SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 29th June 2021

PRESENT:

Christine Vince KERNO (chairman); Helen Kelsey BOK (secretary); Steve Robertson QO (treasurer); Richard Sansbury QO (fixtures); Dick Keighley WIM (cttee); Arthur Vince KERNO (cttee); Julie Astin WSX (cttee); Carol Iddles BOK; Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Paul Taunton NGOC; Neil Fraser NWO; Alasdair Shaw QO;.

1. Apologies.

Pete Maliphant BOK (cttee and SWJOS), Andy Reynolds DEVON, Liz Yeadon SARUM, Kevin Pickering WIM; Jolyon Medlock WSX

1. Chairman’s update.

CV reported the sad news of the deaths of two members of SWOA: Chris James NGOC, Brian Johnson WIM and also Jenny Collyer (ex BOK) since the last committee meeting. There is an article about Jenny in the recent edition of CompassSport.

Report on JK discussion panel: moderated by Peter Hart and attended by over 12 members with involvement in JK organisation. There was broad discussion which looked particularly at the limitations on the JK: parking; permissions; volunteers and how these can be mitigated. There was much support for the continuation of the JK, in its current form and over the Easter weekend. Options such as bussing, buying in help and the consequent increase in entry fees were discussed. A smaller working group has been set up to take the discussion forward.

Roger commented that offers of help to other regions for JK are sometimes ignored, which may be an indication of the pressure that organisers are under, or simply a breakdown of communications.

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting.

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting on 27th April

1. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

4.1 Caddihoe trophies - should we continue to use them? Issues are: trophies are collected and distributed on the same day, no opportunity to maintain them properly; nobody responded to the plea last year for a volunteer to take charge of their maintenance; this year there is no chase on the Sunday, so trophies possibly not appropriate. Several people commented that on the occasions that they have won the event, they have enjoyed receiving a trophy. CV suggested that we could keep trophies for juniors and M/W 21. Carol suggested possibility of medals instead. After much discussion it was agreed to rest the trophies for this year, to ask again for volunteers to take responsibility for them and to continue the discussion at a future meeting about how appropriate trophies are if there is only one event, with no chase.

1. Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report.

Membership numbers are exactly the same as this time last year. There have been no grant requests yet, but we are likely to get some soon (see SWJOS report). Only outgoing has been £20 on website maintenance. Current cash is £10,800.

SR then reported on the SWOA bank account: Following unauthorised access issues HSBC, without communicating with SWOA officials, froze and subsequently closed the SWOA bank accounts. Discussions are in progress with HSBC Management and Customer Service seeking an explanation for the action taken by the bank and to establish the root cause. Meanwhile a replacement account is being set up with another bank. Club treasurers have been made aware of the issue and will be provided with the new account details when available.

1. Fixtures report.

The SW Sprint Championships, scheduled for July 18th has had to be cancelled due to building works at Cheltenham racecourse. RS has updated the SWOA website.

RS reported on his contact with his MP regarding the difficulties orienteering is experiencing with Forestry England, having received an assurance that it would be followed up. Several other SWOA members have written to their MPs, with less encouraging responses (if any). Peter Hart has suggested that it would have more impact if all communication with MPs was done at the same time so has suggested waiting.

DK reported that WIM is currently negotiating over use of the New Forest for the Caddihoe. Natonal Trust had been very positive about the event at Stonebarrow and Golden Cap.

1. Recorder of Controller’s Report

Alan Simpson, Grade B controller is no longer a member of DEVON and is now in an NEOA club, so has been removed from the list.

1. SWJOS report. *See Appendix 1*

The committee was very impressed with the success of SWJOS and wished to record its appreciation of the work that Pete, Jeff and the team have put into keeping the juniors so positive during a very difficult period – it certainly does seem to have paid off.

1. Coaching – nothing to report
2. AOB.

Julie reported on the success of the Hardy Team Score event, which had 9 senior and 1 junior team. It was also reported that the SARUM moonraker is going ahead on 11th July and the WIM Furrowhoppers should be going ahead on 25th July.

It was noted that there have not been any volunteers to take on the job of SWOA chair, when CV stands down at the next AGM (Tuesday 5th October)

1. Club reps report to clubs.

* SWOA is still looking for a new chairman for AGM on 5th October
* The committee is discussing whether to continue issuing trophies for the Caddihoe weekend and would welcome a volunteer to take responsibility for them.
* The “relay” series is looking positive, entries to SARUM’s moonraker by this weekend, other events organised by WIM, NGOC and QO are being planned – check the website for details.

1. Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 24th August 8pm on Zoom

Appendix 1

SWJOS report

