

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 5th SEPTEMBER 2013
AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, NEWBURY**

Present

Alun Jones	TVOC	Chairman & Club Rep
Gill Mann	BADO	Club Rep
Allan Farrington	BAOC	Club Rep
Katy Stubbs	BKO	Club Rep & Technical Officer
Alan Yeadon	SARUM	Club Rep
Mike Bray	SN	Club Rep
Terry Smith	SOC	Club Rep
Jerry Newcombe	BAOC	Treasurer (Minute Taker)
Dave Rogers	BKO	Coaching Officer
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Development Officer
Nick Bosbury	SOC	

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from:
Scott Collier (British Orienteering – SCOA Liaison)
Richard Sharp (TVOC), Fixtures Secretary

2. Proposal 1

Paragraph 13 of the constitution stipulates that the Executive Committee shall have the power to carry out any of the actions detailed in the sub-paragraphs labeled a) to h). It is proposed that sub-paragraph e) be amended to the following:

e) to raise funds for the Association including (but not limited to) a levy on all event entries in the region and an Affiliation Fee on all BOF members with SCOA as their nominated region;

AJ explained that this proposed change was intended to confirm that SCOA could charge an Affiliation Fee on club's Senior members as agreed at the AGM. SOC had discussed this proposal at some length and were concerned that individuals were being asked to pay a fee but did not have direct voting rights on SCOA. GM suggested the fee could be levied instead on the club in proportion to their membership numbers as the club has voting rights at SCOA. This would make the club fee £25 plus £2 for every Senior member in the club. KS pointed out this would be more difficult to administer and would increase the work for the Regional Treasurer. The BOF membership system is set up to collect money from individuals whereas a club fee would need to be calculated by the SCOA Treasurer and individual demands sent out to the clubs. TS asked if SCOA could not just increase its current income sources rather than start a new income stream. However, part of the reason for introducing an affiliation fee on individuals is that SN members are increasingly registering as SCOA members so as to avoid the £3 SEOA membership fee. The affiliation fee was also designed to provide another income source in case orienteering in forests is prevented by another outbreak of foot and mouth or similar. The Treasurer advised that when the decision was taken at the AGM to raise an affiliation fee, the amount of income expected from JK2013 was significantly less than the final

amount received. Consequently, it would not be a financial hardship to defer the affiliation fee for a year. The meeting agreed this would give SCOA time to consider all aspects of income generation and other matters related to the constitution and so moved to a vote.

The amendment was proposed by TVOC and seconded by BAOC.

Voting: For – 0, Against – 3, Abstained 4

In light of the proposal being defeated, there would be no affiliation fee charged in 2014.

3. Proposal 2

Paragraph 6 of the constitution details the makeup of the Executive Committee. It is proposed that paragraph 6a be amended to the following:

- a) The Officers of the Association who shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
The Officers shall consist of:
- i. a Chairman and a Treasurer;
 - ii. such other Officers as shall be elected to the following positions: a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Fixtures Secretary, a Junior Squad Officer, a Technical Officer and a Coaching Officer.

It is proposed that paragraph 24, Cheque Signatories, be amended to the following:

All cheques drawn against the Association's funds shall be signed by any two of the Treasurer, the Chairman, the Secretary and the Fixtures Secretary. If any of these roles remain unfilled, the committee may appoint other Officers of the Association as authorised signatories.

SOC were concerned that this amendment addressed the symptom of the problem rather than the failure to appoint a Secretary. However, the region had not found a volunteer to fill the Secretary position in the last 15 months and no candidate was available now. The meeting considered other forms of wording for these clauses but in the end decided to vote on the proposal as stated but with the amendment to include a 'Development Officer' in the list of SCOA Officers.

Proposed Amendment: To include 'Development Officer' in the list of Officers in paragraph 6 (a) ii.

Proposed by Sarum, Seconded by BADO

Voting: For – 6, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

Proposal 2 as amended

Proposed by TVOC, Seconded by BAOC

Voting: For – 6, Against – 1, Abstained – 0

4. Proposal 3

It is proposed that paragraph 27, Dissolution, be amended to the following:

In the event of the Association being wound up, the assets of the Association, after all claims have been met, shall be transferred unconditionally to the BOF or the English Orienteering Council.

BKO was unhappy with the inclusion of the English Orienteering Council in the clause as it did not have the same aims as SCOA. BKO suggested an amendment to the proposal which, after discussion, was put forward as follows:

In the event of the Association being wound up, the assets of the Association, after all claims have been met, shall be transferred unconditionally to the British Orienteering Federation or other relevant body as decided at the General Meeting which winds up the Association.

Amendment Proposed by BKO, Seconded by SN

Voting: For – 7, Against – 0, Abstained – 0

Proposal 3 as amended

Proposed by TVOC, Seconded by BAOC

Voting: For – 7, Against – 0, Abstained – 0

5. Any Other Business.

The meeting has identified several issues regarding the constitution.

TS summarised issues highlighted by SOC's discussions:

- A need for SCOA to publicise its role, the benefits and services it provides and where the money goes.
- Consider making all individuals registered with SCOA direct members of SCOA (possibly with voting rights)
- Review the voting rights of clubs who have members affiliated to more than one Regional Association
- Update the website regularly with pertinent information

The meeting agreed to address these issues through the Executive Committee.

Jerry Newcombe

APPENDIX A

Proposal 1 – to amend paragraph 13e of the SCOA Constitution

Paragraph 13 of the constitution stipulates that the Executive Committee shall have the power to carry out any of the actions detailed in the sub-paragraphs labelled a) to h). It is proposed that sub-paragraph e) be amended to the following:

e) to raise funds for the Association including (but not limited to) a levy on all event entries in the region and an Affiliation Fee on all BOF members with SCOA as their nominated region;

Explanation of change:

The 2013 SCOA AGM agreed the introduction of an affiliation fee on the Senior BOF members of the region. As the decision was taken at an AGM, it was agreed by the member clubs (as only they may vote at a General Meeting). The current version of this sub-paragraph might be interpreted to suggest that SCOA may only raise funds from a levy on event entry fees. The object of the change is to confirm and state openly that SCOA has the power to raise funds from an Affiliation Fee or any other source. This will also confirm that we may accept other sources of funding such as donations, sponsorship and grants.

It should be remembered that the Member Clubs are represented at every Committee meeting so any other sources of funding would always be open to scrutiny by the Member Clubs.

Proposal 2 – to amend paragraphs 6a and paragraph 24 of the SCOA Constitution

Paragraph 6 of the constitution details the makeup of the Executive Committee. It is proposed that paragraph 6a be amended to the following:

- a) The Officers of the Association who shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Officers shall consist of:
 - i. a Chairman and a Treasurer;
 - ii. such other Officers as shall be elected to the following positions: a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Fixtures Secretary, a Junior Squad Officer, a Technical Officer and a Coaching Officer.

It is proposed that paragraph 24, Cheque Signatories, be amended to the following:

All cheques drawn against the Association's funds shall be signed by any two of the Treasurer, the Chairman, the Secretary and the Fixtures Secretary. If any of these roles remain unfilled, the committee may appoint other Officers of the Association as authorised signatories.

Explanation of change:

The current constitution implies a mandatory requirement to appoint a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Fixtures Secretary. We have been running for some time without a Secretary and this change is intended to recognise that it is not always possible to fill all roles on the committee. Without this change, it might be construed that the committee is not properly constituted and therefore has no power to take decisions or authorise payments.

The change to paragraph 24 enables the committee to appoint another Officer as an authorised cheque signatory if we have less than the normal four signatories.

Proposal 3 – to amend paragraph 27 of the SCOA Constitution

It is proposed that paragraph 27, Dissolution, be amended to the following:

In the event of the Association being wound up, the assets of the Association, after all claims have been met, shall be transferred unconditionally to the BOF or the English Orienteering Council.

Explanation of change:

The current constitution only allows SCOA's funds to be passed to BOF on dissolution. The object of the change is to allow a further option to be available while still maintaining the principle that the member clubs must not themselves benefit from the dissolution. Any decision to dissolve the Association would have to be taken by the clubs in a General Meeting and they would decide at that stage how the money will be distributed. This change provides flexibility for the future.