

Dominikus Heinzeller
IOC Kansai
Monthly meeting April 2009
04/11/2009

REPORT OF THE IOC MEETING

Participants:

- attendant: Carmel, Dominic, Dominikus, Junko, Kuriko, Mauricio, Will, Yuri
- absent: —

Topics:

- IOC spring event: We will hold the IOC spring camp special event on June 06-07. The committee agreed on collecting ideas about the location. from all members until April 19th; a decision shall be made until April 26th. Mauricio outlined that the submission of ideas should include a basic description on how to get there and a rough estimate of the costs. First suggestions were made during the meeting for which this information is needed as well. Will asked for the possibility to have an open campfire.
 - Kitakomatsu in Shiga
 - Shodoshima
 - Makino
 - Kiyotaki
 - Green Hike, Kyoto - requires a van to pickup and return people from/to the bus/train
- IOC safety guidelines: No progress has been made since the draft of Dominic has been handed out to last year's committee and other selected members. **Dominic shall send the draft to the current committee again as a basis for further discussion at the next IOC committee meeting.**
- IOC equipment: The committee discussed and rejected questions by Dominikus whether the IOC should buy basic climbing equipment for trial climbing of interested members due to security and insurance issues. Tents, snowshoes and stoves (preferably multi-fuel stoves) are requested mostly by the members of the club. **Detailed plans for a shopping list should be made at one of the next IOC committee meetings.**
- Finances: Kuriko and Yuri reported that last year's committee passed around 150000 JPY to us. We decided to come up with a budget for 2009 as soon as possible. We agreed on the following maximum expenses for IOC-supported events: spring event 30000 JPY, summer camp 60000 JPY, Christmas party 30000 JPY. We further discussed whether we should increase the membership fees from 3000/2000 JPY. A common agreement could not be found, although most of us agreed that an increase of the membership fee should not be made without an obvious increase in sponsoring of activities and/or supporting active members. **This issue needs to be discussed in the very near future.**
- Membership renewal: the process of membership renewal needs to be simplified. We briefly discussed some possibilities. The easiest method for all parties involved would be to create a simple and new form on which existing members can confirm with two or three checkboxes that address, contact information (phone, email) and emergency contact are still

valid. Passing this signed form with the membership fee to the treasurer should be sufficient. Dominikus is going to work on such a form for next year.

- Storage of sensitive information of members: the current solution of storing the sensitive documents in a small box/locker around Umeda is not at all ideal. Dominikus brought forward a different solution consisting on storing the sensitive data as encrypted files on the IOC's webpage (of course without linking it on the website) in a password-protected folder. As such, it can only be downloaded by people knowing the username and password. After downloading, a further decryption key is necessary which will be given to the appropriate committee members directly (i.e., without passing the information through the internet). Maintenance of this sensitive data should be done in parallel with maintaining the member database on the IOC website. The committee should decide about this solution at the May meeting.

Further topics to discuss at the next IOC meeting:

- IOC logo: several suggestions have been made by Ashton Simmonds in 2008, which are attached at the end of this document. They should serve as a basis for discussion so that we can ultimately decide on one of them or create a new logo.
- IOC website: Dominikus wants to revive the photo gallery function of the website. Additionally, he suggests to extend the member database to include the possibility of uploading a profile picture for each member. This would facilitate meeting people when joining IOC events for the first times. Additionally, Dominic made a hand full of good suggestions on how to improve the website, which are attached to that document. The committee should discuss them before Dominikus tries to include some/all of them, if possible.

Suggestions on improving the IOC website, put forward by Dominic:

Hi Dominikus,

I'm going to be stuck at work for a while, so I thought I should e-mail you before I forgot.

I have been thinking about the website. We could make the site more interactive and provide more benefits to the members if we integrated more of the information. I have been thinking about the following (overly ambitious?) points and wondered what you thought (Some are definitely longer term than 1 year):

1. There needs to be a simple way to delete an event without messing up the database.
2. Rather than event sign-up being done through e-mail, we should be able to do that through the website, so that the activity coordinator and other committee members know who is on a trip.
 - ① This would help in the event of any problems.
 - ② Also, if we provided a form for non-members to sign-up to events, then we would have at least a contact e-mail through which to encourage them to join.
 - ③ We can log how popular events are and organize more or match types of event with members. This would be a long term thing.
 - ④ Members could rate the events they attended, which would provide good advertising potential for the club.
 - ⑤ We could integrate the logs with google maps and show where members have been (more good advertising potential for the club and would give members a more interactive experience). Photos could be integrated.
3. We could provide the option to upload emergency contact details (voluntary) so that the committee have them instantly.
4. We could automate membership renewals. Using things like paypal, etc. is impractical and expensive for the club, but we could create other useful features: automated form filling, automated membership reminders, etc.
5. The newsletter should really be integrated into the website more: It's easier for most people to read articles on the site than it is to download a PDF.

I have a few more things floating around in my brain, but I think that's more than enough for the time being.

What do you think?

Dominic

Suggestions for the IOC logo, created by Ashton:



temperature inspired,
extreme conditions
starts a story.



Strong black and white.
Mountains and stars.
similar to outdoor brand
labels



using the lower case
makes this logo seem
fun and playful.



People linked together,
going in directions,
similar to the points of a
compass.