



Minutes of SOA AGM held at the Memorial Hall, Morrisons Academy, Crieff on 28th May 2011 at 6.00pm

Present: Donald Grassie (Chair), Kate Robertson (Minutes), Les Dalgleish, Robert Hickling, Simon Firth, Ian Pyrah, Eleanor Pyrah, Maureen Brown, Lynne Walker, Hilary Quick, Paul Frost, Colin Matheson, Suse Coon, John Coon, Margaret Dalgleish, Anne Hickling, Oleg Chepelin, Oonagh Grassie, Angela Dixon

In Attendance: Malcolm Dingwall-Smith, **sportscotland**

Apologies: Mel Perry, Theresa Perry, Crawford Lindsay, Sally Lindsay, Roger Scrutton, Terry O'Brien, Scott Fraser, Ian McIntyre, Doug Tullie, Brian Porteous, Robin Strain, Sheila Strain, Liz Fraser, Jane McQuillen, David McQuillen, Ken Daly, Evgueni Chepelin, Ann Haley, Michael Greenwood, Seonag Robertson, Claire Duncan, Carole Chapman, John Emeleus, Graham McFadyen, Paul Duley, Sarah Cane, Derek McNeil, Moira Laws, Mary Williams, Ray Heyworth, Patrick Squire

ITEM	TITLE AND DISCUSSION ITEMS
-	DG opened the meeting by introducing Malcom Dingwall-Smith, the sportscotland Partnership Manager.
1.	Apologies
	Apologies were received from those named above (proxy voters are also listed as apologies).
2.	Approval of the Minutes of the 2010 AGM
	The Minutes of the 2010 AGM were approved.
3.	Matters arising from the Minutes of 2010 AGM
	Donald Grassie reported on the actions list from the 2010 AGM: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SNH impact survey reports for Forvie and Culbin have been published on the SOA website. Colin Matheson (CM) to collate reports for other areas and publish (ACTION). 2. The SOA have been working with ScotJOS to set up accounting procedures but further work is required. <p>All other actions were completed.</p>
4.	Annual Reports of Association Activities for 2010-2011
	Donald Grassie stated that the reports would be as presented in the AGM booklet. Any highlights and matters that have arisen since that time will be presented.
	i. President's Report – Donald Grassie
	Board Structure: Donald thanked Ian Pyrah (Partnerships Director) and Les Dalgleish (Treasurer) - who are standing down at the 2011 AGM - for their hard work and support over the past two and five years respectively. Donald also highlighted the significant contributions of the other Directors – Scott Fraser, Roger Scrutton, Terry O'Brien and Oleg Chepelin.
	Professional Staff: Following the resignation of Scott Fraser, the Professional Officer, Colin Matheson was appointed. Hilary Quick remains as Development Officer. Donald commented that both members of staff are key factors in the success of SOA and the 6 Day Company and thanked them for their hard work.

	<p>Highlights of the year: include the WOC 2015 bid, the successful Park World Tour in Perth, two appearances of orienteering on TV (the WOC bid and the Scottish Night Championships) plus numerous squad successes, Donald took the opportunity to recognise the continuing support of sportscotland and the Lottery Fund funding in helping to make these things happen.</p>
	<p>ii. Reports from Directors</p>
	<p>a. Operations – Terry O’Brien (presented by Donald Grassie)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terry thanked the various volunteers (Paul, Graeme, Rob and Trevor) for the smooth operational running of the SOA. <p>b. Development Officer – Hilary Quick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hilary reported that the Teaching Orienteering course has become very popular with outlying areas, particularly the highlands and islands. The target is to get this skill into every school helping them to become more self-reliant and reducing dependence on club volunteers. In addition, the UKCC level 1 and 2 courses continue to be popular and a Coach Education Policy has been formulated. <p>c. Performance – Scott Fraser (presented by Donald Grassie)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scott reported on several notable achievements and developments for Scottish orienteering and Oleg Chepelin backed this up by pointing out that half of the British athletes selected for WOC were Scottish plus 8 out of the top 10 runners on the elite course at the JK were SEDS athletes. <p>d. Scottish Junior Squad – Maureen Brown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maureen highlighted further squad successes including 7 Scottish juniors being selected for Lagganlia and Jenny Ricketts gaining a gold medal at the World Schools Orienteering Championships held in Italy the previous week. <p>e. Marketing and Communications – Oleg Chepelin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oleg thanked Hilary Quick (newsletter), Doug Tullie (score) and Paul Frost (website) for another successful year of smooth and good quality communications with members and clubs. - Oleg felt the key successes from the year were the PWT event and subsequent DVD; the appearance of Scottish Orienteering on The Adventure Show; and a joint networking day between SEDS and Scottish Hill Runners. <p>f. Development - Roger Scrutton (presented by Donald Grassie)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roger extended his thanks to Anne Hickling for putting together a Club Development booklet of ideas and best practice which he hopes will encourage clubs to seek money for development projects. Roger congratulated the clubs who had successfully made funding bids to the development fund thus far. - Donald Grassie informed the AGM that the SOA has been investigating the long-term possibility of providing more professional help for clubs and volunteers in the form of a Regional Development Officer in the Grampian region. Sportscotland have offered funding but this is dependent on obtaining matched funding. The SOA will try to build on this opportunity in 2011. <p>g. Partnership – Ian Pyrah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ian extended his thanks to all those he has worked with during his time on the Board. <p>h. Professional Officer – Colin Matheson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Colin confirmed that the JK will be held in Scotland in 2012. A new BOF partnership agreement for the event had been drawn up, discussed, revised and signed. Donald gave the background to the signing of the agreement.
	<p>iii. Scottish Orienteering Six Day Event Co Ltd Report – Lynne Walker</p>
	<p>Lynne referred members to her report in the AGM booklet and added that the Six Day Company is not currently in a position to announce the location for the 2015 Six Days as it depends on the outcome of the WOC bid.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Treasurer’s Report and Subscriptions/Levies for 2011 – Les Dalglish</p>
	<p>Les circulated his report and updated accounts and extended his thanks to Kevin Reynard for assisting</p>

	<p>with submitting accounts to Companies House.</p> <p>Hilary Quick requested clarification of the figures reported for the National Centre in the profit and loss account as they don't appear to match her figures. Les responded that it is possible that some items paid by the SOA were added to the National Centre figures.</p> <p>Les reported that Score magazine will become a quarterly publication in future (rather than bimonthly) to save money.</p> <p>Subscriptions: No changes to the subscriptions are proposed for 2012. Levies: No changes to levies are proposed for 2012. Les confirmed that students paying junior entry fees pay the junior levy rate. A brief discussion was held regarding entries for light green courses and below (who pay junior entry rates). This needs further clarification. In the AGM booklet the following was proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PROPOSAL 1: That the SOA subscription and levy remain unchanged in 2012. This was proposed by <i>Les Dalgleish</i>, seconded by <i>Donald Grassie</i> and voted for unanimously (including proxy votes).
6.	<p>Change to Bye-Laws</p> <p>No changes to the Bye-Laws from January 2011 were proposed,</p>
7.	<p>Election of the Board of Directors</p> <p>In the AGM booklet the following was proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PROPOSAL 2: That Donald Grassie be formally reelected as SOA President – this was proposed by <i>Kate Robertson</i>, seconded by <i>Ian Pyrah</i> and voted for by a majority 33 to 1 (including proxy votes). Donald commented that he is not intending to remain in post for the whole of the three year period. - PROPOSAL 3: That Ian McIntyre be formally elected as SOA Treasurer - this was proposed by <i>Donald Grassie</i>, seconded by <i>Kate Robertson</i> and voted in unanimously - PROPOSAL 4: Sarah Dunn had indicated at the 2010 AGM that she intended to resign as Performance Director and Scott Fraser was appointed in the interim. The proposal that Scott Fraser now be formally appointed as Performance Director was proposed by <i>Donald Grassie</i>, seconded by <i>Colin Matheson</i> and voted in unanimously. - PROPOSAL 5: In the event that a formal nomination is posted with the AGM materials on the SOA website prior to the 26th May, the named member is appointed as Partnership Director. No volunteers had been identified for the role so Donald asked the AGM to support the Board in coopting a Director as and when a volunteer is identified. The proposal was voted for by a majority of 32 to 2 (including proxy votes). - PROPOSAL 6: At each AGM, the Auditor is appointed for the following year. It was proposed that Graham Thomson be appointed as SOA Auditor for 2011. This was proposed by <i>Les Dalgleish</i>, seconded by <i>Donald Grassie</i> and voted in unanimously.
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>i. World Trail Orienteering Champs 2012 Anne Hickling informed members that she is organising the World Trail Orienteering Championships which will be held in Scotland in June 2012 at Tenstmuir. Anne asked that anyone interested in being involved get in touch. Donald thanked Anne for stepping into the organiser's role and Roger Scrutton for agreeing to plan the courses.</p> <p>ii. BOF Governance Document British Orienteering are reviewing the governance of the sport and have issued a paper with their proposals. Donald invited comments from members on the document which has recently been issued (and placed on the SOA website). It will be discussed at next Board meeting and an official response published in Score.</p> <p>iii. SOA and Charitable Status Donald informed the AGM that the Board is currently considering seeking Charitable Status as it is</p>

believed that this may assist the SOA in seeking further sponsorship. Some concerns raised included cost; the likelihood of there being more redtape to negotiate; and the possibility that SOA activities might be constrained. Donald responded that the process shouldn't cost anything (the SOA would just have to submit accounts) and trustees would be the directors of the Board plus one external person. Other Governing Bodies have successfully sought Charitable Status without their activities being constrained. Donald welcomed the advice from any members with experience in this area.

iv. Membership and Levies

Ian Pyrah presented membership statistics for the SOA. Whilst trends vary, probably the most telling statistic is that during 2010 Scottish clubs increased overall membership by 2% (and thus met the sportscotland target) but this was achieved by "recruiting" 16% new members and "losing" 14% through non-renewals; clearly we need to look at both retention and recruitment if we are to meet our 2011 target of 5% increase. A discussion was held and Rob Hickling questioned whether other measurement metrics were used to monitor the growth of the sport, i.e. were clubs encouraged to submit participation statistics? Angela Dixon commented that there are a lot of children participating in the sport, particularly in Tayside, but that it is difficult to get them to join the club as there is no real incentive for joining. Donald confirmed that the Board will raise issues with British Orienteering about the current membership structure, with the recommendation that the current high membership fee for British Orienteering should be considerably reduced and that members should be able to join a local club more easily.

v. President's Medal

Donald Grassie presented the President's Medal to Blair Young. Donald said:

"One of the key slides in my recent presentation to the IOF representative for the WOC 2015 bid was a photo taken outside the Scottish Parliament at the start of the ISF World Schools Orienteering Championships in 2008. It enabled me to show three items, key to our bid, and reflected back in the draft report we have just received from the IOF. It demonstrated Scottish Orienteering's close links and support with the Government; it demonstrated that Scottish Orienteering was used to running World events, and attracting visitors from across the globe; it demonstrated that Scotland was an exciting and popular place to come to. It made me reflect on the fact that SOA had not recognised Blair Young for his efforts that week, and over the past 17 years.

I believe that Blair's involvement goes back to around 1994 with the Scottish Schools Orienteering Association, although his involvement with the World Schools Competition goes back to 2004. Over that period, Blair has stuck with the philosophy of "trying to convert school children who do a bit of orienteering into orienteers". One of the key events of that 2008 World Schools Event, and indeed all such events, is the last event - the Friendship Relay. For those of you not aware, this is an opportunity for the children to mix up their teams, and run in a team made up of several nations - surely an example to all of us of what our sport is about - competition, fun and fellowship.

Over the years, Blair has been enthusiastically supported by Terry O'Brien, and while not awarding Terry today, I would similarly like to pay tribute to his dedication over the years to support the Scottish Schools and World Schools event. Blair and Terry are really a team - both guys have a long history of planning, organising and controlling events at all levels in Scotland. Without their tireless efforts our sport would be poorer.

Blair, Terry and Kate have just returned from this year's event in Italy with a successful team of 18 - including an individual Gold for Jennifer Ricketts. Just imagine the inspiration they have given to those 18 Juniors, which will live with them for the rest of their lives."

ACTION SHEET – SOA AGM, 28th May 2011

NO	ITEM	ACTION	BY
1.	2	Collate all SNH impact survey reports together on the SOA website so clubs can refer landowners to them if necessary.	CM