

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 8th
December 2010 at Ilchester Town Hall.

Those present

Officers: Arthur Vince, KERNO (Secretary); Trevor Bridle, WIM (Treasurer & Membership Sec.); John Shucksmith, WIM (Fixtures Sec.).

Committee Members: Peter Brett, DEVON; Christine Vince, KERNO.

Club Representatives: BOK, Helen Kelsey; DEVON, Alan Simpson; QO, Richard Sansbury; WSX, Richard Arman.

1 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting

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

2 Apologies for absence

Jeff Butt, SARUM; Neil Cameron (NGOC rep.); Katy Dyer, BOK; Susan Hateley, DEVON (SINS Editor); Erik Peckett, DEVON; Celia Watkinson, BOK (RDO).

3 Approval of Minutes for 20th October 2010

These were approved as a correct record.

4 Matters arising from those minutes

4.1 From Item 9, new website:

Address: www.sworienteeringassociation.co.uk

It was expected that the site would go live within two weeks.

4.2 From Item 10, electronic SINS:

The electronic copy of SINS is now in A4 portrait format. A copy will be put on the new website.

4.3 From Item 17.1, BOF/FC agreement:

BOF Office had circulated a letter signed by Mike Hamilton (BOF CEO) and the FC Recreation & Public Affairs Manager. The old agreement and charges will apply to the end of 2010. Events BOOKED before the end of the year will be charged at the old rates. It was hoped to implement a new national agreement at the beginning of 2011. Peter Brett, a former FC manager, commented that a better service should be provided if charges were to increase.

4.4 From Item 17.2, Long Distance SW Champs:

A revised list agreed by the SWOA Secretary and Ian Sayer, the event organiser, had been published in SINS.

5 Correspondence

5.1 The Secretary had written to clubs about the appointment of controllers for Galoppens, due to some confusion about the appointment of controllers for Level 2 events.(see also Item 7.2).

6 Finance and Membership

The SWOA and SWJS accounts for 1.8.2008 to 8.12.2010 are attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

6.1 Income and expenditure to date:

The balance stood at £5463.22. The surplus of expenditure over income will be reduced as membership fees come in. Memberships renewed by direct debit are not yet listed. A spreadsheet for levies and participation numbers has been sent to club treasurers. The monies due from the JK have been paid to clubs.

6.2 SW Junior Squad finances:

The balance stood at £1859.19. The £2000 for the squad in the 2010/11 SWOA budget may not all be needed.

7 Fixtures

7.1 The Fixtures Secretary had attended the BOF Fixtures Group meeting on 16th October. No minutes available yet.

7.2 Four Tier Event Structure in 2011

[Ref. draft Guideline A, which gives quality standards for events.].

The list of Level B events agreed for SWOA had been circulated to clubs. These are: 16 Jan CS Cup Round, Longleat, SARUM; 6 Feb Winter Warmer, Avon Water, WIM; 20 March SARUM Saunter, Hamptworth; 2 April SW Middle Champs. at Stock Hill, BOK; 3 April Mike Nelson BOKTrot at Stourhead; 16/17 Caddihoe Chase Days 1 and 2, DEVON; 9 October Dorset Delight, WSX.

Further information is required for the Caddihoe, SARUM Saunter and Dorset Delight before Level B status can be confirmed. No bids for Level B for 2012 had been received.

Galoppen events will fit into Level C.

7.3 Risk assessments

The Draft Guideline A requires: “ *risk assessments to be completed and checked by a qualified person. (In the short term this will normally be a Controller or Coach; during 2011/12 there will be safety workshops to provide training and accreditation.)*”

Richard Sansbury raised the point that level D events will not require a qualified controller. The meeting took the view that the assessment checker could be a suitably experienced person, such as the mentor for an inexperienced organiser. In due course it is expected that all event officials will have the appropriate training; an instant change cannot be achieved.

7.4 SW Championships 2011

Classic (Long Distance): Day 1 of the Caddihoe Chase, Burrator, 18th September, Devon OC.

Middle: Stock Hill, 2nd April, BOK.

Sprint: Poundbury, Dorchester, 2nd October, WIM (to be confirmed).

7.5 Junior Inter-Regional Champs. 2013

The Fixtures Sec. had asked Jeff Butt (SWJS Manager) and Chris Branford (WIM) to sort out options.

7.6 Senior Home International 2014 (SHI)

An email from John Rye (English Orienteering Council) to the Fixtures Sec. had suggested using Penhale. However this is the area for the 2013 Southern Champs, so its use could be seen as unfair to those not living in the south of the UK. Fixtures Sec. to circulate clubs for offers. The Forest of Dean was suggested. November is the preferred month, rather than September (usual month for the Caddihoe Chase) and the event has to be agreed with BOF Fixtures Group.

8 Rules for SW Championship events

The Secretary had circulated a draft set of rules. Comments had been received as follows:

From BOK: Rule 5: awards should also be made to winners of junior B classes and to Short classes.

From Gavin Clegg (WSX): Rule 6: An example, if M50 and M55 run the same course and an M55 is fastest, then they should get the M50 prize as the 'best' available. [An M55 qualifies as M50 by BOF Rules.]

The M55 prize would then go to the second fastest M55.

From Dale Paget (WSX): Rule 5: no awards for B and Short classes; Rule 6: Gavin's idea a possibility; no veteran trophies for juniors; no veterans getting an award for a short course belonging to a younger age group.

Discussion produced the following decisions:

Rule 2: Events should be Level B or C events. The long distance championship shall normally be Level B.

Rule 5: No change.

Rule 6: Change: "must enter the class that they wish to be competitive in" to "must enter the age class that they wish to be competitive in".

Rule 7: Add: The organising club may choose to give certificates to B and Short class winners but these will not be Championship certificates.

The agreed set of rules is attached to these minutes.

[Post meeting note by Secretary: If the Caddihoe Chase is a SW Championship event, then Rule 6 must apply to it to avoid confusion.]

9 Controllers

9.1 Grade 3: Julie Astin had been removed from the list as she was no longer a BOF member, only a WSX Club Only member. There is a possibility of her returning to controlling when she returns to live in the UK in 2011.

10 Report from BOF Coaching Committee

Christine Vince had attended the meeting on 13th November, and took the meeting through her report, which is attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

11 Report from BOF Rules Group

Arthur Vince had attended the meeting on 23rd October. He reported that the Rules and Guidelines were being revised to match the four level event structure, and should be published for 2011 after approval by the BOF Board of Directors. The grades for controllers would be Grade A (at present 1), B (2) and C (3) to match the new event levels. It was intended to send a paper booklet of the 2011 Rules to all controllers. This would not include Guidelines and Appendices, which are subject to more frequent change.

12 SW Junior Squad report

No report available. There will be a squad training weekend on 11/12th December, with training at Stock Hill on the Saturday and a county cross-country championship for some on the Sunday.

13 SWOA Development Plan

The SWOA Development Plan is now at Version 9, dated 8th December 2010. Christine Vince said that, whilst looking at club websites, she had become aware that club contact lists were often neither inclusive nor up-to-date and that she would be encouraging clubs to remedy this.

14 AOB and Matters raised by Club Representatives

14.1 UK Masters Cup

Details of this had been announced on the BOF website. The competition is for M/W35s and older based on a subset of level A and some level B events. 2011 will be a trial year. Scott Collier [SWOA rep. on Senior Competitions Group] had managed to get the Caddihoe Chase into the programme, and thanks those SWOA members who provided feedback on the original proposal.

14.2 Galoppen

David and Jan Holmes had commented to the Secretary that they felt the competition was "tired and out of date, and desperately needs some new ideas and drive to move it forward. If somebody has time to administer a new scoring system, that would be a good time for us to stand down. Perhaps the [SWOA] committee might want to look into this."

No pertinent comments from the meeting, but see the following item.

14.3 Proposed Olympic Series 2011/2012

The recent SINS [263] had carried an article by Ben Maliphant of BOK suggesting that in 2011/2012 the Galoppen series be replaced by an "Olympic Series". He had asked the Secretary to raise this idea with the Committee. Summary of Ben's article:

10 events across the SW covering Classic, Middle, Urban and Sprint races. Classes: Youth Olympics M/W16-, Olympics M/W21-35, Masters M/W40-55, Veterans M/W60+. Points awarded on percentage behind the winner. Best 8 to count, with double points for the final, at which prizes could be awarded. Only the best areas to be used, with no other leagues at the same event.

The consensus was that the idea is a good one. However nobody picked up the challenge of putting it into practice. Various comments were made about possible problems setting up the series, as follows:

There would need to be stand-alone events because of the age class groupings.

M/W 18s and 20s were not mentioned.

The possibility of courses being overwhelmed by numbers.

Limited terrain is available.

There would be collision with Galoppens due to the total number of events; rejigging the event calendar is difficult. [Secretary to send Ben the fixtures planning sheet.]

Travelling could discourage people, so could the number of events to count.

Secretary to write to Ben telling him the committee's views.

15 Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th February 2011, 7.30pm, 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 Report from BOF Coaching Committee by Christine Vince.

Attached:

Rules for SW Championships.

SWOA Development Plan Version 9.