

**Minutes of the SCOA Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 via 'GoToMeeting'**

**Present**

Jon Wheatcroft	TVOC	Chair
Alan Wallis	SN	
Martin Ricketts	TVOC	Treasurer
Caroline Ford	SOFA	
Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Sec
Simon Kippin	TVOC	SCJS
Ryan Elliot	OUOC	
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Coaching and Development
Julian Hartwell	SOC	
Charles Bromley Gardner	BAOC	
Fiona Clough	BKO	Secretary

**1515 Apologies for absence**

Peter Hart	BOF	on holiday
Ian Moran	SOC	Julian Hartwell I/L

**1516 Review minutes of AGM held on 3rd June 2021**

CBG pointed out that the minutes stated that various matters 'were agreed by the committee' when it should state 'agreed by the AGM'. FC to correct this. Otherwise those who were present agreed it was a good record of the proceedings.

**1517 Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3rd June 2021**

JW proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. AW seconded this and it was agreed by the committee.

**1518 Matters arising**

- Paragraph 1497 - Club Reps to remind club coaches of the new requirements to have completed Safeguarding Training to be a licensed and insured coach - complete.
- Paragraph 1508 - SCOA league mugs/certificates - RS said that the mugs have been made and are with MR. The certificates are ready for printing.
- Paragraph 1508 - VHI Relays event - it was agreed that this matter be dealt with under Fixtures.
- Paragraph 1513 - JK Review meeting on 23rd June - FC was asked to contact Di and Terry Smith and ask for a brief update on this meeting for the next meeting.

**1519 Chair's Report**

JW stated that the only thing that had occurred of interest to the committee since the last meeting was that he had signed the BRC 2023 contract as empowered in the last meeting.

**1520 Secretary's Report**

FC stated that she had received the 'Association Affiliation Documents 2022 request' from British Orienteering asking for details of the current association officials and also the affiliation fees charges to member clubs.

**1521 Treasurer's Report**

MR explained that he was becoming more familiar with the bank account and the process for setting up payments. He stated he was not keen on maintaining complicated spreadsheets and may move the SCOA accounts on to a similar system to that used at TVOC. MR is also keen to digitise the 3 large boxes of SCOA accounts documents that he has taken over from the last Treasurer.

MR stated he has received another application for funding for the Scottish Training camp. SK said he will probably receive several more from Adam Methven, Frank Townley and Tommy

Rollins. SK explained that the camps are being run differently this year where the athletes are being charged individually.

RS mentioned to MR that they need to liaise to arrange distribution of the mugs.

### **1522 Fixtures Secretary's Report**

RS had circulated a report to the committee prior to the meeting and highlighted the following points:

1. Regarding the distribution of mugs to the 2019 - 20 SCOA league winners, it will probably be better to do this informally as it is unlikely we will get an opportunity to hold a prize giving ceremony. This was agreed by the committee.
2. The current 2021 to 22 SCOA league only has 3 or 4 events scheduled at the moment. Is it worth holding it or should they cancel it? FC said that BKO had several events in the pipeline that would usually be SCOA league but were waiting to confirm permissions. RS said that in that case he can react quickly and add additional events at short notice.
3. VHI 2021 - the individual event is being held on the Sunday of the November Classic and all 4 nations have confirmed they will bring teams but only if there is a relay event to be held as well. Without the relay event the VHI will be cancelled. JW pointed out that at the last meeting it was clear that the November Classic was still not confirmed and asked JH for an update (as the SOC representative). JH stated that he is still not in a position to give a certain answer. Permission has been granted verbally but there are parking problems as the usual parking area has been let by the owners to another organisation who may not allow use of the parking. Bussing is not practicable or Covid19 appropriate. The SOC committee meets again next week. JH said they is now an 80% chance of the event happening. JW returned to the subject of the VHI - as no club had volunteered to host a VHI Relay event then we need to cancel the VHI's. The committee had no objections and RS said he would deal with that.
4. Regarding the Point of Contact for the BRC/BOC 2023 the TVOC officials have been confirmed but BKO have yet to come up with any. FC confirmed that BKO would willingly consider any volunteers for roles from other clubs. BKO will update British Orienteering and liaise with the BRC officials as soon as their officials have been confirmed.

### **1523 SCJS**

SK had circulated a report produced for the committee by Jocie Hilton about the recent Badaguish/Stirling Junior Training Camp which everyone present agreed was very interesting. JW asked that the committees thanks be passed to Jocie as this was a great reflection of the Junior Squad.

SK also circulated a report prior to the meeting detailing the recent activities of the Junior Squad and mentioned that a number of the South Central athletes have been selected for various training camps and that there has been a resumption of face-to-face training. There are a number of forthcoming events that will result in applications for funding support from SCOA including the JIRC's that are being held in Redcar this year. JIRC's are being organised in a different way this year as the squads are having to organise their own transport/accommodation/food. The JROS training camp in November is being held at Hawkshead and SCOA is sending 6 athletes.

RS said that that Laura Barrett and Carys Sharp have been selected for the Junior Home International this year.

SK explained that currently their greatest challenge has been obtaining permission for 10 to 15 juniors to participate in a training event at various areas. Recently they have been charged a small fee and this has had to be factored in to the SCJS budget.

### **1524 Coaching**

LY explained that as usual she had sent out an email asking South Central Clubs for an update on any coaching activities the club had undertaken but that for this meeting she had only got 5 replied (from 10 clubs asked).

JH (from SOC) said that SOC were arranging a series of small training events advertised as 'SOC Saturdays' incorporating their schools league. These are being organised by Helen Wainwright

and aimed particularly at juniors and schools. This series of events would use 'racesignup' for entries. JH would send the flyer to committee members and asked that they circulate it widely.

RE (OUOC) said to contact the President or Secretary of OUOC as the Coaching portfolio had not yet been allocated.

### **1525 Development**

LY explained that in lieu of a volunteer to be the Development Representative for SCOA that she had agreed to watch and report anything of particular interest to the committee.

LY mentioned that there are two First Aid Courses scheduled. One provided by SARUM and the second by SOC.

### **1526 Technical Officer's Report**

KS had been in contact to say although there was nothing to report to the committee that she fully supported TVOC's proposed officials for the BRC 2023.

### **1527 Any Other Business**

1. JW said that TVOC were seeking to use Roger Baker as a consultant for the planning of BRC 2023 courses as he was very experienced in this role.

2. JW asked for an update on the projects being funded by the JK2019 surplus.

TVOC - progress currently on hold pending restarting the Saturday Series.

SOC - funding is currently being used to help run the SOC Saturday Series.

3. Access Agreements between British Orienteering and Forestry England (FE)- apparently the new Access Officer appointed by BO is in discussions with the DIO about land access.

JH said that the main agreement with BO and FE was completed last winter but the access fees have changed. When there is a competition with lots of competitors there is not much change however with small events there is now a basic fee of £140 for the permit therefore in his view the agreement is deficient as it does not support smaller activities. JH also informed the committee that from the perspective of SOC and other clubs that use FE land this just adds another layer of complexity. March to August is now a closed season. FE are now advised by Natural England and ecological experts regarding the apparent impact of orienteering. Di Smith liaised on behalf of SOC. This is a very big issue for SOC and other sports who seek to use the New Forest. JH stated he has a meeting scheduled with the new British Orienteering Access and Ecology Officer next week.

LY said that it was discussed at the SWOA meeting the previous week that QO had been charged £110 for 20 10year old children to go into the forest for a small orienteering activity. In addition FE have started organising their own races and this will probably lead to clashes of dates.

4. JW raised an issue regarding other clubs using land within TVOC's area without notifying them. RS explained that there are a number of agreements in place, for example; SMOC use Stowe, HH use Burnham Beeches. Recent issues have arisen because SLOW have been running MTBO events in TVOC's area AND a previous MTBO event clashed with a foot orienteering event.

SCOA are unable to put on the VHI relays, British Schools are being hosted by HH at Stowe and SLOW are holding JHI in Hampshire.

RS said there is an agreement for regional boundaries that do not cover non-BO orienteering events such as MTBO but then it was advertised on the club website. RS said he has raised it with Events Committee.

JW said he was well aware of the historical anomalies but to his knowledge HH had never held an event at Stowe before and neither had SLOW extended into Hampshire so these appeared to be new anomalies.

RS agreed and said that he would raise it for discussion at the Events Steering Group Meeting in October as it appears to be on the increase.

CBG pointed out that looking at the SCoA website, we are an association of clubs not a geographical region. RS explained that it was more nuanced than that and that there is not a clear definition. Many other regions have similar anomalies.

LY suggested that it is perhaps more a matter of courtesy and clubs could be reminded of this at the forthcoming events meeting?

### **1528 Dates of next meetings**

Thursday 2nd December 2021 - may be face to face depending on current situation.

Proposed dates for 2022:

Thursday 3rd March 2022 - committee meeting

Thursday 2nd June 2022 - AGM and committee meeting

Please check to see whether those dates work.

There being no more matters to discuss the meeting closed.

Fiona Clough  
Secretary SCoA