FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING, FIFTEENTH YEAR

8 p.m., Monday 11 June 1990, at 2/4 New Orchardfield, Edinburgh

Present:

John Barrow, Janet Fallon, Ishbel Mollison, Lucy Patterson, Gordon Riemersma, Jane Smith, Pat Squire, Charlie Walton

Apologies for absence were received from Eva Riemersma.

1 Introduction

For the benefit of the new members of the Committee, Charlie gave a brief summary of how Committee Meetings were conducted, and their frequency.

2 Matters Arising from previous Meeting

For information, Pat mentioned that he had uncovered a stock of at least 500 maps of Colinton Dell.

3 Secretary's Report

Two matters, concerned with JK90 and Southern Uplands 91, would be dealt with later under Events.

There had been a further plea from Derek Allison, regarding provision of funds under the Sub-National Facility programme. It was agreed that the Club was now in a position financially to undertake mapping of an area, but it was not clear that any areas as would be suitable under this programme were available, at least in the vicinity of Edinburgh. An item would be included in the next Newsletter, asking members if they knew of any suitable areas which needed either a new map or a re-draw.

The SOA had sent a copy of the Minutes of their March Meeting, in which they requested information from Clubs about how the profits from Loch Lomond 89 would be used. After some discussion, it was agreed that proportions of the profit would be made available for Junior development, for mapping, and for repair/replacement of the Club tent.

Some papers had been received from BOF, including the current version of the agreement with the Forestry Commission. Other information concerned the BOF AGM, held the previous Friday, and multiple copies of the TSB Ranking List to make up for some copies which had apparently been missed out of letters sent to individual members because of a printer's error.

There was some discussion of a letter from Jonathan Musgrave, concerning (a) proposed Surveying and Cartography courses during the coming year, and (b) the Scottish League (replacing Scotlandsgaloppen) for 1991. It was noted that Steve Terry, the previous Club Committee Chairman, had expressed his willingness to hold a mapping course for the Club if there were sufficient members interested. A note would be put in the next Newsletter about this. It was decided that, in view of the Club's commitment to next year's Scottish Championships, we should not offer to stage a Scottish League event, particularly in view of the fact that no area immediately suggested itself for such an event.

4 Treasurer's Report

Janet reported that Robin Sloan had still to be paid his expenses for the Lothian O-League event on 11 March, but that all other bills had been settled.

Janet then described a new type of bank account recently introduced by the Bank of Scotland, known as a Treasurer's Account; it was designed specifically for non-profit-making clubs, societies, and charities, and had been devised to cater for the situations where a club operated both a Deposit account, to earn some interest, and a Cheque account, to enable the club to settle bills. The new account was a relatively high interest account which also offered a cheque-drawing facility. It was agreed to apply for such an account as soon as possible. John and Charlie were asked to provide specimen signatures for the application form.

With reference to the purchase of a multi-memory stop watch in the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting, Gordon mentioned that he had already acquired his own personal watch. However, it was decided that it would still be a good idea to acquire one for the Club, to be loaned out as required. Pat agreed to look after this.

There was some discussion over the condition of the Club tent. Pat reported that several of the poles were now in a rather delicate condition. He mentioned that "Camping Écosse" could provided new pole sections, at a price. There was also a contact in ESOC who might be able to help. There was, however, no hurry to replace the tent, so Pat agreed to investigate in due course about either repair of the existing framework or purchase of a complete replacement tent.

There was also some discussion of the purchase of night-event headlamps for the Club. Charlie mentioned that there were basically two types, a cheap style, and a more expensive halogen bulb style which made heavy use of batteries. It was agreed to acquire two of the cheaper style, at an approximate cost of £16 each. Jane would check possible suppliers, including Tisos.

Gordon asked whether he and his sister Ynske could receive some subsidy towards their impending participation in BOF-organised tours, Gordon to Sweden, and Ynske to Pitlochry. The shortfalls involved were £120 and £50 respectively. After some discussion, it was agreed to provide half these amounts in each case. There was a suggestion that, as a general principle, the Club could devise some sort of sliding scale of support, depending on whether the participation was for BOF, SOA, or even LBOA teams. Alternatively, each case could be considered on its merits at the time.

5 Events

5.1 S.O.A. Championships 1991

Progress was continuing. Rudolph Riemersma was in discussions with the Milk Marketing Board, concerning a longer-term sponsorship of orienteering. The Working Party would need to involve more people in the organisation soon.

5.2 Southern Uplands 91

The Club had been allocated Day 5 (on Friday 9 August 1991), in association with MAROC, STAG, and PO. As first-named Club, MAROC had written to Interløpers, asking if we had identified any potential major officials. Those required were two Planners, two Organisers, and an Assistant Controller, to work with the main Controller who was Donald Wallace. After some discussion, it was agreed that, while we were perfectly willing to provide people on the day, our commitment to the Scottish Championships meant that it would not be possible to find anyone prepared to devote the amount of time and effort that would be required of one of the Major Officials.

5.3 Summer Series

The Club's two events in this series had taken place. Both had made a small profit.

5.4 LOL

The Club was to be asked to stage the second event in the 1990/91 series, on 14 October 1990. Pat would find out more details at the next LBOA Meeting on 19 June. The question, as ever, would be which area to use. It was suggested that LINOC and ELO be asked if they could suggest any venues the Club could use. An item would be inserted in the Newsletter, seeking a Planner and Organiser. The complete series of seven events would be staged, in turn, by ESOC, INT, RR, LINOC, WFO, EUOC, and ELO.

5.5 Harvester Trophy

Three teams had been entered for this event, in the A, B, and C courses. The Club would subsidise the entry fees (of £49 per team). Charlie would organise the allocation of people into teams, as well as the individual fees, taking into account the extra cost of providing batteries for those undertaking night legs.

5.6 J.K.

A meeting would be held after the Badge Event on 17 June at the Eildon Hills, with the intention of preparing a report on how the 1990 J.K. was run. Charlie agreed to collect comments from the Club and pass them on. Particular remarks made during the Meeting were that, at the Relays, it was very difficult to hear the announcement of the numbers of incoming runners, or even to see them clearly. There were some comments about the Finish run-in on Day 2 and at the Relays. There was also a remark about the reliance on a computer system, which fell over when a cable link between the Finish tent and the machine itself failed, probably having been affected by water. Otherwise, the overall impression was of a mainly enjoyable weekend.

John mentioned that a letter of thanks for the Club's efforts had been received from the main Co-ordinators, Charles Howie and Rod Mayor.

6 Newsletter

Several items had already suggested themselves for inclusion in the next Club Newsletter. There would probably be an article from Simon Thompson about his trip to the USA. Ishbel mentioned that, as she was probably about to change her job, she was uncertain what facilities she would have available to her for the production of the Newsletter. It was agreed to aim for the end of July for the appearance of the next issue. It could include an item about new members. John agreed to organise the pre-printing of address labels, and Charlie said he had a stock of envelopes.

7 LBOA

The allocation of the O-League event 2 to the Club had already been mentioned.

John handed to Pat copies of previous LBOA Meeting Minutes which had been sent to him by Ian McIntyre.

Pat mentioned that most clubs, approached by LBOA with a view to sponsoring the Area's Junior Squad, had already made funds available. The Club had agreed in principle to such sponsorship at its Committee Meeting last February. Janet wrote a cheque forthwith for £50, and handed it to Pat to be given to the Area Committee the following week.

8 Juniors

As already mentioned Gordon and Ynske Riemersma had been selected for BOF Junior Tours, the boys' one going to Ludvika in Sweden, and the girls to Faskally near Pitlochry.

Three Club members had been invited to join the SOA Team at the Junior Inter-Regional Championships in the NEOA on 7-8 July 1990. They were Gail Balfour (W13 reserve), Anita Sinclair (W17 reserve), and Anthony Squire (M13).

9 Socials

Some discussion was had on what form the Club Championships should take. There was a suggestion that they be held at Dalkeith House, for the grounds of which there was a map, and there was also a barbecue site. Lucy would follow this up.

Another suggestion was for a Progressive Dinner, perhaps for the Autumn.

A street/cycle event was also proposed.

10 Club Weekend

The Club proposed to hold a Weekend for all members at Kingussie on 21-23 September. Pat reported that the reservation of the Moray House accommodation was OK. The maximum number possible would be 30 (in 3 dormitories of 10 each). Details of the weekend would be put in the Newsletter.

Charlie suggested that an invitation be sent to Carol McNeill, offering to pay reasonable expenses, and pointing out that it would be a good opportunity for her to meet newer members, and to renew old friendships.

11 A.O.B.

There was considerable discussion on O-suits (which had been referred to the new Committee by the AGM). Rudolph had sent a facsimile message to the main supplier of suits in Stockholm, asking for costings on suitable material. It was suggested that a further approach be made, via Andy Kitchen, to Silva UK, with suggested colours and designs. The consensus was that most would prefer plain-coloured bottoms, but with a variety of tops available, perhaps with different designs and materials (mesh or non-mesh, Lycra or lightweight). It was mentioned that Ron Hill Sports also could provide O-suits. More investigation would be carried out into the many possibilities.

Also referred to the new Committee was the question of the previously-proposed revision of the SOA Fixture List, with a National Colour-Coded scheme. Charlie pointed out, however, that this proposal had not been carried at the recent SOA AGM, so that no discussion was now necessary.

Pat mentioned that the Moray House Holyrood campus would make available a gym for winter indoor training, at a cost of £9 per hour. This would include the use of showers. The level of interest in such a facility would be gauged through the Newsletter. Pat pointed out that a problem might exist with being able to obtain a booking, but he would check the availability.

The next Meeting would be held at 8 pm on Monday 13 August 1990 at 3 Charlton Grove, Roslin.

The Meeting closed at 11.05 pm.