

# Minutes of Meeting of IOA Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010 by Teleconference

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Attendees: Brendan O'Brien, Ruth Lynam, Mary O'Connell, Finn van Gelderen, Aine Joyce, Brian Power, Fergal Buckley, Ivan Millar, Ed Niland

Apologies: Harold White, Andrew Cox

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## Budget for 2010:

The grant from the IOA was confirmed at 4% less than last year. It is necessary to resubmit the budget to the ISC with this new figure.

### Expenses

Item	Budget 2009	Approx Expenditure 2009	Budget 2010
<b>Admin</b>			
Insurance	6,000		6,000
Strategic Plan			
Secretary	6,000		6,000
IOF	1,400		1,600
Trophies	1,500		1,500
IOA Agm	1,000		1,000
Fed of Ir Sports	150		150
Other	5,000		5,000
Admin Total	21,050	13,808	21,250
NCDP & Coaching	23,000	8,153	10,000
Mapping	10,000	9,910	5,000
Schools Mapping	2,000		2,000
Equipment (SI)	4,000	59	1,500
Schools SI	3,000		1,500
Club First Aid	500	379	500
Major Event Subvention	2,000	3,200	1,000
Junior Squad	15,000	14,772	15,000
High Performance Squad			
International Competition	12,000	14,013	5,000
Training Camps			10,000
Promotional Activities	5,000	7,987	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,550</b>	<b>72,281</b>	<b>79,750</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Sports Council	52,800.00	52,800	50,588.00
Carding			
Affiliation	3,865.00	3,975	4,200.00
Levies & Fees	5,000.00	4,335	6,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,665.00</b>	<b>61,110.00</b>	<b>60,788.00</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-35,885</b>	<b>-11,171</b>	<b>-18,962</b>

## Mapping

The budget for next year is reduced to €5k, only 9 clubs applied for grants this year. €9,500 was issued in mapping grants for 2009. The cheques will be issued in the next few days. LIDAR mapping experiments may require more money next year but the amount is currently unknown. The next request for mapping grant applications will be Sept 2010. Brian Power will look at the Schools Mapping grant situation. He will also be asking clubs for details of their maps. There will be an advanced mapping workshop, specifically aimed at Club Mapping Officers before the summer.

## Juniors

The chairman congratulated Ruth Lynam on being nominated as one of eleven Dublin Ambassadors of Sport for 2010.

Finn van Gelderen suggested that orienteering fixtures be added to the Dublin City of Sport website.

## Junior Squad Activity since September meeting:

### Time Trial & Training weekend 10-11 Oct.

Well-attended. Also quite a number of next year's potential squad came out for training on the Saturday afternoon. Training: compass & pacing in Massy's Wood, long legs & racing in Trooperstown.

### Training weekend for International Squad 28-29 Nov.

Almost all the International Squad (20 juniors) attended for Track run, Sports Psychology, Training discussion, incorporating Connacht Champs.

## Plans 2010

Squad tour to the Portugal O Meet this weekend 12-17 Feb, 11 Juniors.

Next Time Trial/Training weekend will be 20-21 March in Dublin/Leinster.

Date for Munster Training weekend to be decided, probably April.

A large Squad tour going to the JK 2-5 April.

- EYOC Spain 1-4 July
- JWOC Denmark 4-10 July
- JHI 11-12 Sep

Other dates to be finalised are: Summer Tour, JWOC 2011 training in Poland, Autumn Time Trials, Autumn Training weekend.

**Selection policy** for JWOC & EYOC in 2010 published in November

## High Performance Report

– Ivan Millar

### Competitions.

Competitions and trainings this year are based mainly in Scandanavia. In terms of competitions the main three for the elites are: World cup events, world university champs and the world championships to be held in Trondheim.

In June we have the European Champs in Bulgaria. This is not looking like a priority event at this stage.

The three stage Nordic tour takes in Finland, Sweden and Norway we hope to have a strong team competing in these events although unfortunately a number of Swedish based Irish Elites have ruled themselves out because they are too familiar with some of the terrain areas.

July sees juniors heading to JWOC followed by the World University Champs to be held in Sweden. Unfortunately there is an issue with the Irish student sports body regarding team selection for this event, we may not be able to send as large a team as we had hoped.

In August we will be concentrating on the World Championships to be held in Trondheim, Norway. Finally, later in the year will be world cup events in France and Switzerland which will be the start of the build up for WOC 2011 in France.

### Trainings

In the way of trainings and selection for these major events we start off this coming weekend with a number of elites heading off to Portugal for a week of Spring training. Unfortunately this tour will not be as structured for the elites as I would have hoped.

In March there is the Danish Spring Cup, April sees a large number of squad members at the JK in Devon.

Following the Irish Champs Ivan is putting together a squad weekend to coincide with the Leinster Champs at Carlingford and an event he is planning at Slieve Gullion on the Saturday. He intends to get as many of the younger squad members to take part in this get together and is hoping to book hostel accommodation for all.

The week prior to World Champ selection races Ivan hopes to provide relevant terrain trainings in Norway.

### Selections

We have acquired the help of young Norwegian orienteer Kim Sveen who came over for last years SHI weekend and met some of the Irish Squad. Kim will be helping to organise training and selection events in the lead up to WOC.

The WOC selection dates and venues have now been organised. We have been given the chance to hold our selection races alongside the Scandinavian teams of Norway, Sweden and Denmark in a three day event to be held in Norway at the beginning of July. This will be the selection for the long and middle distance.

We have retained one Irish championship race as a selection race – this will be the sprint race on the Friday evening of the Champs.

There has been a revamp of the selection policy for this years WOC. The main difference being a selection race for each discipline (S,M,L). The first two finishers in each race will qualify automatically and the third will be selected on all known form (We now have a selection panel for fairness consisting of Ruth and Brendan).

Ivan has asked all Irish elites who intend to run for WOC selection this year to return an intention form with their discipline preferences and received twenty five responses (six women and nineteen men) so selection should be exciting.

### **Promotions**

On the promotional side of things Ivan has created a blog to highlight the build up to WOC 2010 and is also looking forward to working with Finn on his promotional programme for the Irish Elites at Trondheim.

### **Communication**

– Finn van Gelderen

Finn briefly reviewed last year's activities. The biggest part of 2010 activities will be the Nestle promotion. Nestle will feature 11 sports on their product packs in 2010, including orienteering. Customers will be offered a free chance to take part in these sports by collecting tokens. Finn is drafting a letter to clubs to explain this promotion.

Finn will also be working with the Senior Squad and creating a film about the 'Road to Trondheim'

### **Fixtures report**

– Fergal Buckley

The criteria for holding a Championship event was discussed. It was felt that the Technical officer would have to be agreeable that the area and map were suitable. Fergal will co-ordinate this.

## **Orienteering Education**

– Ed Niland

There will be a pilot instructor course and also courses for Adventure Centres.

The training of 5 instructors is almost complete, there only remains a weekend meeting to be arranged.

## **AOB**

### **Sport Ident:**

The munster SI kit is still intact but it is not used by the Munster clubs but is necessary for any national event. Fergal Buckley suggested that grants be provided for clubs to aid in purchasing their own SI kits.

### **AGM:**

It is hoped that the IOA AGM will be held on the Saturday evening of the IOC. Aine Joyce to make arrangements.

### **Committee changes:**

Mary O'Connell will be resigning at next year's AGM due to work pressure, but she will be able to support a new treasurer for the first while.

## **Appendix – reports from officers absent from the meeting**

### **Development – Andrew Cox**

In brief plenty of activity but needing further direction.

My main focus continues to be schools although I have also agreed 3 training sessions with Waterford Sports Partnership which will include children age 12 to 14 from a range of City youth clubs such as Ballybeg Project, PACT and Foroige.

In addition, I will be running a training session at Easter for adult trainers of the PACT project Works which targets areas of Waterford's inner city and Ferrybank providing group work and special interest activities for young people.

I have had communication with Eoin Browne who is an outdoor education centre teacher running FETAC courses with City of Dublin VEC Youthreach about the courses that he runs. He has also been in touch with Ed.

### **IOSG/Schools**

A full set of results and fixtures is to be found on the IOSG blog [www.irishschoolso.blogspot.com](http://www.irishschoolso.blogspot.com) where Sport Ident has been used and where fixtures were officially ratified.

There have been 8 schools events since the start of the school year. A quick analysis shows that 16 Secondary and 16 Primary have participated. 8 further events are planned before the end of April.

The recent Cork Schools event had 116 Primary girls, 117, Primary boys and only 71 Secondary. Runners were set off on their own but a degree of bunching occurred by the finish.

We anticipate large numbers for the Waterford Primary schools where they will run in pairs and in teams of 4 with one Si card per team. This allows the use of 100 SI cards for 400 kids.

In Leinster, there appears to more interest at secondary level whilst in Munster, there is massive interest at Primary level.

The following issues arise:

**1. What level of training is involved in the events?** Most training takes place just prior to running or on a separate occasion. For instance, I am training two new Secondary schools next week. The most value is clearly seen where the school has prepared in some way for the school event. There is a need for a more unified approach.

**2. What technical standard should the courses be?**

It is important to remember the fun element and that children are not out for hours. They will not come back if they have a negative experience. There has sometimes been a trend to cater for the regular club orienteer and forget that many of the rest do not go to club events. The solution has been to provide a Senior B course to cater for Transition Year students who have just moved up to the Senior age.

**3. What level of support has been available from clubs?**

Cork O and Wato members have helped extensively at events in Munster and Mary Healy has had similar support in Leinster.

**4. Have there been adequate adult members to support the teachers?**

This is linked to the level of training available and the standard of event offered. The idea of training Transition Year students to help train younger kids is one worth developing.

**5. At what stage should children be encouraged to run on their own rather than in pairs?**

Depends upon how often the kids have been orienteering and if it is an area that has been used before. With Si it is easier to set them off at short intervals.

**6. Is the cost of bus transport prohibitive?**

This appears to be more of an issue in Leinster.

**7. Are suitable maps available?**

There are limited maps appropriate for schools orienteering. Parkland areas such as Doneraile (Cork), JFK (Wexford) and several Dublin parks are best. Maps have to be able to cope with high level of White/Orange level courses (Primary) with lots of tracks, need to be up to date (Coillte forest areas are a big problem) and available to the planners (current Munster conflict).

Developing links with Local Sports Partnerships is one channel for map production but this requires an IOA designated Map Maker with a specific focus on schools. None of the current event planners have the time to develop/update/produce maps. Areas have been identified which are suitable but a specific amount of money needs to be agreed and a Mapper found.

**Can the IOA employ a full time mapper?**

I would be interested in an update on which areas have been identified by Coillte for Permanent Orienteering Courses. This would help in planning schools events and training next year.

Andrew Cox, February 2010.