

**Minutes of the SCOA Committee Meeting held on Thursday 5th December
2019 at the Friends' Meeting House, Newbury**

Present

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| Eric Harper | BKO | Chair |
| Peter Entwistle | BKO | Treasurer & Club Rep |
| Ian Moran | SOC | Club Rep |
| Richard Sharp | TVOC | Fixtures Secretary & Club Rep |
| Alan Wallis | SN | Club Rep |
| Liz Yeadon | SARUM | Coaching & Development |
| Fiona Clough | BKO | Secretary |
| Simon Moore | BKO | Club Rep |

1435 Apologies for absence

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|-------------------------|-----------|
| Simon Kippin | TVOC/SCJS |
| Alan Kersley | BADO |
| Bernie Fowler | BADO |
| Charles Bromley Gardner | BAOC |
| Caroline Ford | SOFA |
| Stefan Stasiuk | BKO |

1436 Minutes of the committee meeting held on 5th September 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record.

1437 Matters arising

- Paragraph 1388 SCOA GDPR Policy. AW and IM have now been through the wording of the proposed policy and agreed it is now a workable document. EH queried why it needs to be signed by the Chair and the Secretary and IM explained that those officers are signing on behalf of the committee. It is the job of the committee to ensure that the 'data gatherers' adhere to the policy. The final action required is to run it past the SCJS coaches (who were not in attendance) to confirm that they understand and can adhere to it. **Action: IM to send the final product to WH who will then send it to the SCJS Coaches for their comments. Once that has been done EH will place it on the SCOA website.**
- Paragraph 1397 – JIRCS 2020. IM informed the committee that this matter has now been progressed. Allan Farrington has agreed to coordinate the Event and the relays will be held at Bordon and the individual event at Longmoor (although this may still be subject to change). Competitors will be accommodated at Longmoor and it will be registered under BAOB to reduce the cost although it will be jointly run with SOC on the original dates of 26th and 27th September 2020 – complete.
- Paragraph 1397 RS provided the following update: **CSC Round 2020-** SCOA will not have a CSC round in 2020 as no club is willing to host it. **Southern Nights 2020** – still no volunteers although there is a suggestion, yet to be confirmed that it may be held with the Southern Champs in November.

- Paragraph 1397 **VHI 2021**, this event is scheduled for 2nd and 3rd October but that can be changed. The relays are held on the Saturday with the individual race on the Sunday. IM explained this did not fit well with the 'November Classic' as there is an urban race booked already for 7th November 2021. AW asked for some details on the VHI Relay and RS explained that the event is no higher than a level B and is quite small with only 50 – 60 competitors. It was discussed holding the relays separate from the urban so that the individual race could be held with the 'November Classic' and IM stated he did not see SOC having a problem as long as the 'November Classic' remained a level B event and did not become a level A as a result. AW asked whether the VHI competitors needed to start separately from the Classic competitors? RS said he would check the rules. LY asked how much of a surplus the VHI created and RS explained it produced little or nothing. EH suggested perhaps to have the usual urban race in the morning and the relay race in the afternoon but it was suggested it might be better to bolt it on to another forest Saturday event. **Action: IM to return to SOC committee and confirm that the November Classic would remain a level B event even if it hosted the VHI; RS to go to the ESG and offer the November Classic weekend as VHI hosts.**
- Paragraph 1400 **Hosts required for either Yvette Baker Trophy Final or the Peter Palmer Relays in 2022.** The YB Trophy is held in early July, provides 4 courses and has around 200 to 300 competitors. The PP Relays is held the first weekend after the children return to school after the summer holidays and also requires accommodation. Neither is appropriate to piggyback on another event and neither are particular revenue earners. RS stated that at this time it is more important to fill JIRC's, VHI, the CSC round and the Southern Nights. **Action: Club Reps to again discuss with committees the possibility of hosting either of these events in 2022 - ongoing.**
- Paragraph 1412 **Payment for Youth Camp at November Classic.** PE stated that this has now been paid. A total of £100 for SCOA juniors (£25 per head) and that each region was charged appropriately for their participants – complete.
- Paragraph 1424 BSOC – It had been agreed prior to the event that SCOA would be responsible for any surplus or loss and in the end a surplus of £200 had been made. SCOA do not want the money so EH suggested that the surplus be divided with £100 sent to BSOA and £100 to BKO. This was agreed **Action: EH to send £100 to BSOA and £100 to BKO.**
- Paragraph 1426 Change of signatory for SCOA bank account – complete.
- Paragraph 1426 Tax situation for JK2019 surplus. **Action: PE to check with Bob Dredge – ongoing.**
- Paragraph 1428 – missing event officials – all confirmed and BOF website updated – complete.
- Paragraph 1432 – FC to email KS re approval of level B officials outside meetings – complete.
- Paragraph 1433 – JK Surplus – to be discussed in AOB.

1438 Chair's Report

EH had circulated a report to committee members prior to the meeting but mentioned several points; Following the SCOA championships presentation of the medals was not possible so they are being distributed to clubs informally. Presentation of the 2018/19 SCOA League medals was held at the BKO event at Bucklebury on 6th October.

1439 Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

1440 Treasurer's Report

PE circulated a report and Account Summary for both SCOA and SCJS prior to the meeting.

SCOA

PE is still waiting for the levy payments from the November Classic (SOC) and Pamber (BADO) and once these are received this will reduce the deficit to around £200.

PE explained that SCOA normally runs at an annual deficit of around £1,000 to £1,500 that is funded by the periodic receipt of a portion of the SCOA JK. A discussion followed on how much SCOA requires in reserve in the event of something as disastrous as, for example, foot and mouth.

SCJS

Since the last meeting the junior squad has spent £396 on JIRCS travel, JROS entries and travel and travel to the JROS AGM. They have received the second instalment of the SCOA grant of £300.

1441 Updates from British Orienteering

There was again no update from British orienteering.

1442 Fixtures

RS circulated a report to the committee prior to the meeting detailing the forthcoming major events in the region, the current status of the SCOA League and raising a number of other matters to be considered.

In 2021 there is no SWOA CSC Round being held and therefore this means the SCOA heat may be larger than usual.

The SCOA Champs 2020 are to be held with the Southern Champs that had been rescheduled to November due to last minute permission issues with DIO. AW stated that this date change might have an impact on the SN Trophy proposed for November 2021 as they were hoping to use Long Valley North. He asked to be kept in the loop regarding the Southern Champs and any changes.

RS said that the only other thing that needs to go back to club committees is that we need to start thinking about the British Orienteering Champs/British Relay Champs 2023. It will be SCOA's turn to host them. They are usually held in May

but that is flexible. This year they are hosted by SEOA on 21st and 22nd March. Selected areas will be subject of a 2-year embargo. The individual event will attract between 1,500 and 2,000 competitors and the relays, fewer than 1,000 competitors. EH made the point that in the Thames Valley the SSSI's prevent such large events after February due to ground nesting birds. The only possible areas big enough and that can be used in May are Cold Ash (BKO) and Hambledon (TVOC) as they are in private ownership. The alternative is to change the date. IM commented that the New Forest would probably struggle to get permission for those numbers. It was mentioned that the last time the British Champs were held in SCOA it was at Hampton Ridge (2009). **Action: Club Reps to discuss with committees potential venues for the BOC/BRC 2023 – the date can be changed.**

LY raised a question regarding payment of the regional levy and PE explained that events should be registered where the area is located i.e. within SWOA or SCOA and then the levy paid to that regional association (although there is no SCOA levy on level D events).

1443 Junior Squad

SK had sent his apologies, as he was unable to attend this meeting however he had circulated a report detailing the activities of the SCJS since the last meeting in September. He had also circulated an excellent report completed by Jocie Hilton (SN) detailing the experiences of the squad at JIRCS 2019. PE explained that the squad had planned to make use of two big donations totalling £1,400 they had received but had not made much progress primarily due to time issues with their coaches.

IM said that the feedback from the New Forest Youth Camp had been very good and positive.

1444 Coaching

LY had gathered reports from the regions coaches and recirculate them as usual. Responses had been received from SARUM, SN, TVOC, BADO and SOC with no information forthcoming from the other member clubs.

1445 Development Officer's Report

LY circulated a report prior to the meeting.

LY gave an update on how the Youth Camp held over the November classic weekend in the New Forest had gone. It was generally considered to have been a great success with 21 young people aged between 10 and 13 (with one 18 year old) attending. It is hoped to run it again in 2020 having learnt lessons from this year's event and to be held without BOF involvement. The total cost was £2,800 or which BOF paid £1,400 but this will not be available for 2020. The committee expressed surprise that it seemed very expensive but LY explained this was due to booking the whole Youth Hostel and not cancelling a section of the booking before the refund cut off date. Earlier publicity was vital and for 2020 Phil Conway was planning to find someone to act as a guarantor in order to book the Youth Hostel in advance.

LY explained that the camp had been built mainly around a group of 6 SARUM juniors, several SN juniors and some from DFOK. Most of those who attended said they would be keen to attend a similar camp held in 2020.

Club and Members Forum LY had attended the Club and Members Forum held on 16th November in Leeds. There were 23 delegates (mostly from SYO) and was primarily a discussion about the new strategy from the board, confirming the points raised. There was a presentation with a number of interesting slides (these had already been emailed to committee members). There are three new employees, one of which will deal with large landowners and one has international responsibilities – it is not clear at this time what that role will involve.

LY said there is a Development conference being held on 11th/12th January in the Midlands and although she was keen to go was unable as she is controlling the event at West Wood on that day. No one else from the committee was available to attend over that weekend.

LY said the particular ideas she took away from the forum was to try to get everyone in the club to help with one event per year and to always have an understudy/assistant for primary roles. This helps to train volunteers to perform those roles in the future.

1446 Technical Officer's Report

KS had not circulated a report or sent an update for this meeting.

1447 Any other business

1. EH said he had received a communication from Andrew Evans from the Orienteering Foundation asking whether clubs in the region would be prepared to appoint an 'Ambassador' to further the Orienteering Foundation. This had been passed on to the clubs for consideration.
2. FC had received an email from Di Smith (SOC) saying that recently the first aid providers at events have been using the 'What 3 words' telephone app to locate casualties in the forest. This was discussed and various issues considered. Although it is currently a free facility the providers may start to make a charge for its use.
3. PE proposed that where a tour or training camp/course cost is eligible for a 50% SCOA grant then where additional major travel costs are essential for participation/attendance, a 50% travel grant may also be claimed. The reason for this change is that flights are often not included in tour costs and must be booked separately. Long distance train and mileage costs are also eligible. PE will check that BOF policy does not provide overlapping support and will amend the SCOA Grant application form accordingly.

Use of the JK surplus EH updated the committee on the results of his enquiries into the current funding situation of the GB Squad. Apparently the athletes

contribute and then, up to an agreed limit, BOF make up the shortfall. The assumption therefore is that any SCOA contribution will only reduce the amount that BOF contribute. The recent World Cup in China had proved very expensive for athletes.

The Talent Squad (under 20's) currently get sport England funding although based on previous information it would appear that any Sport England funding will cease by 2021.

EH explained that BOF was now perceived to be 'lean' but may struggle to support the squads in the future. LY commented that they did not appear to be that concerned about money at the recent Club and Members Forum. EH continued to explain that the plan was to regroup the regional squads into 'Super Regional Squads – South, North and Scotland – although it was not clear what impact this would have on funding or even how it would be funded in the future. EH said that he could not think there is any justification for SCOA giving some of the surplus to the senior squad unless it is to support a specific event.

IM commented that what we really need is to encourage more juniors to join the sport. EH said he had received a request from SK (SCJS) to support JROS. JROS was set up to develop juniors beyond the regional squads when funding from BOF to do that was removed. They have a projected shortfall of £700 this year. IM noted that there were not yet any accounts for 2018 and we are now at the end of 2019. AW commented that it would be a pity to drip feed the surplus out to a variety of different recipients to then find we did not have the funds for a great project.

LY said that in previous years any surplus could have gone to the Development Committee but that is now a thing of the past.

The idea of making a sizeable donation to JROS was discussed at length and a donation of £1,000 as a one off payment was approved in principle pending a review of the 2018 accounts and the production of some sort of budget or plan of what they would do with it.

EH then asked how we should move things forward? Just spending the surplus for the sake of it would be a waste.

IM suggested that we need a shortlist of suggestions then each suggestion needs to be costed and fleshed out with analysis of the long-term benefits each suggestion would provide. Suggestions being:

- Marketing
- Support Juniors
- Get more young adults into the sport
- Youth Camps

Action: EH to distil the suggestions and then email out to regional clubs for champions to research and cost.

1448 Dates of next meetings

5th March 2020.

18th June 2020 (AGM followed by Committee meeting)

17th September 2020

There being no further matters for discussion the meeting closed.

Fiona Clough

Secretary – SCOA

17th January 2020