

**Minutes of the SCOA Committee Meeting held on Thursday 6th December
2018 at the Friends' Meeting House, Newbury**

Present

Eric Harper	BKO	Chair
Peter Entwistle	BKO	Treasurer
Ian Moran	SOC	Club Rep
Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Secretary
Alan Wallis	SN	Club Rep
Fiona Clough	BKO	Secretary & Club Rep
Alan Kersley	BADO	Club Rep

1375 Apologies for absence

Caroline Ford	SOFA	Club Rep
Simon Moore	BKO	Club Rep (FC in lieu)
Charles Bromley Gardner	BAOC	Club Rep
Bernie Fowler	BADO	Club Rep
Alan Yeadon	SARUM	Club Rep
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Coaching & Development
Simon Kippin	TVOC	SCJS
Ruth Holmes	BOF	

1376 Minutes of the last meeting held on 20th September 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record – proposed by RS, seconded by AW.

1377 Matters arising

- Paragraph 1319 **Action: BSOC 27th November 2019, EH to inspect area for suitability and FC to update BOF site.** EH stated that he and AK had inspected the area and were happy that it could be made to work for BSOC. BBOWT have said they need to get Natural England permission. AK has provided a map showing all the areas of concern to NE as OOB and is now awaiting their response. If permission for Greenham Common cannot be obtained then Black Park can be used. Complete.
- Paragraph 1328 **Action: FC to email Phil Conway and get him to speak to SOC chair direct.** Complete.
- Paragraph 1348 – re SCOA GDPR policy **Action: BF to draft GDPR policy and circulate to members for comments.** BF has circulated a draft GDPR policy and this has been moved to AOB for discussion then.
- Paragraph 1362 **Action: FC to send SCOA nominations for 2018 Club & Assoc Conf to BOF.** Complete.
- Paragraph 1370 **Action: KS to speak to Neil Crickmore to confirm whether Level B Controller's course going ahead autumn 2018.** See Technical Officers Report. **Action: Club Reps to ensure details of officials for forthcoming level B events submitted to KS prior to the next meeting (BKO/SOC/TVOC).** Complete. **Action: FC to email list of current SCOA controllers to LY.** Complete.

- Paragraph 1373 – Army Inter-Unit Champs/WOD – 15th & 16th May 2019
Action: Club Reps to take request back to committees to consider possible venues/officials. Complete.

1378 Chair

EH had circulated a report prior to the meeting and emphasised the following points from the Club & Association Conference:

1. The main issues facing the sport is loss of Sport England funding. The Talent and Performance program is going to cease and lengthy discussions followed on how to support juniors and international athletes.
2. There will be a review of the major events and competitions structure as it is not sustainable as there are too many events putting a strain on the fixtures list and the volunteers. Additionally it was felt the rules needed simplifying.

Post meeting note: I have confirmed the following with Terry Smith.

All future proposals for Rule changes should be set out using a “Rules Change Form” to be sent to the Chair of Events and Competitions Committee. The Chair will invite comment from members of E&CC and, if appropriate, others with specific knowledge. If the proposal is considered to have strategic implications for our Sport, it will be referred to the Board otherwise E&CC will either approve or reject the proposal and arrange for the appropriate Rule document to be updated. It is intended to operate an annual revision cycle with proposals submitted up to 31st Sept considered for implementation on 1st Jan of the following year, i.e. three months later. We are in the process of updating Rules documents at present.

EH also attended the Major Events conference and explained that that had discussed point 2 (competitions structure) further. It was felt that there are too many major events that blocked off too many weekends. There are 6 different British Championships in addition to the Harvester, the JK, the Peter Palmer and Regional Championships to name but a few. The four level competition structure is not working. In some areas the Level B events attract only 200 competitors and do not meet the required criteria. It was felt that although we do not suffer with poor attendance in the SCOA region we do have other issues such as land access problems.

EH informed the committee that Peter Hart is working on the DIO Land Access problems but that process has currently stalled.

RS explained that clashes with the major events are not currently permitted. AW commented that every new event once introduced it is kept hence the 6 different British Championships. For example, the British Sprints are to be split from the British Middles and are apparently to be paired with a mixed sprint relay.

IM suggested that we register the fact that we share the concern over this issue with British Orienteering and would like to have input into the process of making changes to it. Perhaps we should ensure that Ruth Holmes is aware of our views and feeds them back to the Board. **Action: FC to ensure that RH is aware.**

1379 Secretary

There was nothing to report.

1380 Treasurer

The Treasurer had circulated a report and account summary prior to the meeting. Due to the reduced number of SCOA Level C events the income to date is down to £1,351. It is expected that JK2019 will produce a moderate surplus of £30K of which SCOA will receive £10K but this will depend on the number of entries. AW suggested that this could permit SCOA to run on a deficit of £1K per year. PE said that the budget needs to be discussed at the committee meeting scheduled for March when we will have a better idea of JK2019 entry numbers. PE suggested the SCOA levy may need to be increased which again should be discussed at the next meeting for approval at the AGM in June 2019 if agreed.

PE also updated the committee on the SCJS accounts. The major expense had been grants to juniors to attend JROS and JIRCS. The junior squad has a credit balance of £669. A discussion followed on what they SCJS would spend this on as it was primarily from donations from SCOA clubs from events. AK made the point that BADO had made a substantial donation to the squad in 2018 and TVOC had done the same in 2017 and the reason for the donation was in order to make it cheaper for squad members to go on training weekends etc. IM commented that it is great if they are able to travel to bigger events as a squad for weekends. (This needs further discussion with SCJS Coaches not present at this meeting).

PE stated that he will be sending out the Clubs Membership Levy (£2 per senior – nil for juniors) and that the cut off date for membership numbers is 31st May 2018.

1381 Updates from British Orienteering

RH had sent her apologies, as she was unable to attend this meeting.

1382 Fixtures Secretary

RS had circulated a report in advance of the meeting.

RS informed the committee that the British Long Distance Championships will probably be cancelled in 2021 and were supposed to be held in Scotland in 2022 but that is not now possible as Scotland is hosting the WOC. Therefore both 2021 and 2022 British Long Distance Championships are currently vacant.

It was then discussed that holding any British Championships in the SCOA region in May is impractical due to permissions issues and they would need to be held at a different time of year if SCOA were to host them.

RS stated that there are 3 level C events scheduled before the next meeting that require officials registered on the BOF website. AW informed RS that the Controller for SN's event at Wellington College is Craig Blackford (BADO). The other 2 events are SOC events (Burley 13th Jan 2019 – no organiser/controller and CSC Heat 17th March – no controller) **Action: IM to confirm the officials and ensure RS informed/BOF website updates**

RS commented in the fact that again there are again fewer SCOA league events scheduled for the forthcoming season and that he was disappointed to see that SOC had held a level D event on a nice area that clashed with a TVOC SCOA league event on 2nd December. IM explained that the SOC Fixtures Secretary was newly in post and still learning the ropes. The future of the SCOA League in general will be discussed further in AOB

EH mentioned to AW that although the forthcoming SN event at Wellington College is shown as a SCOA league event it does not have the required Short Green course. To be SCOA league it needs is to have 8 colour-coded courses (white, yellow, orange, light green, short green, green, blue and brown). AW undertook to speak to the planner. **Action: AW to confirm with planner of SN event on 30th December whether Short Green can be done and the event shown as SCOA League.**

A discussion followed around how clubs fix on dates for their events. Are there discussions with RS and Fixtures Secretaries from surrounding clubs? RS said that he does send out an update to all club Fixtures Secretaries after BOF Fixture Meetings. It was agreed that Club Reps should be asked to raise awareness within their clubs of the need to avoid clashes with other nearby clubs. **Action: Club Reps to remind their committees of the need to avoid clashing events dates with nearby clubs events.**

1383 SC Junior Squad Manager

SK had circulated a report to the committee prior to the meeting detailing the recent activities of the junior squad but had been unable to attend this meeting. There were no questions regarding the report.

1384 Coaching Officer

LY had sent her apologies, as she was unable to attend this meeting but asked that the committee be reminded that the annual coaching conference is taking place on 12th and 13th January 2019 in Nottingham and asked to pass the details on to all of their active coaching colleagues. Entry to the conference is on Fabian4. **Action: Club reps to ensure all club coaches aware of the Coaching Conference 12th and 13th January 2019**

1385 Development Officer

LY emailed to say that she had also attended the Association and Club Conference. The main points already discussed under the Chair's update.

1386 Technical Officer

KS is no longer attending meetings but had circulated a report to the committee in advance of the meeting. This included details of the proposed officials for the forthcoming level B events within the region. These officials need approval of the committee:

Concorde Chase on 27th January 2019 – BKO. Planner – Mark Foxwell, Organiser – Simon Moore, Controller – Mark Thompson (TVOC) – this was discussed by the committee and as they had all completed the Event Safety Workshop and were appropriately experienced the committee gave approval. **Action: FC to notify Simon Moore.**

Chiltern Challenge on 17th February 2019 – TVOC. Planner – Neville Baker, Organiser – Mark Thompson, Controller – Keith Downing/Assistant – Steve Hardy (both SMOC) – discussed by the committee and again they had all attended an Event Safety Workshop and were appropriately experienced approval given. **Action: RS to inform Neville and Mark.**

CSC on 17th March 2019 – SOC. Planner – Bill Davidson. Organiser – Julian Hartwell. No controller as yet. Both officials have attended an Event Safety Workshop and had the necessary experience so approval given. **Action: IM to inform Julian and Bill.**

KS has been trying to contact several SCOA controllers who had expressed an interest in moving up to Level B to arrange training. She will progress this after the New Year (and probably after the JK2019).

1387 JK2019

There were three actions from the previous meeting:

Action: All Club – to identify Team Leaders for on-the-day roles as soon as possible. There has been a meeting scheduled for 12th January 2019 to brief them and ensure they have an understanding of the whole weekend and the need for a consistent approach throughout. In particular a team of at least 12 is required to operate the prize giving on days 2, 3 and 4. The Southern Champs on 25th November would be an ideal training opportunity – this is on going.

Action: All Clubs – although each SCOA club has nominated a single point of contact to recruit helpers but we also need one person to co-ordinate all the volunteers from both SCOA and beyond for the whole event. Mary Nixon of SOC has agreed to take on this role - complete

Action: All Clubs - please promote JK2019 to your members, there are many club members who generally only participate in local events. Having this event within SCOA is an opportunity too good to miss. complete

Di Smith had circulated an update for the committee prior to the meeting with the following main points:

Entries now open on Fabian4;
The website is now up and running;
It has been decided to use EMIT touch free on all 4 days;
Day 2, Windmill Hill has issues with access due to fencing and lots of tree felling therefore it is essential to ensure that Hawley is up to scratch. Dave Peel is to review the mapping;

Di Smith asked for the following actions:

Action: All clubs to identify Team Leaders for on-the-day roles as soon as possible (Team Leader Meeting on 12th January).

Action: SCOA Club volunteer reps to continue to recruit club members and feed their lists to Mary Nixon (email mary.david.nixon@gmail.com)

1388 Any other business

GDPR

BF had circulated a draft SCOA GDPR policy that caused EH to ask what data SCOA holds? The committee considered what data the association holds. IM stated that he had had involvement in the Scout Association with GDPR and had completed some training in this subject. IM volunteered to review all the data held by SCOA and then edit the draft to be more appropriate. ***In the meantime the committee must be mindful of the GDPR regulations in relation to personal information and be aware they have a responsibility as a committee member for the security of that data.***

Action: IM to review the data held by SCOA and edit the draft SCOA GDPR policy.

Future of the SCOA League

EH initiated a discussion on the future of the SCOA League as a result of an email received and also the clash between the TVOC SCOA league event and the SCO level D event on 2nd December.

RS explained that some years ago there would be 10 to 12 events per season therefore it was the best orienteers who won. More recently we have been down to 5 or 6 events per year resulting in the winners being those people who have attended the most events rather than the best orienteers.

It was accepted that the fixtures profile has changed in recent years. Due to the increase in DIO fees SN now only have one level C event, SOC are now more restricted by the Forestry Commission on when they can hold events.

There followed a discussion on what to do. Urban events do not fit the scoring of the league as they are not colour coded and the same applies to Level B events. A suggestion was made that we extend the league to cover level C events outside the SCOA region, e.g. WIM, WSX, GO.

EH said that the SEOA League scoring is more like the CSC with the winner getting 100 points. RS said that the SCOA League scoring is very simple making it easy to run.

A brief review of the forthcoming events indicated that there should be more SCOA league events in the 2018 – 2019 season. It was agreed that all clubs be encouraged to put on at least 1 SCOA league event and preferable 2 and RS would review events in surrounding non-SCOA clubs to identify other events that could be included in the league.

Action: Club Reps to discuss the league with their committees ensuring they hold 1 or 2 SCOA league events per season.

Action: RS to review events being held by clubs adjoining SCOA to identify possible additional SCOA league events.

SCOA Championships

It was agreed by the committee to hold the SCO Championships 2019 at the SOC November Classic **Action: IM to inform SOC committee.**

SCOA expenses

PE asked that any 2018 SCOA expenses be submitted to him on the form by 14th January 2019.

A brief discussion ensued regarding various First Aid courses suitable for orienteering being held.

1389 Dates of next meetings

Further meetings are scheduled for:

21st March 2019

20th June 2019 AGM and committee meeting (date to be confirmed)

There being no further matters for discussion the meeting closed.

Fiona Clough

Secretary - SCOA