

SOUTH WESTERN ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY: Arthur Vince, 3 Back Lane, East Coker, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 9JN.

Tel. 01935 863429. Email: arthur.vince@btinternet.com

Minutes of the Committee meeting held at 7.30pm on 20th
October 2010 at Ilchester Town Hall.

Those present

Officers: Arthur Vince, KERNO (Secretary).

Committee Members: Katy Dyer, BOK; Jeff Butt, SARUM; Erik Peckett, DEVON; Christine Vince, KERNO.

Club Representatives: BOK, Helen Kelsey; DEVON, John Dyson; QO, Bob Lloyd; WSX, Richard Arman.

1 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting

Agreed that the Secretary should chair the meeting. Christine Vince to take minutes.

2 Apologies for absence

Trevor Bridle, WIM (Treasurer & Membership Sec.); Peter Brett, DEVON (Committee); Neil Cameron (NGOC rep.); John Shucksmith, WIM (Fixtures Sec.); Celia Watkinson, BOK (RDO); Susan Hateley, DEVON (SINS Editor).

3 Approval of Minutes for 23rd June 2010

These were approved as correct.

4 Matters arising from those minutes

None.

5 Matters arising from the AGM

See Item 10 below.

6 Correspondence

6.1 Emily Benham had circulated a postcard thanking her sponsors, SWOA included. She was 11th in the 2010 World Cup MTBO series, British Champion and Wiltshire Sports Personality of the Year.

6.2 Thank-you letter from Alice Butt re SWOA sponsorship [see Item 7.3], plus a report.

6.3 Letter from John Burrows, NAC, suggesting that two and a half weeks' notice of the BOF Roadshow, as given in SINS, was too short. John is not on email and presumably had not received earlier notices sent out from BOF Office. The Secretary had replied suggesting that John takes up the issue of communication between BOF and NAC with Laura Martin, the BOF Executive Officer.

7 Finance and Membership

The SWOA accounts for 1.8.2008 to 20.10.2010 are attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

7.1 Income and expenditure to date:

Significant items paid; English Orienteering Council levy £540; one SINS £382; new Gallopen Trophies £370; Gallopen expenses £344.06. Balance £10,301.51 but with £5250 of JK surplus money to be distributed to

clubs. Membership money due to roll in at the turn of the year.

7.2 SW Junior Squad finances:

The balance stood at £1390.73. Donations received: £30 from Charles Daniel; £100 from Peter Clothier.

7.3 Grants to Individuals:

For Junior European Cup: £50 each to Alice and Lucy Butt; £37.50 to Alice Butt for Senior Home International.

7.4 SWOA Event Levy for 2011:

Following a change to the Constitution at the AGM, the authority to fix the event levy resides with the Committee. The Treasurer had circulated a proposal as follows:

Three juniors to count as one senior; no charge for the first 30 (e.g. 20 seniors and 30 juniors); the rate thereafter to be 30p (an event with 50 seniors would pay 20 x 30p = £6.00). Over the full year this was projected to raise approximately an additional £350.

This proposal was agreed nem con.

7.5 Distribution of JK Money

Total payment to SWOA £7136.33 – a small increase on the £7000 already received. [This equals one third of the surplus, the rest goes to BOF.] This to be disbursed 25% to SWOA and the balance to clubs according to the method agreed at the February SWOA meeting. Christine Vince (JK Assistant Coordinator) had worked out the payments due; a table of them is attached as Appendix 2.

8 Fixtures

8.1 The Fixtures Secretary John Shucksmith had been due to attend the BOF Fixtures Group meeting on 16th October.

8.2 Controller for BOK Gallopen on 21st November. BOK were proposing Mike Farrington, an experienced Grade 3 from WMOA. As this is a Level 2 event the appointment requires SWOA approval under BOF Rules, Appendix C. This was given.

8.3 Discussion on the four tier event structure due to start in January 2010. [Ref. the draft document circulated by BOF.] Thought that level C (A is the top level) would correspond to Gallopen events. Probable that events such as the BOK Trot would fall in Level B (one down from JK and British Champs.) How the structure will be put into practice is still being decided at national level.

9 SWOA Website

With the agreement of Chris Derrick, the current website manager, the Secretary had had placed an advertisement on the SWOA and on club websites for a volunteer to take on the site. He commented that this was more difficult with some clubs than others. Three expressions of interest had been received and those replying been sent a preliminary specification of what is required. One person subsequently withdrew their offer. The intention is to design and build a new site rather than have someone take on the existing one. The new manager would run the site but its content would be provided by various SWOA officials, with the Secretary as overall editor responsible.

The offers on the table:

1 From Scott Collier of KERNO, who had considerable website experience from his university experience, although he is not a website professional. He estimated the running costs to be about £20/year. Scott is currently at the University of Guildford.

2 From Nath Fernandes of QO, who runs the QO website and designed and managed the JK 2010 site. He operates professionally as VEU Design – the JK site was a commercial undertaking – and is currently a student on a business course at the University of the West of England. Costs from VEU Design: design and build £5/hour (discount for SWOA, normally £10); server connection £5/month; £5/month for updating the site; £5.90 for two years for a .co.uk extension.

VEU Design is known to be competent and importantly, has a very fast response time for updates. The point was made that, by paying a professional, more control could be exercised. Decided after discussion to give Nath Fernandes of VEU Design the job. The Secretary to be mindful of the cost of design and build, which could not be open-ended.

10 Electronic Distribution of SINS

It had become apparent at the AGM that some clubs were getting an electronic copy of SINS to distribute by email to members who had opted to receive it that way, rather than have a printed copy. [NWO no printed copies sent, NGOC only 20 sent, DEVON 90% of club newsletters on email.] Printing fewer than the present 700 would save money – in distribution costs as well as the print bill: e.g. 24 pages, money saved £82.50 for 500 copies printed, £161.24 for 300; 28 pages, savings of 90.50 for 500, £177.26 for 300; this for one issue. It would also speed up delivery for those opting for email. Agreed that this option be offered to all clubs with the proviso that those members who wanted to receive a printed copy must be able to continue to do so. Secretary to write to clubs.

11 Controllers

Applications for appointment:

11.1 Grade 1, Mark Dyer of BOK:

Mark had fulfilled the requirements to become Grade 1. The committee endorsed his application, which would be considered by BOF Rules Group – the appointing

authority – at their meeting on 23rd October. [Post meeting note: Mark's application was approved by Rules Group.]

11.2 Grade 3, Mike Cullen of Devon OC:

Mike's application had been rejected at the October 2009 meeting on the grounds of his organising experience and the fact that it was received before one of the events listed on it (Caddihoe Chase 2009, as planner) had taken place. He had now organised a Devon League event; the application was in order and therefore approved.

12 Report from BOF Coaching Committee

Christine Vince had attended the meeting on 9th October, and took the meeting through her report, which is attached as Appendix 3 to these minutes.

13 Report from BOF Development Committee

Scott Collier's report from the meeting on 25th September is attached as Appendix 4 to these minutes.

14 Report from BOF Senior Competitions Group

Scott Collier's report from the 10th July meeting is attached as Appendix 5 to these minutes.

15 SW Junior Squad report

From Jeff Butt, the Squad Manager: Two training weekends held this season.

Some SARUM juniors are Level 1 coaches, which could help to keep 20 year-olds in the sport. More 14 year-olds coming on – at present they are in short supply.

Three visiting Bath for lab testing as part of SW Talent Squad. Bristol area activity by Pete Maliphant (admin.) and David Hanstock (athletics coaching).

November: December: Mendip area training & cross-country race:

February: Penhale training camp; April: BOC Sprint and Middle Champs; June: Junior Inter-Regional Champs in Lake District.

16 SWOA Development Plan

Christine Vince said that the BOF Development Committee had various changes in mind (as per her report in para. 12). Therefore she was waiting until things became clearer before setting any more objectives.

Noted that the document "What SWOA Does" had been updated by the Secretary and distributed to clubs.

17 AOB and Matters raised by Club Representatives

17.1 New agreement between BOF and Forestry Commission:

Not known if the agreement had been signed yet. Some FC offices thought that the agreement had been signed when it had not. The steep increase in charges with no relief for juniors is a result of commercial pressure on the FC. Clubs advised to get a better agreement locally if possible; event agreements already entered into at the old rates should stand. Noted that private landowners likely

to be as commercially minded as the FC now is. It was suggested that you write to your MP to object to the proposed new charges.

17.2 SW Long Distance Championships awards:

This competition was held in conjunction with Day 1 of the Caddihoe Chase. The award of winners certificates had sometimes been bizarre (e.g. M55S to an M70, and W65 to a person who was beaten by other W65s). The Secretary had been in contact with the organiser, Ian Sayer of WSX, who had agreed that a revision of the list of champions was required, and that a clear set of rules was needed. A revised list agreed by both would be produced and published in SINS, with an explanatory paragraph. Secretary to draft a generic set of rules for Long, Middle, and Sprint distance SW Championships, for approval at the December meeting.

18 Next Meeting

Wednesday 8th December at Ilchester Town Hall.

These minutes are subject to formal approval at the next SWOA Committee meeting.

APPENDICES TO MINUTES

- 1 SWOA accounts 1.8.2009 to 20.10.2010.
- 2 Distribution of JK 2010 surplus to clubs.
- 3 Report from BOF Coaching Committee by Christine Vince.
- 4 Report from BOF Development Committee by Scott Collier.
- 5 Report from BOF Senior Competitions Group by Scott Collier.
- 6 Picture of new Gallophen trophies.