

Minutes of the 8th Competitions Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17th September 2015 held at Stanway Village Hall.

Present:

P Armes: J Hearn; C Ralph; Ms L Berwick; E Wass; A Foskew; A Hay; C Dopson

Apologies: M Deeks; A Penny; D Smith

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting and welcomed all present and received apologies from the above. A minute's reflection was held in memory of Mrs Cath Penny and Tom Pattison. Mr Hearn had received a telephone call from Lewis Bond who informed him that a collection was to be held at the next Enduro for Tom Pattison's family.

2. Previous Minutes:

The previous minutes of 16th July 2015 were accepted as a true record, proposed J Hearn 2nd C Ralph

3. Matters Arising:

Rights of Way Officer in Norfolk – P Armes has spoken to three people at NCC and has a meeting arranged for 1st week of October. NCC is agreeable for a discussion.

ICT Enduro – letter has been sent with an invoice – no response to date. A Hay to follow up.

J Hearn will check the Trials and Enduro minutes to see if any mention of this was made. Mr Hay to find out if the cheque for the entry fee has been banked.

The Centre has already reimbursed the sponsors.

Byelaws – a slight change to be made to change 'riders' to 'riders/members'.

Stewards – (not active) – accepted by the Board that within 12 month period not officiating is deemed 'not active'.

Mr Wass queried the removal of the word 'Centre' from 2016 – this was a proposal by the SW Centre at a NMC, which had been voted in.

MSA – Adrian Coles is a new member of ECMC and helped with technical at Lyng. Mr A Hay will advise him when there is a technical seminar arranged. E Wass to make direct contact. Mr Hay and Mr Ralph will speak to Mr Coles at Lyng on 18th October.

Timing Team – P Sewter has now confirmed that he is resigning at the end of 2015 season.

Trials – all clubs running on an 'open permit' must publish regulations in the Gazette. However, clubs will be able to run on a restricted permit at events where a limited number of clubs are invited to participate when it would not be necessary to publish regulations in the Gazette.

Gt Hockham – L Berwick and C Ralph did not attend.

4. Permits issued and amendments made to Fixtures:

25th October – Halstead have now applied for a permit – Steward required.

C Ralph – Trial on 1st November Woodbridge Club – venue confirmed as Blaxhall.

Dates meeting – venue booked for 18th November 2015 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms – 7.30pm start. Date application forms have been distributed.

5. Steward's Reports:

31st May – Norfolk and Suffolk MX – racing stopped for paramedic to attend to an adult rider.

21st June – Norfolk and Suffolk – One rider reported with concussion. No championship points available. Fence is needed by ditch Marshal point 12. P Armes to follow up.

Trials reports had been fully discussed by Trials committee – nothing adverse to report.

6. Sub Committee Reports:

MX – C Ralph

Mr Ralph reported on the tragic accident that had resulted in the death of rider 183 Tom Pattison on Sunday 13th September during Race 3. Mr Ralph personally thanked Mr Hay, Mr Foskew and Mr Brace for their assistance following this event when they supported the Woodbridge Club officials.

The first aid staff were exemplary and a county ambulance and air ambulance were called in immediately. Sadly, despite all their efforts, Mr Pattison died at the scene.

A fund has been set up by riders for Mr Pattison's family. The Woodbridge Club will donate all proceeds from the meeting to the family fund.

J Hearn – concerned that postings on Facebook from riders present on the day were posted far too soon, but it was noted that there is nothing the Centre can do to prevent this.

It was agreed by all present that Round 7 of the Eastern Centre Moto Cross Championship be deemed null and void.

The next round (final round) is due to be held at Wattisfield hosted by the Diss Club. Mr Ralph will keep in touch with the organisers to see how that progresses. Mr John Chambers will be contacted regarding the hole shot sponsorship. Mr Ralph will ensure that the meeting is well-advertised in TMX and local press.

There is to be a Moto Cross sub committee meeting on Monday 21st September where the rules and changes to the Centre Championship will be discussed. The proposal is to encourage a more modern look to the championship and make it more interesting and exciting for both competitors and spectators and more financially viable for organisers. Mr Armes has been invited to attend the meeting.

Youth MX – Mr Ralph is trying to liaise with Norfolk and Suffolk – it has been intimated that the club is struggling to run events and certainly rely on adult line-ups to make the events financially viable.

Trials

C Dopson reported that the trials trailer belonging to Wymondham Club had been stolen. He thanked Norwich Vikings for the loan of equipment for the upcoming trial.

A committee meeting had been held when the championship rules for 2016 had been decided. Classes have been changed slightly. It has been agreed that there will be no entries on the day for championship rounds and that there must be a minimum of 10 sections. An amendment to the form was requested to enable a route easier than the white route to be included. Also to be advertised on the calendar if an easier route was available.

Mr Dopson asked if there is a policy on bounced cheques – informed that a rider could be reported to ACU and suspended if the money owing was not paid,

Mr Hay also commented that he had an instance where a cheque had been stopped following an event. He has written to the competitor giving him 14 days to pay after which he could be reported to ACU.

It was reported that Southend Club is now obtaining permits direct from Rugby, which mean that they pay no Centre levies.

Question over whether the Centre could insist that all Championship Round permits must be from The Centre – this could be written into the championship rules.

C Ralph reported that the last evening trial at Blaxhall had seen over 50 riders compete.

J Hearn reported that only 6 entries had been received to date for the Stowmarket Trial due to be held shortly.

Grass Track

A Foskew reported that all championship classes have been decided. Ms Berwick has been sent a list for the awards evening.

A rider's forum is to be held at Rendham on 11th October.

Norwich New Stars only had eleven entries at their last meeting. Discussion regarding if a youth championship should be run – to be held in abeyance.

P Armes reported that he had attended a Norwich New Stars event and that it had been a great set up with loads of enthusiasm.

Enduro

Mr Hearn had just returned from the Six Days so he did not have the current championship standings to hand.

He did report that Jamie Roper retained his Centre Champion status.

A two man enduro championship round is to be held at Wakes Colne on 25th October (two man is 6 out of 7 rounds to count)

7. Timing team:

P Sewter has now confirmed his resignation and a new team are needed. Mr and Mrs Hay have offered to end the uncertainty and agreed to train as timekeepers. L Berwick will carry on assisting. However, if other people come forward, they would be welcomed to add to the trained team. Mr Armes will still advertise this in the Gazette.

Mr and Mrs Hay had sat in with the ACU timing team at Wakes Colne.

Numbers Scheme – will be run by timekeeper and administered by Mr Hay.

Thanks were given to Mr and Mrs Hay. It was agreed that P Armes would look into the cost of leasing a van.

8. Tender Document.

Notice of the tender document had been published in the Gazette seeking interest – no reponse as yet.

9. Correspondence:

Nothing to report

10. Any Other Business:

Devolution – discussion over devolution of the moto cross section. To be discussed at next competitions committee meeting.

Woodbridge Club – advised to have a debrief meeting following the events on 13th September.

A Hay – following the tragic accident – does the Centre need to have a meeting to discuss the roles of designated officials at events? Re a guidance- to be discussed at MX Sub Committee.

Mr Wass – farmers are having a hard time now and land may be available – is there a need to restart the motorsport liaison group?

PA – asked who would be invited to join – Mr Wass replied that competition committee members, farmers, club members, landrover clubs etc could be involved.

C Dopson asked for some information from Mr Wass, which he will take to the next Trials Committee meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER 2015 at GT BLAKENHAM PARISH ROOMS COMMENCING AT 7.45PM