

Notes of COBOC Committee Meeting held 4/12/13

Present – Dave Ellis, Mick Sadler, Ian Gamlen, Jenny Hunter, Barry McGowan, Bob Scott

Apologies – Adrian Bailey, Ruth Lockley

Notes of the last meeting held 11/9/13 – as read

Matters arising

Dave apologised for not having got back to Ollie Johnson about the possibility of mapping B'ham City Centre. Barry pointed out that Andy White is currently mapping the Jewellery Quarter for an urban event due to take place in February 2014.

Barry had a few queries before he signed off the 2012-2013 accounts. He asked whether Dave had paid for his tops and sponsorship of the tops and whether Mick had paid for his. Mick confirmed that both he and Dave had paid for their tops and that Dave has paid for the sponsorship by Big Strides Consulting Ltd for O Tops. He suggested to Mick that large items of expenditure such as the O Tops and Si equipment be listed separately from other smaller items of expenditure for clarity. Overall he was happy that the accounts appear to be a true record of income and expenditure for the club for the period 1st Oct 2012-30th Sept 2013.

Chairmans Report

At Dave's request Ian circulated a draft development plan for the club for 2014-16 prior to the committee meeting. Dave pointed out that the purpose of this was 2 fold. 1) It is useful to establish priorities for the club and 2) It will help us towards achieving Clubmark fo COBOC.

He invited comments from everyone present. The committee were generally in support of what was proposed. Ian suggested that it might be useful to reconfigure the plan so that we could put timescales on some of the more specific targets. Bob suggested that we adopt the SMART principles ie Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic and Time bound. Dave agreed to try and rewrite it in this way. Barry McGowan commented that it was rather short and perhaps lacking in detail. Dave said that he didn't feel it was worthwhile writing a long document which few would read and preferred to keep it concise and to the point. Ian raised a concern about the following sentence:

The club's unique selling point is its focus on its local community and facilities, *with few aspirations to either compete on the national stage or stage British Orienteering level A and B events (the top 2 tiers of competition).*

He suggested that this was not particularly inspirational and could be perhaps usefully be rephrased as a number of COBOC members do in fact take part in national events such as the JK and British Champs and COBOC does regularly host the PPJ Night Relays which is a National Event.

Ian also felt that we should be including more about how COBOC would introduce and promote orienteering to local schools as this is clearly an important part of the development of the club. He suggested that we should consider developing a primary and secondary schools league or at least find ways to get more schools involved in both the Sutton and Birmingham Schools Champs.

Dave explained that unfortunately the present Government ended the Schools Sports Partnerships which had been developed by the previous Government to promote these kinds of developments. However these are to an extent coming back to life under a new initiative called the Sports Premium. Kingsbury School and Wilson Stuart Schools are meant to be developing this initiative for other schools in North Birmingham. He is hoping that by working with those involved he will be able to increase participation in the Birmingham and Sutton and Erdington Schools Champs.

Bob commented that COBOC is due to be organising the WM Schools Champs in 2016. Other national events coming to the West Midlands that COBOC will be asked to help with include British Sprint Championships (main club POTOC) on 6/9/14 British Middle Distance Race (WCH) on 7/9/14 and British Champs 30/4/16

Dave agreed to revise the development plan taking on board everyone's comments and agreed to re-circulate this to all committee members as a final draft.

Treasurers Report

Mick reported that the current balance of the COBOC accounts are as follows:

COBOC Current Account £751.07

COBOC Deposit Account £1196.04

Peter Palmer Account £2495.07

Mick discussed the planned activity at Birmingham Metropolitan College – Sutton Campus. It was agreed that since it is an Activity not an Event that we could hold it free of charge providing the college agree to pay for the printing of the maps.

Secretary's Report

Ian reminded everyone that one issue raised at the AGM was whether it was acceptable for club members to have access to the names and addresses (including email addresses) of other club members. John Bennison, who is the Data Privacy Officer for the WMOA sent Ian an email as follows:

"I note that the publication of members' email addresses came up at the AGM.
>Most clubs have adapted the WMOA policy for their own use - see the
>WMOA web site. Provided that members are informed of the intended
>internal club use (ie put the policy on the club web site), there is no
>need to obtain individual permission. It's public disclosure of
>information that requires explicit permission."

Ian has followed John's recommendation and has put an adapted version of the WMOA policy on the "Joining COBOC" page of the COBOC website.

A discussion then followed about how membership information should be shared with the COBOC membership. It was agreed that the membership secretary is responsible for maintaining an accurate list of COBOC members (whether members join locally or via BOF). Any requests for information about COBOC members such as names, addresses, tel nos etc from other COBOC members should be passed on to the membership secretary. Providing he/she is satisfied that the

information requested is to be used in accordance with policy called "The Data Protection Act and COBOC" which is currently on the COBOC website the information can be passed on. However, if the membership secretary has any concerns about it he/she should discuss their concerns with either the Chairman and/or Secretary of the Club and get their agreement before releasing the information.

Ian circulated a COBOC Event Equipment checklist which lists what equipment we have as a Club and where it is currently stored. It is hoped that this information will be helpful to organisers and planners of COBOC events. Please can organisers/planners ensure that they give sufficient notice to those holding the equipment of their requirements in order to ensure that an event can take place as planned. Further copies of the checklist are available from Ian on request.

Membership Secretary's report

Jenny circulated some copies of the current membership of those who have joined via BOF. She reminded everyone that BOF will shortly be collecting membership fees for 2014 from everyone who has joined via BOF. Ian provided her with the names and addresses of local COBOC members and she agreed to send out reminders to them encouraging them to renew their membership for 2014.

Future Events

Dave and Adrian have suggested /highlighted the following events over the next 6 months or so

18/12/13 – Santa Score O Sutton Park - COBOC

1/1/14 – Laurie Bradley New Year Score Event

19/1/14 – Sandwell Valley – HOC event – COBOC Champs

26/1/14 – Perry Park – COBOC

29/1/14 – Night Street Event – Sutton Coldfield - COBOC

16/2/14 – Kinver Edge – Compass Sport Cup/Trophy

Wednesday 19th February

1830 to 1930 starts

**Half Term challenge 1400 start and
Night Sevens Event, Sutton Park
(2.5Km and 5Km courses)**

Clifton Road Outdoor Education Centre, Sutton Coldfield,
B73 6EB

Sunday 16th March

**Colour coded Event,
Sutton Park**

Wednesday 26th March
1830 to 1930 starts

**Twilight Sevens Event, Sutton Park
(2.5Km and 5Km courses)**

Clifton Road Outdoor Education Centre, Sutton Coldfield,
B73 6EB

Saturday 29th March

Birmingham Metropolitan College – Sutton Campus

(formerly Sutton Further Education College)
Lichfield Road Sutton Coldfield B74 2NW

Wednesday 30 th April	Sevens Event, Sutton Park
1830 to 1930 starts	(2.5Km and 5Km courses) Clifton Road Outdoor Education Centre, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6EB
Wednesday 14th May	Sutton and Erdington Schools Championships, Pype Hayes Park
Saturday 17th May	Birmingham Schools Championships, plus Masterblaster Perry Hall Park
Sunday 22 nd June	West Midland Relays
Sunday 6th July	Colour coded Event, Lickey Hills Country Park

AOB

Ian reminded all present that there is the COBOC Curry Night on 11/12/13 at 8pm after training and that everyone is welcome. Please let Ian know by 9/12/13 if you are coming so that he can book the right no of places.

Ian and Dave have received an email forwarded by Ruth which was originally sent to her by Birmingham Open Spaces Forum. It reads as follows:

Dear BOSF Member & Partner

British Orienteering have contacted us through the new Active Parks project and would like to offer FREE fun family orienteering activities that can take place in your open space.

Please see more information below and if you are interested in taking them up on their offer, then please email me on info@bosf.org.uk. They need to know soon if you are interested, as it takes them some time to produce the map of your open space, so please let me know ASAP.

You can then use their online portal to set whatever locations you would like to use. This activity is aimed at families with young children and they would like you to run around 6 activities next year.

Ian and Dave both expressed concern that BOF is bypassing local clubs when making these types of initiatives and feel that it is a) very discourteous to local clubs b) although it may result in a short term increased interest in orienteering in a locality it is unlikely to be sustained due to lack of involvement by local clubs. Dave felt that given the BOF structure this may be unconstitutional and has written to BOF Chief Exec Mike Hamilton expressing our concerns.

COBOC Club Championships 19/1/14

A brief discussion took place around how we could create a fair scoring system for this. Dave suggested that it should be based on the Course winners time/Competitors time x 100 assuming that the individual ran the appropriate colour course for their age group. It was agreed by those present that this seemed to be the fairest method. Dave has found another COBOC trophy which could be given to the Club Champion on an annual basis.

Date of next meeting – Wed 12th Feb 8pm