

**MINUTES OF THE SCOA COMMITTEE MEETING, 7th DECEMBER 2006
HELD AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, HIGHFIELD AVENUE, NEWBURY.**

Present

Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Secretary	Club Rep
Jerry Newcombe	BAOC	Secretary & Treasurer	
Terry Smith	SOC	Technical Officer	
Dave Rogers	BKO	Junior Squad Manager	

Andy Macgregor	BADO		Club Rep
Alan Yeadon	BKO		Club Rep
Di Smith	SOC		Club Rep
Caroline Ford	SOFA		Club Rep
Colin Duckworth	TVOC		Club Rep

Liz Turbin	BKO
Colin Hicks	SOC

712 Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Allan Farrington, BAOB
Stephen Granger-Bevan, OUOC
Mary Adams, SOC

In the absence of Allan Farrington, Richard Sharp chaired the meeting.

713 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last committee meeting held on 15th June 2006 were agreed.

714 Matters Arising

None

715 Review of 2006 AGM Minutes and Matters Arising

Item 11 – TS query on how multi-region club members would be treated under the new British Orienteering membership scheme. JN advised that a member's Region and level would be printed on the new membership cards.

716 Chairman's & BOF Council Report

AF's report distributed at the meeting and attached to these minutes.

JK 2007 Relays: Clubs are to respond to AF regarding the suggested Team allocations and Team Leaders. **Action: All Clubs**

It was suggested that "Entries" should be added to the team list since team declarations take place at the event. There should also be a team to collect and arrange the trophies. Liz Turbin offered to be a Team Leader. Andy Macgregor agreed to BADO running the start but may have only 10 helpers available.

It was requested that a Team Leaders meeting be held in January

Action: AF

717 Secretary and Treasurer's Report

See report distributed with Agenda.

JN had distributed samples of the pens purchased for publicity purposes at the start of the meeting.

The Minister for Sport is keen that deserving candidates for honours are identified at grassroots level, particularly volunteers. Honours are a way to recognise outstanding merit and bring publicity to the sport. Clubs are asked to consider proposing individuals.

The committee discussed the future of the SCOA Championships. This year's event had been held in October at a Southdowns Regional event. Attendance was poor, as it had been in recent years. The low attendance, frequently only one or two in a class, devalue the championship and the secretary recommended discontinuing it. Part of the problem may be that the event is held outside the region so that all members of SCOA have the opportunity to run. Clubs are therefore asked to consider 1) should we continue with the Championship and 2) should it be held at an event within the SCOA area.

Action: Clubs

718 Fixtures Secretary's Report

See report distributed with Agenda.

SCOA are due to host the Southern Nights Championships in 2008 and the Southern Championships in 2009. Suitable venues and organisers are needed.

Some events have taken place before they are registered with BOF through a Regional Fixtures Secretary. These events would not be covered by insurance in the event of a claim.

BOF will have been in existence for 40 years in 2007 – ideas on how to celebrate are requested.

The Major Event Forms have been simplified.

BOC 2009:

The likely date will be 14/15 March 2009 to avoid any restrictions caused by ground-nesting birds. Possible areas for the Individual and Relay events had been identified together with a possible event centre. We need to appoint a co-ordinator and organisers for the individual days. The proposed Event Centre would need to close to other customers if we used it, so we need to confirm our intentions as soon as possible. It is not necessary to hold a Trail-O or Sprint event alongside the BOC but RS will check on requirements.

719 Junior Squad Report

See report distributed with Agenda.

720 Technical Officer's Report

See report distributed with Agenda.

721 Coaching Officer's Report

No Report.

DS reported that she had submitted her coaching coursework for assessment to PB in late March/early April but had never received any response. LT reported a similar lack of feedback and CH advised that he had to use an assessor from SWOA to continue with his coaching qualification. It was generally agreed that follow-up support for coaches in the region was not adequate.

722 Sport England RDO Report

See report distributed with Agenda.

CH reported that 6 schools from the Southampton OC area had attended the British Schools Score Championships with some success.

DS expressed thanks to DH who has done a good job in supporting SOC's Clubmark application and liaising with schools.

723 British Orienteering Vision Statement

The consultation document on the vision for British Orienteering was discussed. A wide-ranging discussion took place with sometimes divergent views.

We agreed that there are few sports like orienteering where people of all ages and abilities can compete together. Indeed mixed ability pairing in schools is beneficial to both parties.

We also believe that the sport's environmental credentials are under-played. It should be our aim that Orienteering is something that landowners welcome due to it's low footfall and low impact on the environment.

We generally agreed with statements 1 - 3 and, to a certain extent, 4 - 9 although there are some specifics such as the percentage increase in participation and 'top 10 representation in ALL age categories', that need to be achievable if included in the final statement.

Whilst inspirational statements are necessary parts of a vision statement, we would like to see something that is a firm target, challenging us as a sport. For example, something along the lines of "orienteering being firmly established within the national curriculum in all schools in the next 10 years. Also, we might include firm targets for increasing the number of races in different formats (Sprint, Park, City, Trail, Bike) as a means of increasing the popularity and range of people who go orienteering.

724 Any Other Business

None

725 Date of Next Meeting

To follow the AGM on Thursday 14 June 2007.