

# Minutes of SWOA Committee meeting 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Taunton

## Present

Christine Vince KERNO (chairman), Helen Kelsey BOK (secretary), Katy Dyer BOK (cttee), Dick Keighley WIM (cttee), Erik Peckett DEVON (cttee), Richard Sansbury QO (Fixtures Secretary), Arthur Vince KERNO, Alan Honey BOK, Tom McMurtrie Devon, Karen Lewis QO

### 1. Apologies

Nicholas Maxwell DEVON (cttee), Mark Lockett KERNO (treasurer), Pete Maliphant BOK SWJOS

### 2. Minutes of meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be an accurate record.

### 3. Matters arising from minutes

DK reported that whilst relations with Natural England were good, there were still issues with the National Trust, whose default response to requests was always negative despite other events going on without permission.

4.2 ML has circulated a list of all grants so far this year.

Putting link to grant request form on website: **It was agreed that this should be done, but later discussion about grant requests require form to be amended slightly first.**

5.2 British Sprint and Middle Championship, balance sheet:

AH said that, where a donation to charity was involved (in lieu of a fee being paid to the farmer to use their land), he would have preferred it if the permissions officer for the club whose area was being used could be involved in the discussion.

It was also noted that the Forestry Commission had been given the wrong information about the level of the event; this will need to be clarified so their fees will go up from £600 to £1500. **Action: AH to ask Liz Yeadon to contact FC with correct level of event.**

5.4 It was agreed to postpone further discussion about promotion of the SW Regional League until next meeting, but to go ahead with printing 1000 A6 cards to distribute and electronic version to be sent to club secretaries for distribution to club members. **Action: HK to investigate costs and production and to liaise with RS about those events not yet finalised.**

5.5 Response from clubs has indicated that changing the SW Sprint Championships from Age Classes to Urban Age Categories is generally supported, and the committee approved by a show of hands. This will now be changed in the Championship rules.

AOB: Peter Hart responded to a query concerning BOF public liability insurance for non-members. *See Appendix 1.*  
**Action: HK to pass this on to all SWOA clubs and to investigate whether Fabian4 and SiEntries can provide some sort of warning to those entering events as Independent.**

### 4. Finance

4.1 Treasurer and Membership secretary's report. See Appendix 2. Please note that Mark Lockett wishes to stand down after seven years' service. **Action: CV to find a new Treasurer.**

4.2 Grants. Junior selection for tours has only just been made public. Some of these had already applied for grants.

£500 agreed for Flurry Grierson

£190 agreed for Guy Owen

£150 agreed for Tom Perry

Much discussion over the application from Eddie Narbett as he is no longer a member of a SWOA club and therefore does not qualify for a tour grant. However, he has been helping recently with SWJS training and not rejoining BOK as his second club may just have been an oversight. As he is listed on the BOF database as being SOA (club EUOC) it was agreed that CV would check whether he has applied to SOA for a grant as well. CV also to check what the athlete contribution is for his tours. **Action: CV**

SWOA usually grants 50% of the athlete cost (not travel) but in some of the applications it was not clear how the cost was divided. **Action: HK to look at the grant request form to see whether it can be re-worded in order to give exactly the information required.**

Other juniors are known to have been selected so the committee expects further grant requests.

Senior Grants: Dick Keighley and Tom Dobra have both been selected for the World TrailO Championships and have requested grants. (DK left the room at this point.)

£280 agreed for Dick Keighley

£280 agreed for Tom Dobra

4.3 Expenses. Main SWOA expense is tour grants. As the region is fortunate enough to have many promising juniors, requests for grants are increasing in both quantity and amount. CV proposed that in order to balance our finances it may be time to increase the SWOA levy. There was much discussion both in favour of this and in favour of the alternative, which is to reduce expenditure. Due to length of the agenda it was agreed that this discussion needed to carry over to the next meeting and be a major agenda item.

## 5. Fixtures

5.1 Fixtures secretary's report. *See Appendix 3.*

RS reported that National events are agreed 18 months in advance. The SWOA policy for Regional events: priority is given to SW Regional League events, other requests for regional events will be granted unless there is a clash with a Major or National event in SWOA or a neighbouring region.

TM asked that the Yvette Baker could be agreed 18 months in advance to give clubs time to prepare their juniors for it. RS suggested that 12 months ahead would be more feasible.

5.2 SW Long Distance Championships (Day 1 of Caddihoe Chase). DEVON had queried whether it was necessary to run a white course, to which the area does not lend itself. It was agreed that, if the area was not appropriate, the Championships would not be affected by the lack of a white course (only used by 10B) and the decision should be made by planner and controller in the light of the restrictions of the area. **Action: CV to inform the organiser, Nicholas Maxwell.**

5.3 SW Rules for Chairman's Relay Series. It was agreed that the rules on the SWOA website lack some information and need updating. **Action HK to liaise with CV in order to get the website updated.**

5.3.1 South West Sprint Championships - posting of two race results on BOF database.

– two separate races need to be registered with BOF (second one can be registered after the closing date to avoid anyone trying to enter just one of the two events). BOF may ask for two lots of levies, but when told that it is a sprint race that should be amended. **Action AH to provide a possible wording for rules posted on website. HK to arrange posting on SWOA website.**

5.4 Level B events (National) – why are they important? *For report see Appendix 4a.*

5.4.1 SW Championships – how can we improve? *For comments on fixtures from DEVON see Appendix 4b.* It was agreed that the SW Championships would be better attended if they are National events, preferably with UKOL status and also part of a weekend of events. (Both offers for the SW Middle Championships for next year are part of 2 day events)

5.5 SWOA Approval of event officials. The requirement making Regional Associations responsible for appointing officials at National events has reappeared in Appendix C to the BOF Rules (pages 80 to 83). Therefore any

officials selected from now on for National events should be considered by the SWOA committee before being appointed. However, there was much discussion about what constituted a National level organiser and exactly what the criteria are. **Action: CV to write to BOF (Chris Phillips, chairman Events and Competitions Committee) to ask for some clarification on this.** RS pointed out that there will be 11 National events in our region in the coming year.

5.6 JK2021. For report see Appendix 5.

## 6. SW Junior Squad

For report see Appendix 6.

Subsequent to the report, JROS tour selections were made public. A very pleasing number of our juniors are being selected and it was agreed that all who are involved in the running of the SWJOS should be congratulated and thanked for their hard work. **Action: HK to write to Pete Maliphant and Jeff Butt conveying the committee's appreciation of what they do.**

## 7. Volunteers

7.1 Recent training courses.

7.1.1 Level B organiser's course run by DEVON : 8 attended; 4 from DEVON, 4 from QO with very varied experience of organising. Main points: Delegate; Communicate; Keep it simple; The devil is in the detail.

7.2 Training courses arranged:

First Aid Courses (BOK) – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July in Winscombe, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August in Bristol

Planner's Level B/C course (BOK) – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at Henbury Village Hall

Introductory Organiser's course (QO) run by Alan Simpson (date and venue tbc)

Event Safety Workshop (QO) run by Dick Keighley (date and venue tbc)

Level C Controller's course (DEVON) – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October (venue tbc)

**Action: HK to inform all clubs in SWOA and arrange for information to be put onto website.**

## 8. Coaching

BOK has run an adult beginner's course "Track to Terrain" during April and May, attended by 22 people, which resulted in 10 new members for BOK, several of whom have already become involved in volunteering to help at events.

DEVON ran a similar course earlier in the year (on Saturdays) resulting in 3 new members for the club.

## 9. Other SWOA business

CV reported that Peter Hart has informed Nath Fernandes about a charity which funds activities in the outdoors and may be suitable for other projects within the region <https://outdoorsforall.org.uk/> . They provide grants from £500 and, whilst there's no maximum, anything over £5000 isn't going to pass. Policy info at: <https://outdoorsforall.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Funding-Policy.pdf>

CV said that there was an opportunity to train up more volunteers to run their club's IT using SI-Timing (event timing from SPORTident). AutoDownload was replaced in 2016 by SI-Timing and, whilst it is still supported by SPORTident, it will not have any more upgrades. SWOA will support courses run by clubs (provided they are open to all SW members). **Action: CV to find out how much interest there might be from the clubs.**

Post meeting note: the chairman realised that Acknowledgements had been missed off the agenda. The chairman will write to the chairmen of the following clubs with thanks for hosting these events: DEVON for the SW Sprint and the SW Middle distance Championships (2<sup>nd</sup> June and 19<sup>th</sup> May; BOK for the Avon Schools Championships (28<sup>th</sup> April); NWO for the Yvette Baker qualifier (7<sup>th</sup> April); QO for the CompassSport heat (17<sup>th</sup> March).

## 10. Any other Business

KD reported that there will be a wheelchair course at the Swindon Urban race on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

DK reported that there is a New Forest agreement between the Forestry Commission and O-clubs about how many events at each level can be run in the New Forest each year. Currently not all of these are spoken for and SOC would be happy for neighbouring clubs who are having difficulty finding areas to “borrow” some of the New Forest areas.

DK reported that WIM has opened a couple of POCs and the opening of the Nothe Park Course in Weymouth attracted 180 people (following on from the Beat the Street initiative) and, as each control has a QR code, anyone can download the map and record their result using the OrientO app – this also shows that there have been 100 runs recorded since the launch in April.

## 11. Date and venue of next meeting

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm; The Corner House Hotel, Taunton

Appendix 1: Response from Peter Hart concerning public liability insurance.



RE BOF insurance  
and the 3 event situ

Appendix 2: Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report.



**SWOA Accounts 5  
June 19.pdf**

Appendix 3: Fixtures Secretary’s report.



Fixtures Secretary's  
report

Appendix 4a: Discussion document about National level events.



Responses to  
National Level event

Appendix 4b: Comments on fixtures from DEVON.



Comments on  
fixtures from DEVON

Appendix 5: JK2021 report.



JK 2021 report June  
2019

Appendix 6: SWJOS report.



SWJOS report