

INTERLØPERS

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FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, FORTY NINTH YEAR

7.30pm, Monday 9 December 2024

Present: John Barrow, Mairi Eades, Robin Galloway, Ann Haley, Katherine Ivory, William Ivory, Rob Lee. Max Carcas was also present.

Apologies for absence were received from Mike Stewart and Laurence Ward.

1 Minutes of last Committee Meeting

An additional Action Item was inadvertently omitted:

No.	Action Details	Assigned to
3/2	Update website to outline policy for supporting Juniors financially at representative events	Robin Galloway

With that amendment, the Minutes of the Meeting of 2 September 2024 were approved. There were no Matters Arising from those Minutes that would not be dealt with later in the Meeting.

2 Action Items from last Meeting

- Action 2/1 - Update Constitution - all suggested revisions incorporated in old version, and submitted to AGM, at which it was approved.
- Action 3/1 - contact Lucy Ward to confirm that her application for financial support was approved by the Committee - Done
- Action 3/2 - Update website to outline policy for supporting Juniors financially at representative events - Ongoing
- Action 9/1 - Ascertain any plans by FLS for activity at Drummond Hill or Dalrulzion - Ongoing - Max to pursue
- Action 13/1 - Set up Club WhatsApp Group - Done

3 Secretary's Report

John reported that a previous Club stalwart, Scott Balfour, had rejoined as an SOA-only member. In addition, one-time Club Treasurer Steve Ambler had made contact, and was contemplating rejoining.

Paul Caban had circulated the Committee with a summary of the condition of some of the Club equipment. The Meeting discussed the individual recommendations, and agreed that some items could be purchased without further discussion. These included a Splits printer with a stock of paper, approx. 10 adapters for our stakes and T-bars to

be able to accommodate smaller-style SI units, and replacement poles for one of the tents. A replacement stock of approx. 10 gripples would also be acquired, the cost of which would be borne by the WOC Tour.

Slightly more problematical was the replacement of about 20 kites loaned to the WOC Tour and EUOC. Responsibility for their replacement might have to be thrashed out by the various parties involved.

Finally, the Equipment Shed was showing considerable signs of age, including being somewhat less than watertight. Paul would investigate a suitable replacement during the Spring, and report back. It was hoped that such a replacement would be robust enough to be able to store some of the equipment currently housed in Paul's bedroom wardrobe.

ACTION: Paul

4 Treasurer's Report

Robin reported that the present bank balance was £12.5K, with a further £11.5K in the "high interest" account.

Significant amounts of recent income included approx. £1K in surplus from the SOA Score, £2K from Edinburgh Council to help with the Permanent Course at Craigmillar Castle Woods, and a BOF Grant of £800.

Of the £2K from Edinburgh Council, £1200 was intended for the Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust. The BOF grant of £800 was the first instalment of three from the Orienteering Foundation for Club Development work.

William's efforts resulted in a payment from Benevity Causes of £971.

Robin noted that helpers at Club events received free entry.

He also mentioned that Alasdair Pedley had been reimbursed for his work in producing the revised map of Craigmillar Castle Woods.

Finally, he announced, on Lucy's behalf, that there had been revisions to the Child Protection policy, and that the membership should be informed.

ACTION: ?

5 Events

Since the last ordinary Meeting, the Club had put on a Taster event on 28 September at The King's Buildings as part of the University's Doors Open Day, with an estimated attendance of over 500 (mostly Juniors). The Local Event at Braidburn Valley on 5 October attracted 94 competitors. Then on 9 November, the SOA Score Champs at Vogrie saw approx. 200 participants on the day. Finally, a Local Event was staged at Colinton Dell on 7 December, with 99 folk taking part.

After the Score event, it was felt that the SOA's mapping of Age Classes to Courses might need reviewing.

The event programme for Spring 2025 had been drawn up. A Local Event would be held at Craigmillar Castle on 1 March, using the new map. Our SoSOL was planned for 6 April at Calderwood. The SOA Individual would be at Barry Buddon on 3 May, with Lorna as Organiser. Finally, in the Spring, a Local Event would take place on 7 June. Initially, this was to have been at Polkemmet but, after some thought, the venue was changed to Mortonhall.

A programme of Summer Sprintelopes had yet to be decided upon. However, when it was, efforts would be made to ensure that the Club had a fair chance of choosing dates, rather than have to settle for dates not taken up by ESOC or ELO as happened in 2024.

The Club would lead at Day 5 of the Scottish 6-Days, being held on Friday 1 August at Glen Dye. Colin Eades would be one of the Organisers, and Paul Caban one of the Controllers.

The CompassSport Trophy Final would be taking place at Redcar on 14 September.

The Club would be putting on SOL 4 at Gullane on 21 September.

An outline of the programme of Autumn events had also been drawn up. A Local Event at Braidburn Valley would take place on 4 October. It was noted that the JIRC would be held on the same weekend. It was hoped to put on a SOUL event on 9 November, probably in the Livingston area. Finally, a Local Event would be staged on 6 December, somewhere in Edinburgh.

6 Marketing

It was felt that the Club's Facebook page could be used to better effect.

7 Juniors

The Committee had agreed to award Laurence £50 to help towards his participation in JHI and JIRC.

It was noted that the content of the website relating to Juniors could be developed significantly.

ACTION: Katherine

8 Training

The on-line Stretching and Conditioning Exercises sessions had restarted in October.

There had been no progress as regards investigating FVO's sessions held on Monday evenings.

9 Development

Katherine felt that her efforts on Development were beginning to pay off. There was more content on social media, although the use of X (Twitter) had been declining. She recommended that there be more focus on Facebook and Instagram, and that the link to X be taken off the website. There had been a noticeable increase in interest as a result of putting up posters at the gates to Braidburn Park, for instance. This and other publicity efforts had been fruitful, and the Taster events held in the second half of the year had been very successful.

Katherine had published a Report on her activities since taking up the Development position, and had circulated it to the Committee.

She felt that the next stage of the process should be to investigate the availability of interaction with other bodies. For instance, ESOC could be approached to see how the two Clubs could work together.

Her Report should now be circulated around. She expressed her thanks to the SOA and to the Orienteering Foundation.

Another avenue to be explored could be to devise a procedure for welcoming new members.

10 Mapping

Ken Daly had drawn the Committee's attention to the announcement that a grant had been awarded to a local interest group to assist in a community buyout for a piece of woodland near Muirburn, Biggar, known as Broughtonknowe Woods. Ken felt that, with this announcement, more attention would be drawn to the area, and that, if the Club were interested in developing the area for orienteering, then we would need to move quickly. Max would reply.

ACTION: Max

There was a short discussion on how to map certain categories of object at Cragmillar Castle Woods. It was agreed that burnt-out cars, for instance, should not be mapped, whereas the planters should be.

11 Captain

Rob reported that the Club was 2nd to SROC in the CompassSport Trophy Final at Holcombe Moor on 20 October. It was noted that, in 2025, SROC would qualify as a Large Club.

The SOA Heat for the 2025 event would be taking place at Kinnoull Hill on 23 February. The Committee agreed that we should enter.

12 Newsletter

Katherine reported that this year's Christmas issue was imminent. Max would create the address labels.

13 Socials

The Carcas family had kindly offered to host a Christmas Party at their house on 20 December at 6pm.

14 A.O.B.

The date and venue for the next Committee Meeting would be chosen in due course by a Google Doodle Poll.

Katherine and William were thanked for their hospitality.

The Meeting closed at 10:00pm.

John Barrow - 14 Feb 2025

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

No.	Action Details	Assigned to
3/1	Purchase replacement equipment items	Paul
4/1	Inform Club membership of revisions to Safeguarding Policy	?
4/2	Update website to outline policy for supporting Juniors financially at representative events - ongoing	Robin
7/1	Update website pages relating to Junior matters	Katherine
10/1	Investigate possibility of mapping Broughtonknowe Woods	Max