

MINUTES OF SCOA AGM, 14th JUNE 2001
AT THE RICHARD ALDWORTH SCHOOL, BASINGSTOKE AT 8pm.

Present:

Phil Brown, BKO, Coaching Committee rep;
Bill Davidson, SOC;
Tony Davies, BADO, Chairman;
Caroline Ford, SOFA, Treasurer;
David Nixon, SOC, Junior Squad;
Peter Riches, TVOC;
Richard Sharp, TVOC, Fixtures;
David Stubbs, BKO;
Katy Stubbs, BKO, Tech. Rep, JK;
Mark Thompson; TVOC
Damian Wilson, BKO, Secretary;
John Woodall, BOF Chairman.

Apologies:

Reg Parker, BKO.

1. Presentation and Questions to John Woodall.

John Woodall presented the current issues. A summary of this presentation follows.

- i) Foot and mouth disease has had an enormous impact on BOF, which is losing 2000 pounds a week from event levies and has the extra expense of sending the international team abroad to train. BOF will budget for a deficit next year, the money coming from the reserves. Things are improving slowly, but JW stressed that clubs must have permission from land owners for events.
- ii) A principal aim of BOF restructuring was that council would be more manageable with four countries rather than twelve associations. Problems were because Scotland did not believe it was getting as much devolution as hoped and due to financing. It is BOF's belief that levies are the fairest way to finance expenses. Scotland wanted countries to keep all of their locally raised levies. This would have been of great disadvantage to Wales and Northern Ireland. A compromise has been discussed where levies from multiday festivals would be kept for local development.
- iii) Committees will be streamlined.
- iv) Land access is of great concern. Doug Kennedy is the new environmental officer. BOF notes that the new rights of way act may be detrimental to the sport. There have been negotiations with the major landowners. KS noted that access to MoD land can be very restricted when English Nature objects. The environmental officer is working on this issue. TD noted that land access in this region is becoming increasingly difficult and asked BOF for support. BOF encourages clubs to ask for, and can supply, support where necessary, but all negotiations must be carried out at a local level.
- v) It is essential to get as many school participants as possible whatever the cost. Associations are asked to encourage schools.
- vi) Orienteering is only one of two non-Olympic sports which receives funding from the Sports Council. Funding would be secured if orienteering was an Olympic sport. This would require 76 members of the International Orienteering Federation and for the sport to be attractive on television.
- vii) BOF does send publicity to national media but almost all of it is ignored.

viii) TD asked whether the process that resulted in events being moved back a year due to foot and mouth disease was constitutional. JW replied that he believes it was. PB asked whether this now acted as a precedent to enable Fixtures Committee to do the same again. JW thinks this is unlikely.

2. Minutes of the last AGM.

Two corrections to the fixtures report had been made earlier. The minutes were accepted. There were no other matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report.

TD emphasised the need to focus on priorities and that this had gone well this year. Co-ordination of fixtures works well. The Junior Squad continues to perform very well. Organisation of JK had gone well. Communication had been relatively good in the absence of a secretary. He suggested that future priorities should include exchanging information and coaching. KS proposed a vote of thanks.

4. Treasurer's Report.

CF presented the accounts. There were no major points of note. The accounts were accepted.

5. Levies.

CF proposed that these should remain unchanged at 25 pounds for a large club, 10 pounds for a small club and 10p per competitor at C4 events and above. This was accepted.

6. Fixture's Report.

RS reported that the SCOA league had gone well. The organiser will continue. The go-ahead to provide mugs and certificates for this year's winners was given.

7. Technical Report.

The BOF Technical Committee are shortening the technical rules and providing a useful guidelines document. Three people had attended the training conference for JK. KS wishes to resurrect the technical conference for the region. She noted that the region was short of controllers.

8. Junior Squad Report.

It had been a very good year with Mark Nixon winning M16 at JIRC2000, and the team coming sixth. Many Juniors were selected for international squads and the World Class Start programme. However, the squad lacks coaches with formal training. The squad newsletter editor, Ian Nixon, was thanked.

Secretary's Note: I have some copies of the full report if you would like to see them.

9. Election of Officers.

The following were appointed.

Chairman: No nominations

Vice Chairman: No nominations

Treasurer: Caroline Ford

Secretary: Damian Wilson

Technical Rep: Katy Stubbs

Fixtures Sec: Richard Sharp

Junior Squad: David Nixon

Coaching: Phil Brown

BOF representative: No nominations

Development: No nominations

Mapping: No nominations although Jim Prowting will be asked

EOC representative: David Nixon

SCOA league rep: John Farren

10. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Damian Wilson, Secretary.