SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY: Helen Kelsey: 07816367460 / 01278 723246

[kelseys4@btinternet.com](mailto:kelseys4@btinternet.com)

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 19th January 2021 8pm online using Zoom

PRESENT:

Christine Vince KERNO (chairman); Helen Kelsey BOK (secretary); Steve Robertson QO (treasurer); Richard Sansbury QO (fixtures); Pete Maliphant BOK (cttee and SWJOS); Dick Keighley WIM (cttee); Arthur Vince KERNO (cttee); Julie Astin WSX (cttee); Carol Iddles BOK; Phil Beale DEVON; Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Paul Taunton NGOC; Neil Fraser NWO; Kevin Pickering WIM;

1. Apologies.

Liz Yeadon SARUM; Jolyon Medlock WSX.

1. Chairman’s update.

BOF has offered to cover all the unrecoverable costs already incurred by SWOA for JK2021, except 50% of the mapping costs, which amount to £1182. This was considered a very generous contribution by BOF (more than was in the partnership agreement signed at the outset). The committee unanimously agreed to pay the £1182 of the mapping costs.

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting.

Minutes of the meeting on 24th November 2020 were agreed.

1. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

Item 4: keeping SWOA members informed: no progress had been made with the possible different methods of communicating with the membership. SR suggested that we could start by just passing on to club secretaries information about anything discussed at the SWOA meetings to be passed on to the club members. There was some discussion about communicating with club members in general, from printed newsletters, emails and use of website. It was agreed that each of the club reps should take the relevant information from the meeting and pass on to the rest of their club members and that an item after AOB would be a decision about what that information should be.

Item 9. Orienteering under COVID guidelines conference – a planning meeting had gone ahead in December, but in the light of January’s lockdown and therefore absence of any orienteering events until at the earliest late February, it had been decided to postpone the conference, bearing in mind that if the lifting of restrictions was less staggered in the spring and summer, due to vaccination programme, such a conference may not be appropriate at all.

Item 6: discussion about zoom account – it was agreed that as an account can run for one month, SWOA could upgrade as and when it became necessary.

1. Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report. *See Appendices 1 and 2*

SR reported on the drop in renewals this year compared with last year: There are 525 SWOA membership units (Seniors 331, Families 165, Juniors 29) compared with 674 at the same date in 2020 (Seniors 417, Families 194, Juniors 63) – 22% lower. Full Year membership in 2020 (October 31st) was 863 units (Seniors 541, Families 239, Juniors 83).

It was noted that membership usually increases just before a national event (or any event which requires BOF membership) so the cancelling of events has probably influenced this.

Very little to report on finances: some event levies, payment for upkeep of website, no grant requests.

1. Fixtures report.
   1. Major events

6.1.1 British Night Champs – officially postponed, now hoping for 27th Nov and combining with a BOK event at Cannop Ponds on 28th.

6.1.2 Yvette Baker Final - BOK 4th July Westonbirt; SW heat WSX 11th April – no permission for either as yet.

6.1.3 British Long Distance and Relay championships – postponed to next year. Proposal to bring BOK/DEVON collaboration forward to this Autumn to have a British Long Distance Championship this year, possibly 2/3rd October, possibly two long distance events instead of a relay.

(British Sprint Champs on 19th June and British Middle Champs on 8th May still hoping to go ahead, but may not qualify for British Championship title if some areas are still in lockdown)

6.1.4 Caddihoe Weekend – 18/19 September suggestion to swap dates with 2/3rd October as this clashes with a World Cup Heat in Italy – could cause permission difficulties – not preferred option.

6.2 SWOA series

6.2.1 SW Championships – Long and middle distance championships proposed for two days of Caddihoe festival – agreed by committee.

SW sprint championships proposed for 18th July, NGOC at Cheltenham racecourse – would have to fit into 5 hour window, so some SW rules would need to be waived. Concern about ability of the IT system to produce 2nd race start times in shorter time frame was expressed, so alternative start process may be required. NGOC asked to keep committee informed of how it would work.

6.2.2 Summer relays – now potentially have offer of 5 events (NGOC, NWO, BOK, SARUM, WSX) for this in July and August, may necessitate being inventive with the format if social distancing is still in place. RS suggested that we need an identified person to champion the series and drive it forward to success, discussing formats and liaising with organisers. Agenda item for next meeting **Action: HK**

6.2.3 SW league – now have full 9 events for this series, but all in short space of time; 5 events in 7 weeks in Oct/Nov and 4 events in 6 weeks in Jan/Feb, so it is quite likely that club events may run on the same day as a SW League event next season. Need to make clubs and members aware that the series will be running and to get dates in diary. RS questioned how we would promote it e.g. using postcards as last season. Agenda item for next meeting **Action: HK**

AV noted that trophies will be collected from the 2018/19 winners at the Caddihoe Festival and awarded to winners of the truncated 19/20 season at the first event of the 21/22 season on 24th October.

1. SWJOS report.

Very little to report. Talent South Squad is now up and running. 17 juniors have been selected for the squad including 5 from the SW: Lizzie Horsler WIM, Tom Parry DEVON, Will Thomas DEVON, Guy Owen BOK and Rebecca Ward NGOC. Zoom meetings for the SWJOS continue and the next meeting is being shared with the Talent South Squad and will include a talk by Hector Haines.

1. SWOA Website

RS commented that the website was out of date and that there was no mention of Covid restrictions etc. HK explained that she had not been keeping things up to date recently and would try to rectify this. **Action: HK to add recent information. HK and CV to discuss ways of keeping it more up to date.**

1. AOB.

Carol Iddles pointed out that Anne Donnell (BOK) would be 90 on 28th March and she is hoping to put together a memories book to give to Anne for her birthday. Asked the committee and club reps to help gather photos, articles memories and send to Carol for inclusion.

Kevin Pickering asked whether there would be any relaxation of the rules for planners and controllers given the paucity of events in the last 12 months. This was also seen to be a (possibly more urgent) issue for First Aiders as First Aid qualifications must be renewed every three years and no courses have been able to run because of social distancing. Carol commented that there may be online courses. RS noted that the requirements for the First Aid at Work course renewal had been relaxed for the same reason. **Action: CV to query this with BOF at the coaching meeting on 9th February.**

Report to clubs

The SW league will be running next season and all 9 events are being planned. All in short timescale, 5 events in Autumn, 4 in New Year, check the dates on SWOA website and put them in your diary.

Post meeting note: BOF has updated its guidance about First Aid qualifications which is attached as *Appendix 3*

1. Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 23rd February 8pm.

Appendix 1: Summary accounts to Dec 2020 Appendix 2: Accounts detail

 

Appendix 3: BOF First Aid guidelines

