

Minutes of the SCOA Committee Meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2020
via zoom

Present

Eric Harper	BKO	Chair
Jon Steed	BADO	Treasurer
Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Secretary
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Coaching/Development Officer
Peter Hart	BO	Chief Executive
Bernie Fowler	BADO	Club Rep
Ian Moran	SOC	Club Rep
Jon Wheatcroft	TVOC	Club Rep
Stefan Stasiuk	BKO	
Caroline Ford	SOFA	Club Rep
Alan Wallis	SN	Club Rep
Peter Entwistle	BKO	
Simon Kippin	TVOC	SCJS
Anne Edwards	JOK	Club Rep
Simon Moore	BKO	Club Rep
Charles Bromley Gardner	BAOC	Club Rep
Fiona Clough	BKO	Secretary

1462 Apologies for absence

Katy Stubbs	BKO	Technical Officer
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1463 Minutes of the committee meeting held on 5th March 2020

The minutes of the previous committee meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

1464 Matters arising

- Paragraph 1397 - VHI 2021 relays. As the VHI is to be held in conjunction with the November Classic it was suggested the relays (approximately 50 competitors) be held at a Saturday Level D. RS suggested that it is still early for clubs to be scheduling Level D events for 2021.

Ongoing.

- Paragraph 1426 - Tax situation for JK2019 surplus. PH has confirmed that tax is not payable on any JK surplus. It was a British Orienteering event, entered by BO members therefore no tax payable. A discussion followed regarding clubs adopting CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) status. EH informed the meeting that he has spoken to SLOW who have adopted this status and it is clearly not suitable for SCOA but could be for clubs although they might need to change their constitutions slightly. **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1442 - BOC/BRC 2023. Preferred dates to RS before 14th March - **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1447 - use of JK2019 surplus - PE to pay deposit to the YHA for the accommodation for 2020 SCOA Youth Camp and EH to email out to clubs for champions to research and cost options for the surplus. PE said he has paid the YHA deposit (£271), if it is to be cancelled they need 2 months notice. **Both actions complete.**
- Paragraph 1452 - SCOA Coloured Coded Award Scheme - EH has contacted Glyn Thomas and the website has been updated. **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1452 - BO Rule change, EH has written to Chris Phillips with no reply then spoke to Terry Smith. Terry has confirmed that the wording has been changed to 'strongly recommended' not rather than it being mandated - **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1455 - Southern Night Champs - RS to confirm with Mike Cope whether BKO can host this at LVN before the Southern Champs the following day at the same location. Mike Cope has agreed to this. Things have moved on from this, the night event is to be hosted by BADO as the Inter Corps Night event and the Southern Nights on Saturday night. Sunday will be hosted by BKO and will be the Inter Corps and the Southern Champs. CBG confirmed that this event will be going ahead even if it is only Military. **Complete**
- Paragraph 1455 - Missing Officials on BO website - BADO Butter Wood event - **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1455 - Future Concord Chase dates to be registered - **Complete.**
- Paragraph 1460 - SCOA Treasurer needed - **Complete.**

1465 Chair's report

EH had circulated a report prior to the meeting but asked that further discussion on the use of JK2019 surplus be done in AOB.

EH stated that he had attended the virtual AGM of the EOC. There were two particular points of note to come out:

- There is a proposal that the levy be reduced to 50p per head and possibly to nil if none of the Home Internationals take place in the next year.
- There are three Home Internationals annually (Vets, Seniors and Juniors) and four countries. Both Wales and Northern Ireland have now said they cannot carry on due to the strain on their resources and it is not practicable to combine events as they provide accommodation for visiting teams too.

1466 Treasurer's report

The outgoing Treasurer PE had circulated both a report and an account summary prior to the meeting, the accounts having been audited prior to the AGM. He suggested that a budget should be published when lockdown has relaxed enough to allow competitive orienteering to recommence and that should be done with the new Treasurer, Jon Steed.

PE stated that for 2020 so far, SCOA has received the major part of the usual income having incurred very little expense. The current year to date surplus is £1,450 from SCOA membership and three event levies. The only expenses have been the deposit to YHA for the youth camp and other small minor expenses. The current bank balance is a very healthy £35,378.

PE proposed that a donation of £50 be made to the charity of the auditor's choice - this was agreed by the committee unanimously.

1467 Updates from British Orienteering

PH asked the question 'If the COVID19 restrictions have been relaxed by that time - how about holding the British Championships with the Southern Champs in November?'. PH said he was not expecting an answer now but wanted it to be considered.

SS asked that if they hosted the British Champs together with the Southern Champs (and the SCOA Champs and the Inter Corps Champs) how any surplus would be distributed? PH responded that that would be negotiated and agreed in advance.

AW pointed out that if the Sunday event were to be the British Champs then there might be problems holding the night event the evening before on the same area.

EH said that another factor is that there are other high level events in the UK scheduled for the same day. PH responded that he was just asking the question.

RS said that if we want to hold a British Champs this year then this is the event for it but whatever BKO can offer will be what it would look like.

SM (Organiser for the Southern Champs) said that the issue would be how many entrants there would be as we may need to increase the number of courses. At that time of year the days are short and we need to ensure everyone is in and the controls all collected before it gets dark.

FC mentioned that BKO had agreed to set a cut off date of the end of August at which the final decision whether to cancel or go ahead would be made.

SM asked PH whether he had any idea how the relaxation of restrictions will look like for orienteering, PH replied that he did not know at this time. SM asked whether it would be possible to restrict entry numbers but it was agreed that it would not be straight forward to do. EH mentioned that when the British Champs had been held in the New Forest numbers had been restricted as the Forestry Commission impose number restrictions.

1468 Fixtures

RS explained that considerable uncertainty remains about all of the scheduled events for the rest of 2020 due to COVID19 however things will change rapidly once orienteering does restart.

RS offered thanks to TVOC for volunteering to host the CSC round on 14th March 2021 and also to BKO for taking on the Yvette Baker Trophy qualifying round on 11th April 2021.

1469 SCJS

SK circulated a report to committee members prior to the meeting however all training has been cancelled. Some of the squad have joined in Lockdown O and some MapRunF courses are being set up for individuals to train on.

SK had been asked by JROS whether anyone could confirm whether JIRC's 2020 had been postponed or cancelled. EH confirmed that it had been cancelled.

SK informed the meeting that he had been told by Mark Saunders that the 'Review of the Performance Pathway Programme' has been completed and went on to the BO website on 17th June. It makes interesting reading in particular the recommendations and offers good opportunities to athletes.

1470 Coaching

LY said she only got replies from SOFA, BADO and SARUM to her usual email. SARUM has passed on the online activities from the BOF Development Team aimed at interesting and involving juniors to the juniors in the club.

BADO club members have been using online resources such as MapRunF, Open Source etc. They have also been trying to encourage some newcomers who attended club training sessions last year to try the MapRunF activities.

1471 Development

LY updated the committee on the planning progress for the Annual M/W12 Youth Camp planned for 30th/31st Oct/1st Nov. The Youth Hostel has been booked and the deposit paid (as mentioned in the Treasurer's report).

LY also mentioned (as mentioned in the SCJS report) that in lieu of actually orienteering in the last 3 months the BOF Development Team has produced a number of activities for both indoors and outdoors. These can be found in the Home Page news items on the British Orienteering home page.

British Orienteering have also set up a number of interesting Webinars explaining how to set up and use maps with virtual courses including MapRunF, Routegadget, OpenOrienteeringMap and an alternative to MapRunF - UsynligO. All these can be found on the BO home page. Additional Webinars are becoming available to cover issues arising from the current situation and how to resume orienteering safely.

1472 Technical Officer's Report

KS had provided a report for the AGM and sent her apologies for this meeting. No further updates for this meeting.

1473 AOB

EH wanted to continue discussions regarding use of the JK2019 surplus at this point. He said that he has a number of different general suggestions; giving to to British Orienteering (not felt to be a good use of the funds), possibly giving some to NEOA if they took a loss from cancelling JK2020 (PH said this was not the case) and had just had a proposal from the TVOC Committee with a bid for £2,390 to fund the club progressing a 3-year TVOC Junior Development plan.

EH said that quite a lot of the funding required would normally have a SCOA contribution such as Coaching Courses and First aid Training. EH considered this bid had a lot of merit but that we need to go away and consider it and if there are no serious objections then it could be agreed at

the next meeting. **Action: Club Reps to review TVOC funding bid with their respective committees for a decision to be made at the next SCOA meeting.**

JW suggested that there might be a need for SCOA to support all member clubs as there may be exceptional expenses for restarting orienteering e.g. contactless payment devices, additional signage and also the potential for losing more kit as controls will need to be out for longer. JW suggested this could potentially be up to £500 per club.

IM suggested that we need to keep hold of the money at this point and see whether we need it. EH commented that most clubs have a good level of funds. JW suggested that some clubs may be less well off than others. Discussion followed as to whether every club should receive such a grant or just those for whom resuming orienteering with stringent safety measures would cause hardship. It was decided that this subject also needs to be reconsidered at the next meeting when we may know how orienteering in the future will look.

SK said that there is an issue is finding coaches, one problem is the cost of the course. LY added that there is also often an issue with the amount of time they are expected to put into it. LY said that there has not been a SCOA coaching course held for some years. SK said that JROS was going to do one this summer but it had to be cancelled because of COVID19. AW asked what commitment is required to become a coach? LY explained that the workload is horrendous, a weekend course and then 4 or 5 further sessions requiring people to receive the coaching and also permission from landowners, all completed within a 2 year period.

PH informed the committee that they have frozen recruiting for the post of Access Officer for British Orienteering at the moment because they have no money coming in and therefore are not in a position to fund it. It may take 18 months to get back on our feet financially. IM mentioned that SOC have their own Access Officer and PH suggested that perhaps SCOA consider appointing a SCOA Access Officer.

IM asked how BO are doing in the current climate. PH said that Sport England have been very good and helpful allowing BO freedom to use their funding in different ways. They are not losing any staff although 2 staff members retired in March 2020.

AW stated he had 2 questions to ask:

1. Are we going to receive the promised reports from the Development Officers soon? In particular what worked and what didn't work with the various activities they undertook. BO has a history of employing Development Officers and nothing resulting. PH explained that the current focus is on the current situation and how best to provide help and support to clubs when we are allowed to restart orienteering.
2. Does BO have any resources on access and conservation? PH said that all the old information is still available but there have been no new or recent studies.

EH asked whether the committee was happy to hold meetings in this manner (i.e. zoom) and everyone agreed that it was easier. PH said that SCOA could use the 'GoToMeeting' facility using the BO account. It was agreed to do this for the next meeting.

1474 Dates of next meeting

17th September 2020

3rd December 2020

4th March 2021

There being no more matters to discuss the meeting closed.

Fiona Clough
Secretary SCOA
29th June 2020