

**Arctic Orienteering Club Board Meeting
January 26, 2006
Minutes**

Present: Dan Billman, Anne Billman, Bill Spencer, Andrew Lee, Paul Carson, Ellyn Brown, Kimball Forrest, Ian Moore, Mike Furman, Eric Follett, Cory Smith, Dave Evans, Leslie Kroloff, Chris Tomsen, Trond Jensen, and Brian Richardson.

Check Approvals

The board approved a payment of \$106 to pay for the PO Box.

The USOF Charter renewal fee was also approved. The fee breakdown included a \$20 renewal fee, \$208.50 for start fees, and \$752.50 for insurance at \$3.50 per member (families counted as two people).

Minutes Approvals

The 9-19-05 minutes were approved.

The 12-15-05 minutes were approved with changes to add Andrew as a check signer (was forgotten in the secretary's notes). There was some confusion as to whether a vote was passed to change the youth meet fee to \$1 for youths, and to bump the age for youths in relation to meet fees (not membership) to "under 18" from "under 16". Dave thought that it was passed, while Andrew thought it was discussed, but not voted on.

The simple solution was to take a vote. The board voted unanimously in favor of changing the youth meet fee to \$1 for all youths under 18 years of age. The Policy Guidelines will be updated to reflect this change.

Municipal park user fee

Dan noted the inconsistency in who pays to use the parks. We follow the rules and pay \$1 per person. The Simonian Little League pays only 1/3 ¢ per person per day for dedicated field use (our use does not preclude simultaneous use by others during our meets). The ski training groups, some of which are for profit organizations, don't pay any fees at all. Anne will talk with Rod Hill at the Municipality about this issue, and the Board should write a letter.

A move was made, seconded and a MOTION was passed to pay the Municipality \$642 for last year's \$1 per person park fee. This is a number that we feel that we can justify, and is more than what we paid last year. It represents the number of starts that we had, minus the starts at the high school meet.

A discussion of whether or not to increase meet fees will be delayed until after Anne talks with Rod Hill.

Halloween-O

Eric, Bill, Paul and Dick Hawkins were on the committee to discuss the future of the Halloween-O. Bill said that the suggestions centered on ways to “slash costs and lay off people”. One idea was to turn over the meet to a third party, who would receive the proceeds. We would just have our name on the meet.

The idea that received the most interest was having the UAA ski team (Trond Flagstad) co-sponsor the meet. UAA could provide the building (Arts Building), which would cut our biggest cost. The night-O part of the meet can be curtailed or a score-O format used to reduce work for us. Finally, food costs can be cut by buying less food and buying returnable food.

Alternative locations: Hilltop is \$125 per hour. Russian Jack is \$50 to \$70 per hour (Jill doesn't like the location for this meet). Schools (Trailside?) are \$130 per night for children's events, \$175 per night for adult events. Kincaid is \$50 per hour for the back room, plus \$75 for the park use fee, plus \$1 per person, plus possible ski trail user conflicts.

Possible partnering for meets

Brian Richardson organizes logistically complex adventure races with his organization Egads Alaska (egadsalaska.com). He is interested in the use of our controls and maps in exchange for organizing some events. A rogaine is possible, perhaps organized so that it finishes at the same time as a regular night-O meet. Egads entry fees are \$60 for adventure races, but he can reduce the entry fees in partnership meets to approximately \$20 to \$40 for a 12 hour event or \$5 for a 1 to 2 hour night-O. Brian later clarified that he will meet direct the Mountain-O with our normal entry fees.

Mountain-O

Ellyn suggests that the Mountain-O date be change to the week between the Crow Pass Crossing and Matanuska Peak Challenge.

Mapping

Ian says that the two mappers that he talked about previously are both booked for the summer already. He did talk to another mapper from Ukraine who seems to have very good credentials – mapping in Chicago, has done 600 km² of mapping, other clubs have been happy with him. He charges \$100 per 10 hour day, and we provide airfare, car rental and housing. He has work in April and May already, but could come here after that for the summer. He has a 10 year work permit, but doesn't speak English. Other possibilities mentioned: Trond said that Odd F. knows Norwegian mappers, but they are more expensive. Dimitry Sidorov also has some friends who may be able to map for us. Anne made the reminder to check references.

A move was made, seconded, and a MOTION was passed for Ian to represent the club in contracting with a mapper with a \$10,000 limit for now, and the final contract to be brought to the Board before being signed.

Mapping request: Chris said that Ed Strabel has a suggestion to investigate mapping at the ski trail development/parkland behind his house in Palmer. This idea should be brought to the mapping committee.

Results publication

Leslie and Ellyn talked to Doyle Woody at the Anchorage Daily News to find out the format to use, and Dave developed a program to convert Excel format results into the acceptable text file format.

Richter Loop project update

The ski club wants to build a connector to access Richter Loop directly from Service High, keeping it an “old folks” trail. They also propose to widen the trail slightly to 12 feet, and flatten the trail with heavy equipment. The board generally agreed that the proposed new connector, a straight trail, looked like it wasn’t designed by a skier. Bill suggested some ways to reroute the connector to minimize intrusion into our orienteering terrain and ski better as well. Eric will bring the suggestion to the next Trail Users meeting. The Board was split on whether or not to oppose the re-grading of Richter Loop, with 8 opposed to the re-grading and 6 not opposed.

Next meeting: To be announced.

Prepared by Andrew Lee, Secretary, 3/16/06, revised 4/25/06