SOUTH EASTERN ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the SEOA Committee meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2022**

**as a virtual meeting using the ‘Zoom’ software**

**1 Present**

Simon Greenwood SAX SEOA Chairman

David Saunders HH SEOA Treasurer

Angela Darley GO SEOA Junior Training Officer

Neil Crickmore SO SEOA Competitions Officer

Catherine Galvin LOK

Jon Darley GO

Ben Bardsley HH

David Rosen British Orienteering Director

**Apologies for Absence**

Keith Marsden HH SEOA Secretary

Susan Marsden HH SEOA Membership Secretary

David Dixon HH

Alan Leakey SLOW

**A minute of silence was observed to mark the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

 **2. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting**

The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 8th June 2022 were accepted as a true record.

**3. Matters arising**

SG has discussed the issue of guidelines for the Southern Championships with SCOA and SWOA, but there is no current consensus. There is a need to strike a balance between establishing a formal process and allowing freedom in staging the event.

 **Action; SG**

**4. Update from the Board of British Orienteering**

David Rosen (DR) mentioned the recent successes of athletes at the World Orienteering Championships, World Masters Championships and World Mountain Bike Orienteering Championships.

Further consideration has been given to the Refund Policy and a text is being Drafted for the CEO’s next newsletter.

The IOF is reviewing its policy on transgender athletes: a transgender GB athlete recently won a bronze medal at an IOF event. A meeting was held on 7th September 2022 and the policy will now go out for consultation. British Orienteering has formed a group to consider this matter but will probably await the result of the IOF process.

The IOF is to implement gender equality in winning times for long distance races (the recommended times for sprint and middle are already harmonised). There is a current consideration of whether to have recommended winning times or target times (average of the first three athletes). Although IOF is levelling up the women’s times, it will be up to individual Federations to decide. British Orienteering will probably follow the lead from IOF. Some concern was expressed about the effect of this on athletes at the foot of the results.

New terms and conditions for membership have been introduced for new members and will apply as current members renew. These are not thought to be controversial.

The interim solution allowing new members who join from 1 September onwards to enjoy membership for 16 months has been implemented. This is a temporary measure until a more permanent solution is reached, perhaps a 12-month rolling membership year?

Terry Smith is leading a review of the rules, which will also consider whether to reinstate the Rules Group, as it is felt that the rules are falling behind and an update is required.

Three members of staff have left the BO office recently and replacements are being sought.

The next board meeting will be on 24th September.

**5. Major Events**

*Future Events*

**JHI (2022)**

This is being hosted by SCOA so was not considered.

**Southern Championships (2024)**

No update.

**JK (2027)**

No offers or suggestions have been received.

**6. Officers Reports**

**6.1 SEOA Chairman**

The Chairman had nothing further to report.

**6.2 SEOA Secretary**

The Secretary had provided a written report (Appendix A).

There had been no offers to succeed Keith Marsden as secretary. It was felt that some clubs may not have passed the call for a new secretary to their members. The request would be recirculated.

 **Action; SG**

It was pointed out that many clubs are struggling to find members of their own committees and that personal approaches might bear more fruit.

 **Action; SG**

**6.3**  **SEOA Treasurer**

The Treasurer had supplied a Report and interim income and expenditure statement up to the end of August (Appendix B). He reported that assets were diminishing in line with the recommendations made at the AGM, but that income was due from membership fees and event levies in the latter part of the year.

In line with recommendation of the independent examiner of the SEOA’s accounts, the Treasurer has been investigating designating a second person to have electronic access to the region’s bank account to improve probity and continuity.

The return to BOF had been made on behalf of SEOA and the Treasurer had contacted all SEOA club Treasurers to remind them of the SEOA fees for 2023.

**6.4 SEOA Membership Secretary**

The Membership Secretary had supplied a report (Appendix D). It was observed that the fall in numbers over the last two years was more marked for juniors than seniors.

**6.5 SEOA Competitions Officer**

A level C controllers’ course had been staged by Hedley Calderbank and Simon Errington, attended by members of HH and LOK.

NC recommended that the committee ratify the upgrade of Paul Todd from a level C to a level B controller.

**This was agreed nem. con.**

The availability of controllers for events in the region is generally good, with some minor difficulties securing out-of-region controllers for higher level events.

NC asked whether each region would be consulted as part of BO’s rule review. DR indicated that the process had not yet reached that stage.

6.6 SEOA Junior Training Officer

The Junior training officers had provided a report (Appendix C).

There were no points to add.

**6.7 SEOA and BOF Fixtures**

The Chairman noted that there was a full programme of SE league events for the next year.

 **7. Any other business**

The Chairman asked if others had dealings in respect of environmental access. He noted that he had an action point to talk to Forestry England.

**Action; SG**

DR reported that BO had set up a WhatsApp group for club access officers. There was much current activity as the BO access officer is due to meet the NT shortly and was seeking feedback. It was noted that issues generally arise with Natural England rather than the National Trust.

As SEOA meetings are now conducted by Zoom, reducing travel issues, it was suggested that the start time be moved to 20:00. It was agreed that the next meeting would be at the usual time of 19:30, and that the start time for subsequent meetings would be discussed on that occasion.

**9. Dates of next meetings**

8th December 2022 @19:30

9th March 2023 @ tbc

8th June 2023 @ tbc (with AGM)

14th September 2023

 **APPENDIX A**

**Secretary’s Report**

As you know I have resigned as Secretary to SEOA. I have therefore written to all members of this Committee seeking a replacement.

To date I have received no significant response and would therefore ask you all to make an effort to provide a suitable replacement for the role of Secretary to SEOA.

I would like to bring to your attention the article in Compassport (June 2022 Page 7) regarding the John Taylor Foundation for young athletes.

This small charity will allow applications regardless of standard and can help provide funds for items of specialist kit or some expenses.  Further details and an application form can be found at <https://johntaylorfoundation.org.uk>

SEOA has supported British Orienteering in providing free membership to a Ukrainian refugee orienteer.

A review of the British Orienteering rules is being carried out. Terry Smith (SOC) has been appointed the Chair of this group.

The IOF general assembly has awarded golden pins of honour to the following for their work on IOF Committees

 David Rosen

 David May

 Clive Allen

Many congratulations to them all.

 Keith Marsden

**APPENDIX B**

**Treasurer’s Report**

|  |
| --- |
| **Income and expenditure statement at 31 Aug 2022** |
|
| **INCOME** |   |
| Subscriptions | 0.00 |
| Event levies | 447.00 |
| Interest | 1.43 |
| Miscellaneous | 100.00 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | 548.43 |
|   |   |
| **EXPENDITURE** |   |
| Junior grants | 964.59 |
| Junior training / expenses | 2,837.36 |
| Development courses & conferences | 400.00 |
| English Orienteering Council | 790.00 |
| Officers' expenses | 0.00 |
| Competitions | 0.00 |
| Communications | 238.66 |
| Bank charges | 40.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURE**  | 5,270.61 |
|  |   |
| **SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)** | (4,722.18) |
| Net Assets @ 1 January | 20,720.46 |
|   |   |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS** | 15,998.28 |

Income

Main income for the year will be in the next quarter as membership subscription fees come in from clubs and once the SE League event programme resumes.

Expenditure

No unexpected expenditure. Zoom license renewed and web site hosting paid for 2022-2023. Costs incurred for new SEJS o-tops and for flights to JIRCs in Northern Ireland.

**David Saunders 02 Sep 2022**

**APPENDIX** **C**

**Junior training officers’ report**

We held our first training session of the new season on Sunday with 16 juniors attending. Thanks to HH for allowing us to use Burnham Beeches.

We are now getting sorted to go to JIRCs in Northern Ireland at the end of September. 20 juniors and 4 adults will be going. Costs are obviously higher this year due to airfares.

We have recently received a new stock of o-tops.

In October we are planning to have a training weekend in South Wales with a day’s training and then attending an event at Pwll Du.

November is the annual Hawkshead weekend for M/W16s, but don’t know how many will be attending yet.

We also have dates for training in November and December.

APPENDIX D

Membership report September 2022

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **2022 total** |  |  |  |  |  |   | **2021 total** |   |   |   |  |  |  | **2020 total** |  |  |  |  | **% increase** |
| **31/08/2022** |  | **Senior** | **Junior** |  | **Total** |  | **31/08/2021** |  | **Senior** | **Junior** |  | **Total** |  | **31/08/2020** |  | **Senior** | **Junior** |  | **Total** |  | **2022-2021** |
| BAOC |  | 12 | 0 |  | 12 |  | BAOC |  | 7 | 0 |  | 7 |  | BAOC |  | 9 | 1 |  | 10 |  | 71 |
| CHIG |  | 33 | 1 |  | 34 |  | CHIG |  | 36 | 3 |  | 39 |  | CHIG |  | 32 | 1 |  | 33 |  | -13 |
| DFOK |  | 71 | 20 |  | 91 |  | DFOK |  | 62 | 17 |  | 79 |  | DFOK |  | 56 | 13 |  | 69 |  | 15 |
| GO |  | 51 | 23 |  | 74 |  | GO |  | 47 | 22 |  | 69 |  | GO |  | 49 | 23 |  | 72 |  | 7 |
| HAVOC |  | 7 | 0 |  | 7 |  | HAVOC |  | 3 | 0 |  | 3 |  | HAVOC |  | 5 | 0 |  | 5 |  | 133 |
| HH |  | 148 | 69 |  | 217 |  | HH |  | 161 | 89 |  | 250 |  | HH |  | 158 | 93 |  | 251 |  | -13 |
| LOK |  | 44 | 8 |  | 52 |  | LOK |  | 42 | 7 |  | 49 |  | LOK |  | 49 | 6 |  | 55 |  | 6 |
| MV |  | 75 | 11 |  | 86 |  | MV |  | 71 | 13 |  | 84 |  | MV |  | 63 | 12 |  | 75 |  | 2 |
| RAFO |  | 3 | 0 |  | 3 |  | RAFO |  | 2 | 0 |  | 2 |  | RAFO |  | 8 | 0 |  | 8 |  | 50 |
| SAX |  | 92 | 28 |  | 120 |  | SAX |  | 92 | 22 |  | 114 |  | SAX |  | 82 | 19 |  | 101 |  | 5 |
| SLOW |  | 155 | 21 |  | 176 |  | SLOW |  | 150 | 22 |  | 172 |  | SLOW |  | 163 | 25 |  | 188 |  | 2 |
| SN |  | 30 | 12 |  | 42 |  | SN |  | 40 | 12 |  | 52 |  | SN |  | 38 | 16 |  | 54 |  | -19 |
| SO |  | 188 | 55 |  | 243 |  | SO |  | 187 | 65 |  | 252 |  | SO |  | 204 | 63 |  | 267 |  | -4 |
|   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |
| TOTAL |   | 909 | 248 |   | 1157 |  | TOTAL |   | 900 | 272 |   | 1172 |  | TOTAL |   | 916 | 272 |   | 1188 |  | -1 |