

Minutes of the 7th Competitions Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16th July 2015 held at Stanway Village Hall.

Present:

P Armes: C Ralph; Ms L Berwick; E Wass; A Penny; A Hay; M Deeks

Apologies: A Deeks; A Foskew; J Hearn; C Dopson

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

2. Previous Minutes:

The previous minutes of 17th June 2015 were accepted as a true record, proposed A Penny 2nd C Ralph

3. Matters Arising:

P Armes – no more heard from Norfolk County Council re rights of way officer – the person dealing with this is on holiday.

Grass Track – the GW Racing event did not take place. MX class had been withdrawn prior to the event.

Inter Centre Team Enduro has been cancelled. There is a cost implication as team shirts had been printed (573.60). P Armes suggests that in the first instance, the ACU be asked to reimburse the cost, failing which the Centre could look into using the team fund. The entry fee was paid – this will be refunded.

Item 9 previous minutes – letter from P Fenn. Mr Armes has replied to Mr Fenn. The letter concerned stewards. Mr Ralph suggested that rather than 24-month period of non-officiating it should be 12 months. Mr Armes will propose 12 months and this item will be debated at the next Board in November.

Updated Centre Rules, Mr Armes will circulate to the competitions committee members for discussion at the next meeting in September. Changes will be highlighted.

Essex and Suffolk have now paid the outstanding levies.

E Wass – Ipswich Wheels event. Mr Wass has spoken to Lisa Norris of Ipswich Borough Council and it appears that the ACU has been missed out. She will contact Mr Wass next year if another event is planned.

A Hay – suggests that the Centre writes to Ipswich Borough Council pointing out that we are the governing body and ask her to inform the Centre of a 2016 event. Mr Armes suggests that Mr Wass contacts them and we make a note to contact Ms Norris again in January.

4. Permits issued and amendments made to Fixtures:

Spreadsheet circulated June to September.

CR – stated that he heard that land at Gt Cornard currently used by the Sudbury Club was under threat due to developers. Mr Penny confirmed that developers are interested, but nothing has been confirmed as yet.

Additional dates of 25th July and 22nd August from Woodbridge for evening trials.

5. Steward's Reports:

MX	Norfolk and Suffolk	Mildenhall 31 st May	D Secker	No adverse comments
MX	Norwich Vikings	Lyng 17 th May	G Brace	Lump removed point 18
MX	Diss Sidecars	Wattisfield 10 th May	G Garrod	Very good event

Ms Berwick reported that she had been told that at a recent MX event at Halstead, no hygiene certificate had been displayed in the catering wagon

6. Sub Committee Reports:

Moto Cross C Ralph – Next round of the ECC to be held at Chippenham hosted by the Chelmsford Club.

Suffering from a lack of entries, only 6 experts to date. Mr Brace is listed in regs. as both C of C and Sec of Meeting. It is understood that Deb Blyth is acting as Secretary of the Meeting on the day.

Concern over the lack of experts – this is an item for the agenda at the next mx sub committee in September. Mr Ralph also reported that at the recent Halstead meeting over 50% of entries came in after the official closing date.

This means that the programme bears no resemblance to the rider entry. Discussion over why riders enter so late. Mr Sewter had sent a letter suggesting that race secretaries closed online on the Wednesday prior to the meeting at 9pm and that no further entries should be accepted after that time. If implemented in 2016, it could mean that clubs may take a financial hit but the centre would not underpin the cost. P Armes suggested that for the first couple of meetings, the Centre could consider providing financial support up to £500. This will also be discussed fully by the MX sub committee. Mr Ralph suggested that in 2016, when riders purchase a race number, that with the receipt could be a statement of intent to close on the agreed date and that there would be no exceptions. Obviously, all clubs would need to sign up to this in order for this to be effective.

M Deeks – asked if entry numbers to make an event viable, would this cause events to be cancelled? The consensus was that this might happen.

Mr Ralph reported that he had invited representatives from the Norfolk and Suffolk Club to attend the last sub committee meeting, but they did not attend. There is still an issue with the amount of adult classes they are running. This will have to be addressed especially when considering dates for 2016.

Mr Ralph reported that the recent events at Lyng and the evening meeting at Wattisfield were very well run and enjoyable events.

Two national riders made an appearance at Wattisfield and out on a spectacular show for the good size crowd. The Maxxis at Blaxhall went very well and was well attended. Mr Hay reported that Mrs Hay had found the race secretaries meeting at Rugby very useful. Mr Hay also attended along with Mrs Blyth and Miss Taylor. Two riders have been upgraded to expert status with effect from July 1st. Youth MX: Mr Ralph and Ms Berwick will attend the next event at Gt Hockham

Trials

Mr Dopson had sent in a written report as follows:

No championship trials since last meeting.

Stewards reports to be circulated before end of July.

Trials meeting on 9th July was well-attended and good discussions regarding 2016 calendar had taken place.

Minutes in review will be posted on website before end of July.

Trials forum planned for 5th November 2015.

Trials calendar process to start in September and discussions on changes to 2016 championships.

P Armes commented that entries for evening trials sometimes were higher than for normal Sunday events. Used to run under restricted permits, now open. This means that all clubs must publish regs in the gazette.

M Deeks reported that there could be a problem with the Braintree venue as part of the course for a horse event runs across that land.

Grass Track

No report

Enduro

No report

7. Timing team:

Mr Sewter has agreed to guarantee to time the Centre Championship rounds. P Armes stated that we are now going to have to find more help. There will be a double page spread in the last 4 programmes to ask for help, officials, timing etc. Mr Armes has been speaking to Archant with a view to getting this request out to a wider audience. We will need at least 2 timekeepers.

Mr Hay reported that he will propose next week to the Board that the MX account picks up the cost of consumables for the timing team rather than the timekeeper taking this out cost of the timing team

8. Tender Document.

Mr Armes reported that he is making progress with the tender and will report back to the next meeting.

9. Correspondence:

Ms Berwick had received an email from Rugby requesting information of clubs running quads at their enduro events.

Inter Centre MX team event will not go ahead.

ACU events held on forestry Land, information has been sent to clubs running on Forestry Land stipulating the new requirements following re-negotiation with the Forestry Commission

10. Any Other Business:

Mr Ralph commented that as the Inter Centre Enduro had been called off, maybe Woodbridge, Diss and Sudbury could have a discussion with a view to a joint venture.

M Deeks – asked what the truth was about the rider who had travelled to Sweden following a concussion and was not allowed to ride. The answer was that if the rider had checked before he left, he would have been made aware that he had not received clearance.

Mr Deeks stated that he had received a letter stating that he would no longer be given stewards appointments for moto cross. P Armes to follow this up as Mr Deeks wishes to continue in this role.

E Wass – there is a need to ascertain who is an 'active' steward. He also was concerned about the way in which some stewards were handling the job. Agreed that if a when any concerns were raised, they would be dealt with at that point. All stewards' appointments have been made for MX, Grass Track and Enduro for the rest of the year.

Trials Championship rounds are all covered but may not all have been in time for the information in the Gazette. The trials committee is dealing with this as an ongoing issue.

A member of MSA has been in contact – Adrian Coles. Would like to come on board as an environment officer – he has attended a meeting at Lyng and lives in Norfolk. A Hay will send him a copy of the ACU Handbook and mention technical seminars. Will also mention Rights of Way Officer role.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 17th September 2015 at STANWAY VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.45PM