

# **TWENTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held in the Meeting Room at the University of Edinburgh Centre for Sport and Exercise  
46 Pleasance, Edinburgh, at 6:30 pm on Thursday 14 June 2001

## **1 Present**

Graeme Ackland, John Barrow, Paul Caban, Brad Connor, Ken Daly, Chris Godfree, Dave Godfree, Gillian Godfree, Ann Haley, Janine Hensman, Ray Heyworth, Alison Laws, Tim Lenton, Jo Mein, Hilary Quick, Fiona Weir (16).

Apologies for absence were received from Jane and James Ackland, Darina Cunnane, Keith Dawson, Karen Dobbie, the Eades family, Scott Fraser, the Galloway family, the Hartman family, Martin Hyman, Colin Inverarity, Pete Kinny, the Lardner family, John Mitchell, Donald Petrie, the Riemersma family, Gordon Ross, Pat Squire, and Murray Strain.

## **2 Minutes of 2000 Annual General Meeting**

### **2.1 Adoption**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 22 June 2000 were accepted as a fair record of the proceedings.

### **2.2 Matters Arising**

It was mentioned that a map of the Archerfield Estate was duly produced, although no event had been staged on it yet (because of the outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease, and the consequent restrictions on outdoor activity). The new development proposals for the Estate include construction of a new golf course, but this should only affect the extreme east of the map. The more westerly part owned by the Lennoxlove Estate is unaffected by the proposals.

Ray mentioned that last year's Chairman's Report had omitted mention of 3 successes; these included the W35 Native Championship won by Ann Haley at the SOA Championships, his own success at M70 in the same Championships, and his winning of M70 in the Scotlands galoppen Series for 1999.

Graeme referred to the intention to amend the Constitution to include the election of Club Captain as a full Committee member at the AGM. Unfortunately, this was overlooked and hence could not be submitted in time as a proposal for the current meeting. However, he felt that it would be appropriate simply to appoint one of the existing members as Club Captain, thereby avoiding the need to expand the Committee further.

## **3 Chairman's Report**

Graeme presented his Report for the Year.

Unfortunately, the impact of the restrictions imposed because of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease had had a significant effect on the major events of the year, all of which had been either cancelled or postponed.

Of the events which were held, one success was Ray Heyworth, who once again won M70 in the Scotlands galoppen Series. At the Harvester Relays in 2000, Club teams came 2nd in both Men's and Women's classes.

On the international front, Dave and Tim represented GB in Finland, as did Lorna and Kim, while Gordon, Andy, and Dan Marston were members of the international Squads.

In the Home Internationals, Ann, Hilary, Graeme, Andy, Gillian, Dave, Tim and Rob all represented the SOA. Our Swedish branch (Tobias) excelled at the Nordics.

Turning to the development of the Club, Graeme mentioned that, over the last 3 years, we had made a conscious decision to concentrate on particular areas, while not pursuing others to the same extent. This was simply because it was felt that, given the strength of the Club, we could not do everything that we might want to. Hence we had managed to stage some good quality major events on good quality terrain, and also, at the other end of the scale, had taken the initiative by putting on short races at the local event series (both Saturdays and Wednesdays) for more experienced competitors. On the other hand, not so many colour-coded events had been organised (apart from the usual ESOA O-League event each year), nor had we felt able to put on the Wednesday summer series events aimed at Schools to the same extent as in the past. Dave and Gillian should be congratulated for putting on the Sprint-O courses at the Summer Series events, adding an extra dimension to these competitions.

Graeme felt that, in future, we should recognise that the Club could not undertake to organise everything, so we should try to do what we do do as well as we can.

## 4 Financial Statement for the Year ending 31 March 2001

Paul introduced the accounts, together with accompanying notes, and made some brief explanatory comments about the Statement.

There was some suggestion that affiliation fees were down somewhat this year, but that this might easily be explained by reluctance of members to renew given the reduced level of activity during the Foot and Mouth restrictions. It was suggested that any members who had not renewed for 2001 might be encouraged to rejoin in 2002.

## 5 Membership Fees for 2002

There was a question over whether the proposal from BOF to change the way that members affiliation fees are collected would be implemented in 2002. However, it was pointed out that, because the 2001 BOF AGM had been postponed until the Autumn, there would not be sufficient time in which to introduce such a scheme for 2002, even if it were passed at the next AGM.

It was agreed that the Club membership fees for 2002 should remain unchanged. This was proposed by Paul and seconded by Ray.

## 6 Election of Office Bearers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Secunder</u>
a) Hon. President	Carol McNeill	Gillian Godfree	Hilary Quick
b) Chairman	Ben Hartman	Alison Laws	Ken Daly
c) Secretary	John Barrow	Ann Haley	Tim Lenton
d) Treasurer	Dave Godfree	Tim Lenton	Hilary Quick
e) Social Secretary	Tim Lenton	Fiona Weir	Gillian Godfree
f) Newsletter Editor	Colin Inverarity	Gillian Godfree	Hilary Quick
g) Junior Member	(to be decided)		
h) Ordinary Members	Darina Cunnane	Hilary Quick	Alison Laws
	Gillian Godfree	Tim Lenton	Paul Caban
	Ken Daly	Gillian Godfree	Dave Godfree
i) Area Representative	(no nominations)		

In the absence of any Juniors, and because it wasn't clear if Niall wanted to remain on the Committee, the post of Junior Member remained unfilled. The new Committee would try to find out if Niall, or perhaps Murray Strain, would take on the position.

John agreed to continue to act as Area Representative, given that Ken was now Secretary of ESOA.

Gillian was proposed as Club Captain, and she agreed to this.

Dave Godfree was happy to continue as the Club's BOF Mapping representative.

The elected Committee were asked to remain after the close of formal business, in order to decide on a date and venue for the first ordinary Committee meeting of the Club's 26th Year.

## 7 Any Other Business

John read out part of a letter from Martin Hyman, in which he highlighted the problem of supporting (in particular) Juniors who showed promise at orienteering, but who were unable to get to events without outside help. He gave the example of Scott Fraser, who had rapidly progressed from being a complete novice to the stage where he had been invited to attend a BOF Training Week at Lagganlia immediately before the 6-Day Event, all in the space of a few months. The discussion widened to include all members who found themselves in the position where, for whatever reason, they had no transport of their own, and who would benefit from some sort of organised assistance from the Club. It was suggested that someone be found to take on the responsibility of acting as Transport Coordinator (for want of a better title) for events. Hilary offered to take on this responsibility.

In particular, it transpired that several members were interested in finding accommodation at the 6-Days in the summer. Tim offered to coordinate the search on their behalf.

John mentioned that he had received a batch of brochures advertising the 2002 World Masters Games, to be held in Melbourne in October of that year. They had been sent by John Colls, who was coordinating the orienteering events being staged in the Games (and who was Controlling Day 5 at Lochaber 2001).

Ken mentioned several points, some of which he passed on from Ben Hartman who was unable to be present. Ben wanted the Meeting to recognise the work put into the Club by Graeme and Paul during their years as Chairman and Treasurer to the Committee. Their efforts were recognised by a round of applause. Ben also asked the Meeting to recognise, in a similar fashion, the continuing work done by Colin Inverarity and John Barrow as Newsletter Editor and Secretary respectively. This met with a similar response from the Meeting.

Ken himself mentioned that the ESOA was looking into trying to appoint a JDO for the Edinburgh area, and an advert would appear in the next issue of "Score". ELO had offered to support such an appointment, and it seemed that, with matching financial assistance from the SOA, it would be possible to employ someone for more than the time originally envisaged (approx. 4 hours per week), provided there were a decent response to the advert.

The SOA had decided, at its recent meeting, to formally postpone their 2001 Championships to the corresponding time in 2002 (actually one week later, during the weekend for which an extra Public Holiday had been declared to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee). However, it seemed that all three main Officials would need to be re-appointed. The grouping or organising Clubs remained the same, with INT, RR, TAY, and EUOC being responsible for the Individual event.

Similarly, the 2001 Scotlands galoppen Series had been postponed until 2002, and those Clubs who had submitted applications to organise an event in the original 2002 Series would be asked if they would be prepared to take on an event in 2003.

The SOA WWW site was currently in the process of being reorganised by Roger Coombs.

Ken mentioned the thorny issue of the Scottish Executive's proposals for Land Reform, on which most organisations seemed to have significant reservations. The SOA had made a submission, and Ken urged everyone to consider making their own representations, given that the deadline was 30 June 2001.

An East Area representative to the SOA had been appointed; he was Allan Downie, of TAY.

Ann Haley asked if the ESOA had come to any decision on the awards for the 2000/2001 ESOA O-League Series (given that the series had been severely truncated by events being cancelled because of the Foot and Mouth outbreak). Ken replied that this would be one issue to be considered by the ESOA at its next meeting on 19 June.

John asked if anyone had any ideas on venues and/or organisers for the Autumn Saturday series of events. The issue was somewhat pressing, since the first date allocated to Interlopers was 8 September (the others being

13 October and 10 November). The July issue of "Score" would be the last one in which the first event could usefully be advertised, and the deadline for this issue was 15 June (i.e. the day after this Meeting). After some discussion, the venues chosen for the three events were Braidburn Park, Dechmont Law, and Mortonhall respectively. John would include these venues in the Registration form and despatch it to Graham McFadyen (who was continuing as SOA Fixtures Secretary until the end of June). It was accepted that the names of the Organisers could be chosen at a later date.

The suggestion of holding an Annual Dinner, perhaps in conjunction with the SOA Championships (as mentioned at last year's meeting), was repeated. The new Committee would consider such a proposal.

Finally, Graeme thanked everyone for coming to the Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

John Barrow (Hon. Secretary) – 24 September 2001