SCOA BULLETIN JUNE 2014

This bulletin provides a brief summary of current SCOA issues, including those items discussed at the Annual General Meeting and the Executive Committee meeting held on 19th June 2014.

2015 British Sprint and Middle Distance Championships

SCOA is hosting next year's British Sprint and Middle Distance Championships.

The Sprints are currently scheduled for Aldershot on Saturday 10th May, with the Middles taking place at Naphill and Park Wood the following day. However, we have now been asked if the events can be moved a week earlier (to the early May Bank Holiday weekend) to avoid clashing with the Tio Mila; that is currently being investigated. Allan Farrington (BAOC) and Neville Baker (TVOC) have kindly volunteered to be the respective organisers.

These events are very much SCOA events, and all clubs in the region will be expected to contribute towards delivery of a successful weekend of orienteering. Allan and Neville are currently working through their plans for the events, and the support they will need. Please be ready to volunteer to help.

Committee for 2014/15

The AGM saw the election of Officers for SCOA for the year ahead. Alun Jones, who has been Chairman for the past three years, stood down at the meeting. However nobody present was willing to take on the role of Chairman. Alun has therefore agreed to be Chairman for a further year.

Fiona Clough (BKO) volunteered to become Secretary.

The other officials agreed to continue in their current roles

Treasurer	Jerry Newcombe BADO
Fixtures Secretary	Richard Sharp TVOC
Junior Squad Manager	Craig Blackford BADO
Technical Officer	Katy Stubbs BKO
Coaching Officer	Dave Rogers BKO
Development Officer	Liz Yeadon SARUM

We would welcome fresh faces to attend meetings, perhaps with a view to taking on a Committee role in future. Also a number of clubs currently do not have a representative attending meetings; we would particularly welcome attendees from those clubs. Anyone from a SCOA club is welcome to attend any meeting (although a club can nominate only one representative to vote on their behalf). There are just four meetings a year, which are held at the Friends Meeting House in Newbury (RG14 5DS). The next meeting is at 7:30pm on Thursday 18th September.

Membership fees and levies for 2015

The AGM also fixes the membership fees for SCOA. Note that individuals are not themselves members of SCOA; only clubs can be members. Membership fees are therefore paid by clubs.

For a number of years, the membership fee has been a fixed amount of £25, irrespective of the size of the club. After much discussion, and bearing in mind that an increase in SCOA's income is needed, the club membership fee for 2015 will be calculated as £2 per senior SCOA member as at 31st May 2014.

A decision on the level of event levy was deferred to the September Executive Committee meeting.

Event safety training

Event Safety Workshops were initially rolled out across the region some two years ago. It is really important that any organiser, planner or controller has attended one of these workshops. If you have not yet attended one, then please contact Katy Stubbs at **technical@scoa-orienteering.org.uk**.

SCOA successes at Interland

The March bulletin mentioned that a number of SCOA members had been selected to represent England at the Interland Cup 2014 on 30 March at Bruay La Buissière in the Pas-de-Calais region of France. SCOA supported these athletes with grants towards their travel and accommodation costs. There were some excellent performances by the SCOA members, with wins in their classes for Fiona Bunn, Bethany Kippin (both TVOC) and Jane Morgan (SOC).

SCOA Junior Squad

The Junior Squad is responsible for the training of junior orienteers within the region to achieve a high standard both personally and when running for the region. The Junior Squad is always on the lookout for new members – perhaps it could be you or your children! You don't have to be that experienced to join the squad and the squad will help you to become a better orienteer.

The Junior Squad has a training session planned on every fourth Saturday over the next few months. To find out more, please contact the Junior Squad Manager at **manager@scjs.org.uk**

Funding Opportunities

Both SARUM and BADO have been successful recently in obtaining funding from Sport England for purchasing new equipment. In both cases they applied for funds to create Maze events, to attract people to have a go at the sport. These Mazes enable greater use of small areas and can be used for all ages. SARUM also obtained some additional funding from Salisbury Council. There are a number of sources of funding available, large and small, and clubs are advised to look at the BOF website for suggestions – see **http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/funding**. Liz Yeadon (**development@scoa-orienteering.org.uk**) is happy to provide more information on the Maze and on funding applications.