.

He mentioned that there were already 278 entries for the Warm-up event in Holyrood Park, starting at 3pm on Thursday 11 July. In addition, 603 people had entered for the Sprint Tour.

There had been a rumour that there might be a positive outcome if the RBS were approached again about the use of their grounds at Gogar.

ACTION: Colin

There was a stock of SOA leaflets available for giving out at Beginners' events. Nikki Howard would pass some to Colin, who would deliver them to the Ivory household.

A Google Group had now been set up for distributing e-mails to Club members, and currently 76 had signed up, with a further 19 pending. Both distribution systems would be used for the time being.

6 Juniors

Laurence Ward, a current member of the GB Talent Squad, had been chosen to attend a Training Camp in Stockholm in August.

Lucy Ward is a member of the Junior Regional Orienteering Squad (JROS), and would be present at a Training Camp at Lagganlia, also in August.

It was rumoured that Bethan Kitchin had also been selected, but the details were unclear..

7 Training and Development

Training sessions were continuing, in The Meadows on Tuesdays, and Off-Road at various locations on Thursdays. Graham had arranged a pub night after one of the Thursday sessions.

8 Mapping

Katherine reported that she had been working on some POCs. That at Braidburn Valley was now complete, and the Club and BOF websites had been updated appropriately. Work on the Craigmillar Castle Woods POC was still incomplete, pending replacement of some control sites.

It was agreed to waive the charging for use of any of the West Lothian POCs.

FVO had asked if we would be happy for them to map an area near Kinneil Wood, on the N side of the railway. The Meeting agreed that this proposal would be fine. Colin would get in touch with them.

ACTION: Colin

The question of re-mapping Drummond Hill and Dalrulzion was raised. Lorna would contact Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS).

ACTION: Lorna

It was noted that Alastair Pegley had carried out the recent update of the Calderwood map.

William reported that Phil Smithard had notified us of an area at South Queensferry behind Craigie Fruit Farm. It was apparently the site of an old quarry which had been filled in. Phil had wondered if we might be interested, given its location in "our" area.

9 Captain

Rob reported that the entry deadline for the SOA Relays was 17 May. He had heard from most likely entrants. He also thanked Colin for coordinating the teams at the JK and British Relays.

10 Newsletter

Katherine reported that Issue 193 had appeared in April. She planned to produce the next issue in late-August.

11 WOC24

Max reported that the Bartlett family would be coordinating the sale of merchandise.

12 Socials

Lorna reported that the reserving of the Sheep Heid at Duddingston had still to be done. It was becoming difficult to find a free weekend.

ACTION: Lorna

Max mentioned that he and Jane would hold a BBQ at their house during WOC.

13 A.O.B.

William suggested that he could attempt to modify the Constitution so that the descriptions of Office Bearers could better fit the examples in the BASOC model.

ACTION: William

Colin announced that he would be standing down as Chairman at this year's AGM, and that a replacement would need to be sought.

It was mentioned that the Child Protection page on the website had been expanded into a Safeguarding and Welfare policy.

The next Committee Meeting was set for 7:30pm on Monday 2 September 2024, at 5 Strathearn Road.

After some discussion, it was agreed to hold the 2024 AGM at 7pm on Thursday 26 September at the Charwood, Fairmilehead.

Jane and Max were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 9:55pm.

John Barrow - 09 Jun 2024