



Loch Eck Orienteers

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in Taynuilt Village Hall at 3.00 pm
on Sunday, March 30th 2014

1) Welcome and Apologies

RL welcomed all those present and thanked them for attending. No apologies were received.

2) Minutes of 2013 AGM

Minutes were available in printed form.

Items highlighted by RL:

a) New tent not yet purchased

b) Club mapping intentions.

Acceptance proposed by RL; seconded by AP. Minutes approved.

3) Committee Reports

Reports were delivered from

a) Chairman (RL)

RL referred to the club's 2010 Development Plan to demonstrate how far EckO has advanced since then:

i) *Local events*

The target was to increase the number of non-orienteeers attending local events by 10% each year. Without doing the math, he felt that the club is close to that, especially over the last year.

ii) *Map updates*

EckO has a large electronic repository of maps, kept up to date by members.

iii) *Ecko attendance at events outside Argyll*

EckO regularly has twenty to thirty competitors at Scottish events such as SOLs.

iv) *Coaching and training*

The club has 4 Level 1 coaches, with RL working towards Level 2, and one Level 3 coach (GB). One reason that club training events are being put on is to give the coaches more experience.

v) *Event officials*

Planners, organisers, etc. are gaining more experience through EckO hosting one big event each year - a SOL on alternate years, this year's Junior Home International.

vi) *Communication*

Most communication is through the club website; members can be involved in this. RL felt there is room to explore other means of communication.

vii) Junior activities

The is a flourishing Junior section and an associated need for more Junior-only training activities. Juniors are requesting this, citing the example of other clubs that have more regular training activities.

RL felt that EckO has achieved most of the aims of the Development Plan, commendable given the small number of volunteers in a club of this size.

The Committee will return to the Development Plan with a view to consolidating its targets and looking at areas for further development.

b) Secretary (AP)

It has been an excellent year for EckO

i) Events organised

One SOL; 11 local events; Club Championships; four training events.

A total of 17 events.

In addition EckO organised and manned both Starts at the Scottish Six Days, Day 1

ii) Events attended

JK 2013; British 2013; Scottish 2013;

5 SOLs 2013; 1 SOL 2014;

Scottish Six Days, Moray 2013;

Inter-Club Relay; Compass Point Cup.

Plus numerous other events

iii) Successes

EckO's Juniors had an outstanding year (see report by KH).

Several Seniors also gained honours in their age group:

AD – Scottish Night Championships, 1st; Scottish Championships, 2nd.

AP – Scottish Championships, 3rd.

GB – Scottish Championships, 1st

All three were selected to run in the Veterans Home International (although only GB actually ran).

iv) Membership

EckO membership is healthy. There are 54 members (defined as having joined EckO + SOA + BOF) — 31 seniors and 23 juniors. Very few lapsed members and a couple of new families from the extremes of our catchment area.

Membership Forms: for a variety of reasons, but particularly insurance (see below*), EckO should be encouraging occasional competitors to join BOF. This can be done through the link on the EckO website, but with help of SOA there is now a form which can be handed to competitors at EckO events (membership fees can even be accepted).

The full membership is £12 (apportioned £5 to BOF, £7 to SOA and nil to EckO) for Seniors and £2 (all to BOF) for Juniors.

Gift Aid: Members who pay Income Tax can sign up to Gift Aid, allowing SOA to claim back £1.75 per member, which they will pass on to EckO. AP distributed Gift Aid forms.

[*Insurance: RL explained that non-member competitors are covered by BOF insurance for their first three events only. Thereafter they are uninsured.

Discussion followed:

RL — SOA are looking into the possibility of an SOA-only insurance policy.

AD — occasional competitors will be put off by the necessity to join.

SC — possibility of an extra charge for insurance; other sports do so.

Other points made included possibility of occasional competitors signing a waiver accepting the lack of insurance.

RL summarised by saying EckO should wait for SOA input, but strongly encourage membership in the meantime.]

v) *Secretary's role*

AP summarised his responsibilities as Club Secretary:

- Communications with SOA and, occasionally, BOF
- Registering our events and training activities with BOF
- Communicating with Members and Newsletter subscribers via the Mailing Lists re our local events, etc.
- Keeping the EckO website up to date.

He expressed his thanks to RL for his assistance.

c) **Website (AP)**

The website has been set up by Paul Frost to be easy to manage and therefore has its limitations. Its main functions are:

i) *Calendar of events*

ii) *Results reporting*

iii) *News*

The first two it performs reasonably well. The last is reliant on members' contributions and, especially, photographs.

SM asked about RouteGadget for EckO events. Juniors are encouraged to use Routegadget as part of their coaching. AD responded that RouteGadget has been restored will be available for future events.

d) **Mapping (AP)**

AP's responsibility is keeping EckO's map database up to date. Map updating is mostly carried out by AD and RL.

e) Treasurer (AD)

EckO has about £10 000 in the bank and are therefore in a very healthy situation.

Last year's concern over the effect of the new BOF event levy turned out to be exaggerated. EckO local events took in about £1000 and the levy paid to BOF was about £200.

However, virtually all income comes from events and local events alone do not cover our expenditure — EckO still needs “big” events to stay in profit. For example, SOL 5 at Ardchattan made EckO just over £1000 and our involvement in the Scottish Six Days £690. EckO still needs “big” events to stay in profit. We have no expected major event income in the coming year and so it is expected that the balance will fall.

Despite that, there is a comfortable buffer to allow the previously agreed purchases (club tent, printer and Condes update). The biggest expenditure in the offing is the production of new maps.

[RL — A map will cost £4000 to £5000. There is an expectation of grant money to match EckO's contribution.]

Given the bank balance, a spend of about £7000 on maps, etc would be acceptable.

LS offered to take on ordering the new club tent.

Action:LS

AP will order the printer and the licence for the new version of Condes.

Action:AP

Online banking is not possible with EckO's existing bank account, causing difficulty with paying for things such as the tent and printer. It was agreed that a new account should be opened.

Action:AD

f) Protecting Vulnerable Groups (GB)

SOA is keen to see all those involved in coaching as well as regular helpers join the PVG scheme.

The role of the club Child Protection Officer is now simpler now involving

i) *Making sure that there is a club policy in place (there is)*

ii) *Confirming that PVG applicants are who they say they are*

SOA Development Officer, Hilary Quick, processes PVG applications.

AL will take over from GB as EckO's Child Protection Officer.

g) Juniors (KH)

This has been a very successful year for EckO's juniors. Highlights included:

i) *The World Schools Championships in Portugal*

Emma and Roanne won silver medals in the girls select team competition; Jamie, Callum and Tom finished 7th overall in the boys school competition.

ii) *SOL Results*

Good results throughout with Eilidh and Ellis winning their class.

iii) *Scottish Six Days Moray 2013*

Good results here too, although the run-in competition possibly appeared more important.

iv) *Course Planning*

Callum and Tom, Emma and Roanne have now planned EckO local events.

v) *Development Weekend*

Ten juniors attended the SCOTJOS Development Weekend at the end of February/beginning of March. Five of those (Roanne, Briony, Eilidh, Callum and Tom) are currently members of the Scottish Junior Squad, although Briony will shortly leave for university.

vi) *West Area Team*

Virtually all EckO's juniors were part of the West Area team in the Inter-Area competition in October.

h) **Coaching (GB)**

GB will now take on the coaching role.

Coaching to be for seniors as well as juniors.

GB will consult with KH regarding the junior requests. Also planning to re-emphasise junior coaching folders.

Emails to GB regarding coaching invited.

Discussion followed re another "biennial" training weekend. Suggestions included combining a Saturday training day with a SOL or having a weekend in EckO territory with bought-in coaching. The social aspect of a weekend away was emphasised.

There was tentative agreement to go for a training/social event in November and a weekend away in March next year.

Action:GB

4) **Events**

i) *Local Events*

RL suggested putting on more local events before summer. These could be evening activities combining training with perhaps only two courses. **Action:RL, AP**

ii) *Junior Home International*

The JHI takes place over the last weekend of August, organised by KH and AL, planned by RL (Individual, Creag Mhic) and AD (Relays, Ardnaskie). Over one hundred competitors will use Kilbowie Hostel. Need for cows to be moved away from courses pointed out.

iii) *EckO Autumn Series*

Volunteers required for these events. Training activities to follow the Series

iv) Other Possibilities

AD suggested EckO stage a three-day event on Coll. He later suggested that EckO could go over as part of club training and do a run over the area to assess the possibilities.

RL suggested EckO stage a Purple Thistle event, given the “bare bones” nature. It was pointed out that SEDS (Scottish Elite Development Squad) have taken on the next Purple Thistle, but this is still a possibility for the future.

v) Scottish Championships 2015

With the northern clubs being involved in the World Championships next year, the West Area clubs have agreed to take on the Scottish Championships. Details to be finalised, but EckO likely to be organising the relays and one of our new maps may be used.

vi) Scottish Six Days 2015

EckO is one of the organising clubs for Day 6 at Glen Affric

5) Election of Committee

All retiring committee members were happy to stand for re-election. The meeting agreed unanimously to return them to the committee. In addition AP suggested that CB should re-join now that she has returned to Argyll. Proposed by SM; seconded LS; agreed unanimously.

RL emphasised that committee meetings are very flexible — any club member may attend.

The EckO Committee for 2014/2015 is therefore:

Ross Lilley — Chair

Alan Partridge — Secretary

Andy Dale — Treasurer

Gill Berrow — Lead Coach

Kate Hunter — Junior Co-ordinator

Andrea lines — Child Protection, PVG

Julie Watson, Susannah MacMillan, Lucy Shearer, Carol Burnapp.

RK asked about availability of committee meeting minutes. After discussion it was agreed that AP would use the Members mailing list to give notice of committee meetings and to notify availability of minutes. The minutes will be placed in the Public Folder of Dropbox which can be accessed by anyone, regardless of whether they have Dropbox on their computer. **Action:AP**

6) Presentation of SOL 2013 Certificates

Certificates were presented for last year's Compass Point Scottish Orienteering League to seniors finishing in the top three of their class and to juniors finishing in the top ten.

Juniors	Seniors
Murray Peden, 6 th M18	Suse Coon, 2 nd W60S
Briony Kincaid, 2 nd W18	Gill Berrow, 1 st W55L
Callum Hunter, 4 th M14	Andrea Lines, 3 rd W45S
Tom Lines, 2 nd M14	Susannah MacMillan, 3 rd W45L
Jura MacMillan, 6 th W14	Kate Hunter, 3 rd W40S
Emma Baird, 5 th W14	Ross Lilley, 3 rd M45L
Roanne Lilley, 3 rd W14	
Louis MacMillan, 8 th M12	
Ewan Shearer, 7 th M12	
Alisdair Lilley, 4 th M12	
Emily Hunter, 8 th W12	
Eilidh Shearer, 1 st W12	
Ellis Hunter, 1 st M10	
Iris MacMillan, 10 th W10B	
Rona Shearer, 2 nd W10	

7) Club Trophies

Juniors joined the meeting for the voting process to decide the destination of the club trophies. Awards were as follows:

High School Trophy (Best Junior): **Eilidh Shearer**

Most Improved Junior: **Iris MacMillan**

Libramont Trophy (for services to the club): **Ross Lilley**

Forest Trophy (senior performance): **Susannah MacMillan**

Wooden Compass (for a mistake you wish you had not made): **Ross Lilley.**

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm.

Alan Partridge, 11th April 2014.