SOUTH WEST ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 30th November2021

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; Andy Reynolds DEVON; Ian Pierce SARUM; Roger Hargreaves KERNO; Paul Taunton NGOC; Neil Fraser NWO; Kevin Pickering WIM; Jolyon Medlock WSX.

1. Apologies. Alasdair Shaw QO; Liz Yeadon SARUM.
2. Chairman’s update.

Noted that information regarding Vivienne Maxwell and her memorial service had been circulated by email and acknowledged her many years of involvement in orienteering. Some of those present had attended the service.

Jolyon, who is now running the colour coded badge scheme, had asked whether the orange and light green badges could be replaced with embroidered ones similar to current yellow and white badges. **Action: CV will investigate price of embroidered badges**. It was suggested that all clubs should make sure that their juniors are aware of the badge scheme and how to obtain their badges, see item 11. Jolyon agreed to put the information on the SWOA facebook page so that clubs can share it.

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting. Approved with no amendments
2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda. None identified
3. Treasurer and Membership Secretary’s report. Very little to report, but worth noting that SWOA started the year with £10,800, has paid out £2,500 in grants and £784 to English Orienteering Council, £1000 to SWJOS and SWOA balance is now £9,200, indicating that there is a steady flow of levy payments coming in to the association.

HK noted that we have now had three reports from juniors about their training camps and checked that they can go onto the SWOA website. **Action: HK to arrange reports to be available under “grants” section of the website.**

1. Fixtures report.

Most recent major event was the British Night Championships, run by NGOC, in fairly extreme weather conditions. All been very successful and thanks given to NGOC.

RS was asked if there was any development re permissions with FE. The only development seems to have been that (in some areas at least) it is now possible for clubs to negotiate with local FE rangers, although actual permissions are only granted by central office. QO had recently had a meeting with local rangers which was very helpful and the general feeling was conveyed that the central organisation is overwhelmed with all the requests for permissions and there are so many steps in the chain that if one person is unable to deal with it, the whole process comes to a halt. Ian commented that they should really be encouraged to pass the responsibility down the chain, so that requests are being dealt with by local FE personnel, who have a much better understanding of the area and the needs of orienteering. It was noted that BOF now has a new Access officer, Emma Monkman, however her involvement so far has been concerned with environmental issues, rather than access issues. It was suggested that all club’s fixtures secretaries should be contacting Emma Monkman, to ask her to negotiate with FE on our behalf, with reference to the difficult permissions policy and the latest change to administration fees which are the same regardless of whether it is a big event or a training session for 10-15 juniors. HK noted that the Kerno event on 12th December has been listed as a SWOLeague event on some club’s websites. Roger explained that there had been an error in the original BOF registration so it had appeared as a SW league event, which it is not.

* 1. Review of fixtures policy RS had circulated the current fixtures policy with proposed amendments to all fixtures secretaries *See appendix 1*

The proposal to remove the restriction of only 2 SWOL events in any 4 weeks, because of the limited period in which permissions are possible for many of our best areas, was agreed unanimously by the fixtures secretaries and also by the committee.

* 1. Caddihoe Trophies Kevin had produced a listof the trophies which are currently in his care and those that were missing *see appendix 2* Ian suggested that all the winners are available on the BOF website and going back through past winners should get us closer to identifying where missing trophies are. **Action: Kevin to go through list of winners and contact those whose trophies had not been returned.**

Kevin also proposed that when there was no chase, trophies could be awarded for the total time taken over the two days. This was generally agreed, but there was some discussion about the uniqueness of the chase and how the event could be adapted to cater for slower competitors in such a way that they can compete on day 2, but are not starting very late, thus extending the whole event to an unreasonably late finish. **Action: All to give some thought to ways of improving the chase and to send suggestions via email to CV with Caddihoe Chase in subject line. HK to add to next agenda.**

Kevin had been researching the history of the Caddihoe Chase and had found most recent mention of it in SINS no.227 in 2004. RS has paper versions of back copies of  SINS and will investigate. **Action: RS to investigate references to Caddihoe Chase in SINS**. The Caddihoe Chase originated in Devon and Alan Simpson (no longer a DEVON member) had put some information on the web on the history of the Caddihoe. **Action: Kevin to investigate Alan Simpson’s online information.**

1. Recorder of Controllers’ Report Neil Fraser is now a Grade 3 controller, the BOF database and list on SWOA website have both been updated. *See Appendix 3*
2. SWJOS report. PM reported that the squad is in very good health. The Christmas training weekend had taken 3 months to arrange permission and the charge of £110 was applied even though it involved only 15 juniors. On the day before, FE cancelled the event because of the Yellow risk warning of high winds, so an alternative had to be arranged. (Very annoying to see the general public using the area, with no restrictions, when returning to overnight accommodation). The FE traffic light system means that all the training in FE areas is crammed into Jan and Feb, so other training will need to be shared with other regions. Three training sessions planned for first two months of next year in Wales, Dorset and Soudley. It was commented that it was very good to see the SWJOS warming up in the field before the BOK event on Sunday and also that they collected in all the controls for the event within 40 minutes of the finish.
3. Coaching nothing new to report
4. AOB.

Kevin reported that at the recent Southern Championships and Southern Night Championships, some of the older competitors had found the courses very demanding, mainly because there were not many different courses available so it was difficult to offer courses suitable for all age groups. AV pointed out that it is the controller’s job to make sure that both the technical difficulty and length are suitable for the recommended age class – this may mean putting on extra courses.

1. Club reps report to clubs.

* Make sure that all juniors are aware of Colour Coded Badge scheme and that they need to email Jolyon Medlock to claim the badges. The SWOA facebook page will be updated with the details, which individual clubs can then share.
* Check that fixtures secretaries are aware of Emma Monkman as the new BOF Access and Environment Officer and make sure that each club has emailed her with their concerns over latest permissions policy (length of lead in time and cost – particularly in relation to junior training) and the suggestion that passing some of this to local personnel might be more efficient.
* Another plea that if anyone has a Caddihoe Chase trophy still in their possession to contact Kevin Pickering, WIM.
* Check that club website doesn’t list KERNO Polly Joke event as SWOLeague event and arrange for correction if it does.

1. Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 8pm using zoom. (HK likely to be away, in which case AV will take the minutes)

Appendix 1

SWOA Fixtures Policy



Appendix 2

Details of Caddihoe Trophies and winners



Appendix 3

Recorder of Controllers’ Report

