

## **Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Competitions Committee Meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015 held at Stanway Village Hall**

Present:

P Armes; M Deeks; C Ralph; A Foskew; Ms L Berwick; E Wass; C Dopson; A Penny

Apologies were received from: A Deeks; A Hay; D Smith; G Brace; J Hearn

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting and welcomed all present and received apologies from the above.

### **2. Previous Minutes:**

The minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed M Deeks 2<sup>nd</sup> A Foskew.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

Mr Armes has contacted Mr Smith regarding the amendments to the rules but has no response. Mr Armes will follow up.

Steward's appointments at Gt Hockham – Mr Armes has spoken to ACU Rugby on this matter. Rugby is comfortable with appointing a steward who is a club member of the organising club.

Enduro Inter Centre Team Manager – no update on appointment as yet confirmed.

Item 7 – Norwich Vikings club officials expired licences – Rugby has extended the licences for one year.

MSA meeting – date to be fixed in the near future.

### **4/5. Permits issued and amendments made to Fixtures:**

Mr Armes apologised for the lateness of the last Gazette – he had been unwell.

After discussion it was agreed to remind clubs that if they were holding meetings early in a month, the sensible thing would be to put the regs in the previous month's Gazette.

C Ralph – G W Racing – how will the Centre react to requests for permits and dates. Mr Armes had contacted Mr Wilby regarding the G W Racing website and had asked him to amend/remove some of the items, which gave the impression that G W Racing was an Eastern Centre Club affiliated to the Centre. This is not the case. Mr Wilby is however, a registered promoter. Mr Armes and Ms Berwick will receive alerts if a permit is applied for and will have 48 hours in which to respond. Mr Armes will monitor this situation.

Mr Foskew has appointed Mr D Smith as Centre Stewards for the G W Racing Grasstrack event on 21<sup>st</sup> June.

Mr Foskew is Steward for 500 cc Grasstrack meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr Mills Steward for Norwich New Stars Grasstrack on 28<sup>th</sup> June (Probationary)

**Steward's Reports** – Two enduro Reports received – both all OK.

C Dopson to send all Trials reports to committee up to and including 15<sup>th</sup> February.

There had been a discussion at the previous evening's Trials committee regarding Stewards. If acting as a Steward (not in a Championship Class) would it be acceptable to compete? To be referred to Rugby for an answer.

Mr Dopson and Mr Fenn will carry on trying to get names to cover Trials meetings, and to P Armes in time to get Stewards names published in the Gazette. Mr Wass commented that at the moment there were few Stewards names appearing.

P Armes – although there are quite a few names in the handbook as Stewards, not all wish to officiate. The question was raised asking if the removal of stewards passes has had an impact – the consensus was that it had not. It was also commented on that if people were appointed as Stewards they should have had passes and information sent prior to the meeting. It appears though, that this is not happening.

Discussion on the sending out of complimentary gazettes to Stewards – Mr Armes will contact Mr Bannister to discuss this practice.

Ms Berwick suggested that race secretaries could send their appointed Stewards the start time, race format and a list of officials prior to the race day. It would simply need to be a copy of the race programme page, which could be emailed at the same time as the programme, is sent to print. To be discussed further.

### **6. Sub Committee Reports:**

MX – C Ralph

Mr Ralph reported on the recent items discussed at the MX Sub Committee meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and sought approval from the competitions committee of the following:

From 2016 the income from the Centre Numbers Scheme to be distributed three ways to East Anglian Air Ambulance, Essex Air Ambulance and the ACU Benevolent Fund. This was agreed by all present.

Mr Armes is placing a full page explaining the role of the ACU Benevolent Fund in the next edition of the Gazette.

Club Championship – to be run as per the GP's where one rider only from each club score points. Both Expert and Junior Championship races in the 8 ECC rounds.

Mr Ralph will collate the results. – Agreed.

Mr Ralph reported that a successful mx technical seminar had been held at Blaxhall where 11 people attended.

Youth MX – Mr Ralph is concerned that there seems to be fewer youth riders now and that the Norfolk and Suffolk Club are more reliant on Adult riders to make their meetings viable.

After due discussion it was agreed that the situation would be monitored and discussed again during the second half of the season.

Entry Forms – a slight adjustment has been made to facilitate space for the date of birth of a rider, necessary for secretaries who receive hard copy entry forms.

Mr Penny – had previously suggested that the Centre have an advert in each race programme asking for anyone interested in organisation to make contact. He suggests that this should be funded by the Centre – Mr Armes to deal.

**Trials** – Mr Dopson reported that there had been 3 Championship Trials held to date, 1 A Class, 1B Class and 1 Intermediate B Class. Numbers are slightly up. The numbers entering the Intermediate Route would seem to indicate that the Red and Blue routes are too difficult. Mr Dopson will write a piece regarding this for the Gazette. Clerk of the Course will also be reminded of their responsibility in regard to course setting.

Mr Dopson would like to upgrade the rider list on website.

Mr Dopson reported that Mr and Mrs Douglas are running an event at the Game and Country Fayre at the Norfolk Show Ground 9 permit has been obtained from Rugby).

**Grass Track** – No report

**Enduro** – No report as J Hearn was absent.

Ms Berwick reported that there had been another instance of illegal riding in Thetford Forest. Mr Armes read out a statement, which had been placed on the ACU website, copy would be put on Eastern Centre website.

Bikes have been seized and crushed, P Armes to try to find out who the riders were and if there were ACU members. To contact Andy Waters. M Deeks reminded those present that bikes could have been stolen and were not being ridden by the legal owner at the time they were caught and that we should be mindful of accusing the wrong person.

Mr Wass commented that he is trying to get The Rights of Way officer from the north of the county involved. Mr Armes will contact Richard Snowden to see if the Diss Club would be willing to help.

Mr Wass would like to see the Motor Sport Liaison group resurrected

## **7. To discuss ECC proposal.**

Sadly the proposal had been withdrawn by R Blyth – no further discussion.

Mr Armes stated that the Centre now has to decide what to do next. Mr Armes will put together a tender to bring back to the next meeting.

## **8. Correspondence.**

Insurance update had been received from G Thompson at Rugby. Ms Berwick had circulated to all clubs.

Ms Berwick reported that she had received a letter of thanks from Michelle at Rugby regarding the MX technical seminar. The Woodbridge Club offered their facilities free of charge and this was duly noted by all present.

P Armes – reported on the new instructions regarding the way to handle concussion incidents.

Rugby will be sending out an information leaflet.

A Penny – suggested placing an indemnity statement on entry forms. P Armes will write to Rugby to ask how to police the way concussion is dealt with – discussion over what would happen on a bank holiday weekend for instance.

Medical staff will need to be made aware of ACU requirements.

A Foskew stated that at a recent ACU Seminar, attendees were told to contact Gary Thompson to report an incident including after hours.

Discussion over the events at Hilton Park. As two Centre Clubs are hosting Maxxis British Championship Rounds the committee felt that the statement on the ACU website was relevant for discussion. Mr Higgins has resigned so will not now be the Steward at Lyng.

Mr Foskew is officiating at Lyng as Assistant Clerk of the Course.

Mr Foskew – had been asked by a Braintree Club member to discuss the way that dates were set last year. There seems to be a feeling that the dates meeting should have been after comps had discussed dates. This matter refers to a Trial. Mr Dopson stated that all trial dates were agreed prior to the dates meeting and that all clubs had the opportunity to have input. The competitions committee was happy that the current system of date setting works extremely well. Mr Armes would be more than happy to talk to Braintree Club if necessary.

C Ralph – concerned that the competitions committee vacancies had not been addressed – place on next agenda.

Mr Ralph also suggested that with increasing devolvement, that the frequency of the holding of comps meetings could be bi-monthly. This also to be placed on the next agenda.

Mr Dopson – asked who was responsible for distributing Centre Handbooks – Clubs should order and distribute to their members.

ACU Handbook – Mr Wass stated that he had not received an ACU Handbook. Some are still sent but the Handbook is online for downloading. Ms Berwick has some spare books – will bring to next meeting.

Trail Cross/Scramble Sudbury Club on April 19<sup>th</sup>. MX Steward required – A Foskew volunteered.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 9.40pm.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL AT GT BLAKENHAM PARISH ROOMS  
COMMENCING AT 7.45PM**