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MINUTES OF THE IRISH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

17th December 2007, 20:00, via Conference Call

Present:

Marcus Geoghegan

John Casey

Ed Niland

Fergal Reid

Harold White

Ruth Lynam

Absent:

Fergal Buckley

Brendan O'Brien

Apologies were received from Fergal Buckley.

Action items highlighted in red.

Minutes

It was decided Fergal Reid would take minutes.

Action items from previous meeting

Dublin mountains initiative

This has been paid.

Asthma exemption

Paperwork is ready to go.

Marcus to do this soon.

Places on BOF courses

Ed and Ruth went.

Ruth to write Report on that.

John has to reimburse expenses on course.

NIOA

At VHI, Marcus had a discussion with Bill O'Regan on fixtures.

It was proposed to synch Northern Ireland events with LL events to make 2 days orienteering events.

Fergal Buckley to follow up with Trina Cleary to make this happen.

Bill wondered if FIOA, Federation of Irish orienteering associations could be revitalized? Can we get people to do that?

Harold to pick that up with them.

Other areas of co-operation might be shared responsibility for Irish champs, JK in north, VHI, JHI and a possible training link? Also co-operation on IOC trophies and child protection.

IOA administrative assistant

Marcus to talk to candidate over Christmas to try and find out if they are interested.

If they are interested, we can later follow on and refine job spec.

Sports council funding

Sports Council 2007 mid year review has been submitted by Marcus Geoghegan, John Casey responded to any queries on accounts.

Sport's Council 2008 grant application has been prepared and submitted in record time by John Casey.

Diaries

Marcus received sports council diaries for executive, send A5 SAE to Marcus if you want one.

Treasurer handover

John has went through accounts with Mary today, Mary will take over treasurer on Jan 1st 2008, John will do accounts for 2007, Mary take over 2008, bank accounts to be transferred early in the new year.

Details of bank account transferal:

The meeting agreed to allow Mary O'Connell and Marcus Geoghegan to act as cheque signatories on the IOA current account (BoI, Church St, Athlone). Also John Casey and David Weston will be removed as cheque signatories. The third signatory, Brendan O'Brien, will remain unchanged. This will be effected in Jan 08 when John Casey steps down.

Mapping

Marcus has been in touch with Pat Healy about Department of Sports mapping grants, Pat be back in February, so most of the action will happen then. **Marcus to follow up then.**
It was noted that Sean Cotter has been in touch about mapping grants, sent helpful e-mail making suggestions, which was very good to get.

IOA branding

We got links from Outsider and MCI websites.

Sites of interest section for IOA website would be great.

Fergal R to think about this.

Ór

Martin is working on great sounding update, again, it's a great credit to him.

Further, on the software front, Stuart Scott is working on prototype league system to integrate with IOA website, which looks great. This system, "IOLeague", will be beta-tested in this winter's Dublin-by-Night series

Trophies

Nothing has happened on trophies yet, **Marcus to try and get this resolved in the new year.**

ISC Grant application

Everything has been done.

Technical Progress Report from Ed has been sent.

Child protection & Garda vetting

Irish Orienteering is fairly far advanced in child protection, thanks to work done by Faith White and Barbara Foley Fisher a few years ago.

Sports council going to phase 2, phase 1 was to get organisations to make process, phase 2 to implement process.

Need to get someone to liaise with Garda to implement procedure.

As an organisation we don't have an office, or staff, or secure archive of documentation.

We need an employee responsible for liaising with Garda. **We need to find someone to keep sensitive documentation in their house, or to get sports council to provide secure documentation facility.**

Marcus does not want to be person responsible for Garda vetting.

We need to find someone.

The documentation would include:

A request that somebodies name be vetted.

A response from the Gardai – may have criminal history on it.

Barbara knows a lot about area.

She has agreed to be point of contact if no-one else did it, but rules ideally say that shouldn't be same person as child protection officer.

We need to tighten up our affiliation process, including having requirements for child protection officer in each club in order to affiliate

Not mandatory for us to implement vetting yet – but each year, sports council requirements get more stringent, so it's increasing.

There is a sense of moral responsibility as the National Association to ensure clubs have trained child protection officer.

Maybe the administrative assistant could be the confidential point of contact for handling paperwork related to vetting process – they would be the nearest thing we have to an employee and an office?

Maybe we need constitutional amendment to create post of child protection officer at next AGM? -main task would be to implement the recommendations of child protection policy.

John Casey will write a motion for the amendment, publicise it before hand.

Barbara should be encouraged to run child protection training for clubs.

Leave No Trace

Moire O'Sullivan will stepping down, so we need someone else to liaise with this organisation. It was noted they have done a lot of good work. The committee expressed their thanks for the work she has done on behalf of Irish Orienteering.

There are some candidates who have expressed interest in this who will be considered by the executive.

Irish Relay Championships

Harold was looking for feedback.

Main feedback was simplification of handicap classes from 5 to 3.

Very good feedback received.

Need rules and classes published on website.

Need set of guidelines for organisers.

Cork-O only 20 weeks away from running Irish Champs.

Harold will be talking to Cork-o about this to assist them.

IOA Championship events

What is a Championship event?

Constitution only states two championships, IOC and IOC relays.

Should be tightened up.

John Casey said: The executive should have the power to award championship status to an event.

The constitution also says the IOA has to approve the area, controller planner and organiser.

Harold suggested he will look at this between this meeting and the next to come up with a proposal.

There has to be a relay and an individual every year as well.
Middle distance championship was never consulted with NIOA, need to talk about this with them.

Computers in orienteering course

Marcus has floated agenda to several people. Good response. **Marcus will take responsibility for running it.**

Planning and Organising course

Harold working on this, hard to see weekend suitable for this.
Planning course should probably be run before the computers course..?
9th February? 16th Feb?

Marcus will progress Computers Course,
John and Harold will process Planning and Organising course.

IOC 2011/2012 (NIOA may request a change of year)

Western eagles have event in for 2009.

Need to clarify with NIOA if they are prepared to put on IOC in 2012, assuming they won't want to run it in 2011.

Harold to talk to NIOA and IOA and relevant clubs.

With Western Eagles committed to the IOC in 2009, it is now more likely that NIOA will seek BOF national event status for the NI Champs in 2009, and that this event will be used as preparation for the JK.

Harold will stay on this until future progress.

Scouts training

Scout organiser requested orienteering event for scouts. No response to request on group. This was a pity. Hopefully courses coming on line in the future will enable better response to things like this.

Longmoor BAOC training

This has been great training in the past, and there will probably be opportunities there in the future. Pat Farelly tends to deal with Marcus on this. We need new point of contact to take it over as Marcus is very busy. Ed volunteers to do this and be point of contact in future. It was noted they have been very good to Irish Orienteering in terms of training. It would be great to invite them to Inisbofin.

Ed to talk to Pat Farelly about that.

Schools Orienteering

What is the Irish Schools Orienteering Association?

We need to consider liaising with them, make sure we sort out child protection issues.

It'd be great if the main people in schools orienteering could get together and talk to each other.

Also world school championships is important. Request for championship selection goes to sports council, which should go to IOA.

On the subject of events, it was noted that sometimes events appear to be registered by both a club and an unaffiliated organisation.

The Fixtures secretary should note we need to make sure not to accept event registrations from non affiliated organisations. The registration that appears on the website should just state the name of the affiliated club and nothing else.

Harold will write to relevant people and ask them about status of school championships event.

Coaching course for next year

Ed finishing coaching manual.

Start Orienteering Coaching Course will be agreed in January.

Aim of running a Pilot course in Feb &/or March in Munster &/or Leinster

Will be agreeing course with NCTC in January.

Coach Tutor Training

It would be good to get other people trained up by NCTC to delivery courses.

There were four potential trainees, but no response from two.

Ed Niland, Frank R. & Con M. were the only IOA Tutors at present willing to deliver courses in 2008. More will be required to be trained in the near future.

Potential Candidates will be approached by Ed Niland.

Ed Niland to follow up on this.

Ideal candidate is someone who has done some coaching, and we should try and find such candidates in future. This is just for coaching courses – planning, controlling etc is outside the scope of this.

National Training and Accreditation Framework for Adventure Sports

This was discussed briefly. Fergal R to send around report on meeting attended to committee.

Ed will be keeping pace with this as it progresses over the next year.

Orienteering video grant

A grant of 400 Euro was sought to help fund an Orienteering promotion video being made by David Healy and Finn van Gelderen.

This was approved. Fergal R to ask them for an acknowledgement in the credits of the video.

It was mentioned that Finn and David had talked about a future project which they would be presenting a proposal for in future.

It was also suggested that it would be great to have a video of events such as Inisbofin and Bere Island.

Other business

We used call facilities from www.247meeting.com, which worked very well, better than previous facilities we were using. There were no objections to using it in future, so we are going to use it.

Next meeting date

Mid to late January we will get an e-mail from sports council, awarding grants.

The will be a meeting end Feb to discuss this.

The new secretary will organise meeting date.

It will probably be during week of Feb that begins with 18th.

AGM Date & Venue

Fachtna Healy E-mailed us, need to know when AGM is on, do we want to have other shamrock sessions type thing. Agreed to have the AGM at Bere Island event center.

We need to think about series of presentations.

Decide whether they should be at Inisbofin or the Irish Champs or both?

Meeting ended at 101 minutes in.