

SOUTH WESTERN ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of the Committee meeting held at 7.30pm on 9th
February 2011 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; Katy Dyer, BOK; Erik Peckett, DEVON; Christine Vince, KERNO.

Club Representatives: BOK, Helen Kelsey; DEVON, John Dyson; NGOC, Neil Cameron; WSX, Richard Arman.

Visitors: Edward Nicholas, British Orienteering Development Manager; Scott Collier, KERNO, SWOA rep. to BOF Development Committee and Senior Competitions Group; Alan Simpson, Devon OC Development Officer.

1 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting

Agreed that Christine Vince should chair the meeting.

JK ORGANISER'S TROPHY

Before the business of the meeting Erik Peckett presented this trophy to Christine Vince. He had received it as coordinator of JK 2010; in recognition of Christine's work as his assistant, her name had been added to it as well.

2 Apologies for absence

Susan Hateley, DEVON (SINS Editor); Celia Watkinson, BOK (RDO).

3 Approval of Minutes for 8th December 2010

These were approved with this correction to para 7.2: The date of the Caddihoe Chase will be 17/18th September.

4 Matters arising from those minutes

4.1 From Item 4.1, new website: This went live on 24th December at www.sworienteeringassociation.co.uk. Design and setup costs £120.90, ongoing charges £10/month paid by standing order. Very rapid response time for changes and additions. Comments of approval of new site made.

4.2 From Item 4.2, electronic SINS:

It was asked if the number of printed SINS was reduced because of its electronic availability.

[Post-meeting information: no. of copies last November 700, cost £382; 600 copies in January, cost £309.]

See also AOB, Item 17.4.

4.3 From Item 14.3, Proposed Olympic Series:

No further news. Helen Kelsey reported that it had been discussed at a recent BOK committee meeting, but she was not present.

5 Correspondence

5.1 Email from Gavin Clegg of WSX thanking SWOA for a grant towards his Interland expenses.

5.2 Status of NAC: The Secretary had written to John Burrows asking if he intended to affiliate NAC as a club to BOF in 2011, as it was apparent that NAC – with one member – would have difficulty fulfilling the requirements for clubs agreed at the last BOF AGM, and also asking what NAC abbreviated. John had replied saying yes; but gave no indication of what NAC stood for, if anything. The Secretary had emailed Mike Hamilton [BOF CEO] to investigate the situation. Mike had written to John and was waiting for a reply. NAC has been taken off the club list on the SWOA website.

6 Finance and Membership

The SWOA and SWJS accounts for 1.8.2008 to 9.2.2010 are attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes. Grants given this year are listed after the SWJS accounts.

6.1 Income and expenditure to date:

SWOA funds stand at £7163.90, with membership fees of £3671 due from BOF. Levy income is on target, with no levies for events before 31st December outstanding due to the Treasurer's persistence in getting them paid.

6.2 SW Junior Squad finances:

The balance stood at £1815.7. The £2000 allocated for the squad in the 2010/11 SWOA budget may not be needed.

Noted that the income for training sessions since last September and the December weekend had yet to be paid in, and that money was still owed. Jeff Butt, the Squad manager, was dealing with this.

6.3 Grants for competitions have been given to:

Harry Butt, SARUM, £300 for the World Schools Champs; Gavin Clegg, WSX, £28.33 for Interland; Michael Hallett, BOK, £42.50 for Interland.

7 Fixtures

7.1 The statement that: "No bids for Level B for 2012 had been received." in para. 7.2 of the previous minutes was incorrect. Level B events will be decided at the BOF Fixtures Group meeting on March 26th, which the Fixtures Sec. will be attending.

7.2 Approval of terrain for Level B and C events:

The initial registration of an event can only be at Level D. It can be raised to C by the regional association, and

B by Fixtures Group. The latter will use the event controller's assessment of the area to make a decision. For proposed SWOA Level C events the responsibility is delegated to the Fixtures Sec. who will take advice if he is not currently familiar with an area.

7.3 Senior Home International [SHI] 2014:

Two bids had been received: from BOK for New Beechenhurst, Forest of Dean, and WIM&WSX for the Bovington area. Agreed that the Forest of Dean was the better option and more attractive for logistics. There appears to be no intractable problem in having the Individual and Relay events at the same time as a Caddihoe Chase in September; comparatively small numbers of competitors are involved and they can use early starts.

7.4 Junior Inter-Regional Champs. 2013:

Bovington appears suitable for these; a large area is not required.

7.5 Caddihoe Chase (Level B):

Alan Simpson, the organiser, wanted to use start blocks instead of allocated start times for Day 1. Allocated times are required for Level B events [ref. Guideline A: Overview of Event Structure]; the Secretary would ascertain who had the authority to vary this.

Post meeting note: the requirements of the Guideline can be varied with the permission of the event controller and BOF Rules Group [ref. Rules 2011, 1.3.8].

Alan reported that the event was "on course".

8 Controllers

8.1 New qualification criteria:

Updated criteria for being appointed to a Grade and remaining in it are given in Appendix A to the BOF Rules, version 3.0 effective January 2011. Amongst other changes, those applying for Grade 3 and for an upgrade must have completed an Event Safety course.

8.2 Appointments and applications:

Martin Cross of WIM has been added to the Grade C list, having been a controller in WMOA.

Mike Kite of WIM had applied for Grade C; he fulfilled the requirements except for attending an Event Safety Course, which would be on 19th March.

An application from Chris Branford of WIM for Grade B is imminent.

8.3 Retirements:

Jan Belza of SARUM is retiring from Grade B to concentrate on planning and mapping.

8.4 Audit of controllers list:

Helen Errington [BOF Events Manager] is conducting an audit of the national list – which is known to be out of date – delegating it to the regional reps. on Rules Group. The SWOA list will be covered by the Secretary, who was currently looking at level B controllers.

9 Orienteering 2050 Conference, February 26th in Taunton:

Details of this had been sent to clubs and published in SINS and on the SWOA website. Erik Peckett, the organiser, reported that he had four bookings so far.

Noted that this clashed with the SW Junior Squad training weekend at Penhale at half-term (see Item 10), of which Erik had been unaware. The idea was suggested, but rejected, that the conference be combined with that weekend. The Treasurer had agreed to finance the conference, but it was noted that Erik had initially set it up without an agreement on funding.

10 SW Junior Squad report

No report sent. There will be a squad training weekend on 25/26/27th February using Perranporth Youth Hostel, with training on Penhale on two days, then Wheal Florence.

11 Report from BOF Rules Group

Arthur Vince had attended the meeting on 29th January. He reported that:

Helen Errington (BOF Events Manager) is preparing a plan for the Board for reviewing the process, cycle and structure of event documentation (currently Rules, Appendices & Guidelines).

Proposed publication of printed Rules cancelled.

Middle Distance Guideline being revised to include more courses for older veterans.

Guideline B – course tables due to be revised.

JK – future structure being considered; possibility of it becoming a company like the Scottish 6-Day.

A list of registered organisers (info. taken off Fixtures database) to be sent to clubs for checking.

Noted that maps in Start lanes are not mandatory.

Night orienteering – a generic guideline is to be written.

Recognised that information on voiding courses would be better with the information on juries (Appendix G) than in Appendix I (Electronic Punching).

Noted that better guidance about road crossings was required – a risk assessment issue.

11A Report from BOF Senior Competitions Group

Scott Collier read his report from the meeting on 8th January, which is attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes.

12 Report from BOF Development Committee

Scott Collier read his report from the meeting on 29th January, which is attached as Appendix 3 to these minutes.

13 Director-Region Liaison & News from Board

Neil Cameron, as a Director of British Orienteering, spoke about his liaison role with SWOA, which is to keep good two-way communication between the Board and the region.

Appendix 4 gives a summary of the topics covered.

14 British Orienteering Development Programme

Edward (Ed) Nicholas spoke and answered questions on the BOF Development Programme. Appendix 5 gives a summary. See also Scott Collier's report on the recent BOF Development Committee meeting in Appendix 3.

15 SWOA Development Plan

Christine Vince said that the SWOA plan needed to be revised in the light of the updated BOF plan..

16 Coaching Report

Christine Vince would like to see more information on Community-O, club coaching and junior activities in club newsletters and websites, and would be pursuing this.

Alan Simpson thought highly of the recent BOF Coaching Conference which he had attended.

A UKCC Level 1 course had been held on 5/6th February at Bristol (8 attendees, 5 from SWOA) and a Level 2 course would be held at Soudley (Forest of Dean) on 12/13th February (8 attendees, 4 from SW).

17 AOB and Matters raised by Club Representatives

17.1 The document "What SWOA Does" had been updated to Issue 3 by the Secretary to reflect the new SWOA website and changes in controllers' titles. Available on SWOA website.

17.2 Event Safety: Clubs were reminded about the course to be held on 19th March in Ilchester.

17.3 Proposed Government sell-off of forests:

Erik Peckett was concerned that "there would be nowhere to orienteer soon" and suggested writing to one's MP. Peter Brett reported that he was working with BOF on the consultation process with DEFRA and the FC; the 3-month consultation period was due to end at Easter. He advised looking at the information on the FC and DEFRA websites before making comments to him. There is an online petition for objectors to the sell-off at www.38degrees.org.uk.

[Post meeting note: 17th February:- The Government announces that plans to sell the public forest estate have been abandoned and the consultation stopped.]

17.4 Printed Fixtures Lists:

Susan Hateley (SINS Editor) had suggested to the Secretary that a separate printed fixtures list (as was done in NWOA) be produced, being easier to access than the online version. It was not clear if she proposed a list additional to the printed SINS. A discussion aired the following views:

Some liked the convenience of a printed list.

A printed list is already available within SINS.

It is possible to print off the list from the SINS electronic file, together with a location map.

Printed lists inevitably get out of date.

No conclusions reached..

18 Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th April 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 9.2.2011.
- 2 Report from BOF Senior Competitions Group.
- 3 Report from BOF Development Committee.
4. Summary of presentation and discussion on Director-Region liaison.
- 5 Summary of presentation and discussion on BOF Development Programme.