

**Minutes of the SCOA Committee Meeting held on Thursday 7th December
2017 at the Friends' Meeting House, Newbury**

Present

Di Smith	SOC	Chair
Peter Entwistle	BKO	Treasurer
Richard Sharp	TVOC	Fixtures Secretary
Liz Yeadon	SARUM	Development/Coaching
Simon Moore	BKO	Club Rep
Alan Wallis	SN	Club Rep
Alan Yeadon	SARUM	Club Rep
Simon Kippin	TVOC	SCJS
Bernie Fowler	BADO	Club Rep
Allan Farrington	BAOC	Club Rep
Terry Smith	SOC	Club Rep (for Ian Moran)
Fiona Clough	BKO	Secretary
Phil Conway	BOF	Development Rep

1327 Apologies for absence

Caroline Ford	SOFA	Club Rep
Charles Bromley Gardner	BAOC	Club Rep
Ian Moran	SOC	Club Rep
Bob Dredge	BOF	BOF Rep
Katy Stubbs	BKO	Technical Officer

1328 BOF Regional Development Officer

Before the commencement of the full meeting Phil Conway was invited to give a short presentation on his new role as one of four new Development Officers for British Orienteering with Sport England funding for 4 years.

PC explained that the main aim of the development officers were to support driving up membership and participation by clubs and to ensure the future of the sport by encouraging youth participation.

One project he was keen to progress with a SCOA club is to gather feedback from participants at events to establish – was it what they were expecting/wanted, how the event could be improved and other similar questions. This was discussed at length, considering whether it was appropriate for only one club to canvas event participants or whether it would be better for each club to do it after different level events – TS offered to take this back as an action for SOC to take a lead **Action: TS to take project back to SOC committee.**

1329 Minutes of the last meeting held on 21st September 2017

DS pointed out that on page 6, paragraph 4 that Peter Entwistle had also been present at the meeting with the previous JK Event Co-ordinators. The minutes were otherwise accepted as a true record of the meeting.

1330 Matters arising

- Paragraph 1281 **Action: BF to identify trophy suitable for rededication for SCOA Inter Club Competition** – completed.
- Paragraph 1281 **Action: DS to get Ken Ricketts to provide examples of Inter Club Competition scoring options and to produce simple guide to the scoring system for dissemination to club members** – explanation is on the SCOA league page of the website – complete.
- Paragraph 1315 **Action: Club Reps to encourage members to vote or send proxy votes for the British Orienteering EGM** – complete. Orienteering Foundation ‘Ambassador’ role description **Action: Club Reps to take document to committee to identify possible candidates for the role** – complete.
- Paragraph 1319 Forthcoming regional obligations for BSOC and JIRCS. **Action: IM to confirm the year of the BSOC to be held by SOC** – TS clarified that SOC offered to EITHER host JIRC’s or BSOC and not both therefore they will host JIRC’s. BSOC is a one-day event scheduled for 17th November 2019 and it is usually held in a park or similar area. **Action: Club Reps to take back to committees/Fixtures Secretaries – hosting club required as matter of urgency for BSOC on 17th November 2019.**
- Paragraph 1323 **Action: Club Reps/committees to review level B controllers and identify any interested in moving up to Level A (Level A controllers course to be held at the Major Events Conference 18th November 2017)** – complete.
- Paragraph 1324 (JK) **Action: FC to check landowners for Cold Ash. Club Reps to identify candidates for JK key officials; hosting clubs to confirm mapping arrangements for their events** – all to be covered in JK section of meeting.
- Paragraph 1325 SCOA chair position to become vacant at the June 2018 AGM **Action: It is now urgent that a potential candidate for this role be identified as only one more meeting before the AGM.**

1331 Chair’s Report

DS circulated a report to the committee prior to the meeting. Several reports detailing the discussions held at the Club and Association Conference on 14th October 2017 have been circulated for review.

The key points that came out of the conference were – how do we actually know what local orienteers want? How to find out that information and then act on the results. Additionally the question was asked – what motivates people to participate at local and higher level events and can our clubs/association do more? Discussions followed.

DS suggested several ways that the region could engage more with local orienteers:

- Promoting the colour badge scheme more;
- Encouraging all clubs to submit level D event results to BOF;
- Running more training courses, planning and publicising the dates well in advance;

- SCOA make more of the shared resources webpage (including good ideas and also documents).

The SCOA matting has been removed from the shared resource page as it tore badly at the November Classic and has been disposed of.

1332 Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

1333 Treasurers Report

PE circulated a spreadsheet detailing the current SCOA income and expenditure with comparison of previous years and current year to date. Additionally a report detailing grants and expenses paid out and income received from membership fees and event levies. This report also gave an update on the SCJS account.

AW pointed out that the forthcoming SN Trophy is a SEOA event and not SCOA therefore not subject to SCOA levies.

1334 Updates from British Orienteering

BD had sent his apologies for absence.

1335 Fixtures Secretary's Report

RS had circulated a report to committee members prior to the meeting.

RS mentioned that he was disturbed by the number of SCOA events on the BOF database that did not have a full set of officials shown. If the events went ahead without this they would not be covered by the BOF insurance. TS mentioned that for information SOC did not currently have a Fixtures Secretary.

LY asked whether there was a venue for the Yvette Baker Trophy 2018 and RS explained that they were not having either that or a CSC heat next year.

RS also said they were looking for a club to host the CSC Final in mid October 2021 (not specifically a SCOA club). AW questioned that it had come around quickly as SN only hosted it recently but RS explained that it is not held in extremes of the country to make the travel easier. RS also confirmed that the hosting club also gets to run in the competition automatically. AW said that SN were not interested in hosting it again as they hosted it in 2014.

1336 Junior Squad Manager's Report

SK had circulated a report detailing the activities of the SCJS prior to the meeting.

DS complimented Bethany and David (and Fiona) on the excellent report produced after the 2017 Stockholm Tour.

There was a discussion on spending plans for the SCJS and SK explained they were considering investing in some electronic punching equipment, as some of

the juniors do not know how to use pin punches. They have got some old kit donated by Reading Orienteers (before they became BKO) but that is very corroded and in a bad way.

SK has recently attended the JROS AGM and noted some interesting points, in particular in relation to O-Safe and Safeguarding. It is clear the O-Safe/Safeguarding policy is not best suited for Junior Squad activities, for example one-to-one coaching is not recommended but then how does one shadow a junior in the forest?

Another point of note from the JROS AGM was to do with selection processes.

PC asked whether the SCJS was at its optimum size? SK explained that the squad needs to be larger, they totally miss certain age groups and as a result they can not be competitive at JIRCS. SK suggested that at best the squad should be double its current size.

1337 Coaching Officer's Report

LY had circulated the usual Club Coaching Update prior to the meeting, noting that no reply had been received from TVOC, SN, WIGHTO and OUOC. Overall there has not been a lot of coaching activity in the last 3 months. LY questioned whether she now has the correct email address for the TVOC Coaching lead and this is to be confirmed.

LY stated she is now a coaching assessor and informed the meeting that she would put on another coaching course if there were the need. BOK and SWOA are doing a UKCC Level 2 course soon. A discussion followed around the difficulty experienced getting the required series of coaching sessions completed within the two year time period.

SK mentioned that JROS might hold another coaching course at Lagganlia.

AW initiated a discussion around can you still be a coach if your first aid qualification has lapsed. LY confirmed that you can still be a coach but you will not be a 'licensed' coach.

1338 Development Officer's Report

LY had circulated a number of different reports relating to the Club and Association Conference to committee members prior to the meeting and points for discussion have already been covered in the Chair's report.

LY did inform the meeting that it has been agreed to hold an 'Yvette Baker Shield' in addition to the trophy for clubs with under 30 juniors. This competition will have the same categories as the trophy but only the top 5 runs will count.

1339 Technical Officer's Report

KS sent her apologies, as she was unable to attend the meeting however she had circulated a report to members prior to the meeting. This report detailed a number of courses that had been run of the last 3 months including Grade B

Controllers courses for which KS had incurred expenses that were to be reimbursed.

Additionally there were 4 applications to be appointed as Controllers:

Neville Baker (TVOC) and Terry Smith (SOC) to become Grade A Controllers; Charles Bromley-Gardner (BAOC) to become a Grade B Controller; and Ben Green (TVOC) to become a Grade C controller.

KS recommended all four appointments. The SCOA Committee approved all four appointments after a short discussion (that excluded TS).

Event Officials

The only Level B for 2018 that still required SCOA approval for the officials is the SOC November Classic. KS has received an email from Andrew Nash who is the proposed planner and he meets the necessary criteria.

KS asked that SOC be asked to submit the officials on the necessary form (rather than in a number of different emails) **Action: TS to ask for the correct form be completed and submitted for the SOC November Classic (when all proposed officials have been confirmed).**

1340 JK2019

DS has produced and circulated two tables; one detailing particulars and comments on each day of the event and the second covering the necessary roles required for the whole event and also each day.

There are a number of vital roles that still need filling (and assistants too).

Action: All clubs to identify potential candidates for vacancies and email names and contact details to DS.

Action: Each SCOA club needs to identify a 'Helper Co-ordinator' for their club.

Day 1

RAL has now fallen through as the sprint location so steps are being taken to confirm alternative locations. TVOC are looking into Oxford Brookes.

AF suggested returning to Aldershot Garrison that has previously been used for the British Sprints. BF stated that he now has control of the Hockey Pavilion next to the car park at Aldershot, which could be used. **Action: AF to check to see whether permission can be obtained to use Aldershot for the Sprint event on Day 1.**

Day 2

Written permission is still pending to use Windmill Hill for the Middle distance event. Parking can be on Deepcut. The only question is the extension of the area at the bottom. Natural England may need to clear the use of the bottom strip south of the railway. **Action: AF to confirm permission – Day 2.**

Day 3

The majority of the landowners for Cold Ash have granted permission for the event. Regarding the mapping, KS has got several quotes for remapping the area. The committee discussed the various quotes and it was decided to recommend the quote from Dave Peel (£2,400). KS will draw up a mapping contract. **Action: KS to draw up a draft contract. DS to pass details of mapping quote to British Orienteering for approval.**

Parking arrangements are still being confirmed.

Day 4

For the Relay TVOC had identified Highmoor as a good venue however it was identified that the parking could be withdrawn at short notice if the weather is very wet leaving bussing the only option. Bussing is not ideal for a relay event so the decision was made to identify an alternative location.

Wormley was suggested but there are issues with providing TD 2 and 3 options. The very steep slopes are not suitable for the more senior competitors therefore overall it is not suitable.

AF suggested using Minley as it provides plenty of parking, a good area and spectator loop and an arena. It is a self-contained area and it is available. One point then discussed was that this area is now a long way from TVOC's area therefore it is unlikely TVOC planners and organisers would be available. **Action: AF to see whether permission would be forthcoming to use Minley for the Relay on day 4.**

DS said that it is now time to gather costs so that the event budget can be finalised by PE. Currently they were using the budget for the 2017 JK as a guide. AF stated that if Aldershot ended up as the hub for the event then they could use the toilet provider he uses for events.

Timing Systems for the JK2019

A discussion followed regarding what timing system to use and whether to have 'mixed punching'. AF said he had done the timing with EMIT for JK2007. In 2013 BOF gave the specifications required and AF provided the equipment but did not do the timing.

It was agreed that for the Sprint we should use 'Touch Free', for days 2 and 3 we should use normal punching. A long discussion followed on what to use for the Relay (with no conclusion reached).

There followed a very long discussion on using EMIT v SI for the JK. AW said that Southern Navigators could provide support and training re SI if the decision was made to use SI.

It was decided that the JK Committee need to consider the options, decide the specific requirements, obtain quotes and then return to the SCOA committee

with a recommendation. The final decision will be based on a number of factors including cost, convenience and availability.

1341 Replacement Timing Equipment

Robin Bishop has been in contact with other SCOA clubs. DS will ask him for a report for the next meeting.

1342 AOB

1. LY informed the committee that they had received a letter from the Quakers relating to the Friends Meeting House and the local development plans. Apparently the House is staying but everything else is being demolished. The work commences in January 2018. LY said she would keep an eye on the area to see whether it will impact on the next scheduled meeting (1st March 2018).

2. TS mentioned that the Forestry Commission are under legal pressure from Natural England to reduce the period of access to the forest from September to March to October to February. DS asked whether any other clubs have had similar issues. AW said that SN struggle to get on to heathland in March. AF informed the committee that the BBC got access to Hankley Common by importing an expert who proved that use of the Hankley by the BBC would have no effect on the bird population. DS then pointed out to the committee that as a result of this decision from the Forestry Commission that SOC would now be limited in the events they would be able to stage in the 4-month window.

3. SK wanted to make raise two points of business:
 - Could clubs please review their juniors to identify potential members of the SCJS in future years; and
 - There are issues that the M/W 18 and 20E's do not do enough events on 1:15,000 maps and that they need more practice on that map scale and on more challenging elite courses. There are very few opportunities for 18's and 20's to experience the elite courses especially in the south. Could we please encourage either elite courses or at least the use of 1:15,000 map scale.

1343 Dates of next meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

1st March 2018

21st June 2018 – AGM and Committee meeting (Secretary unable to attend)

20th September 2018

6th December 2018

There being no further matters for discussion the meeting closed.

Fiona Clough
Secretary – SCOA