

**MINUTES OF 2ND ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2016 AT GT BLAKENHAM PARISH ROOMS.**

PRESENT: Mr A Penny; Mr P Armes; Mr E Wass; Mr J Hearn; Mr P Nash; Mr C Ralph; Mr C Cook; Mr A Foskew

Ms L Berwick

1. APOLOGIES: None received
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 14th January 2016 were approved as a true record. Proposed J Hearn 2nd A Penny.
3. MATTERS ARISING:

Mr Penny has spoken to Derek Clampin regarding his trial. He has agreed to pay for the permit but asked that the event be run under the ACU Eastern Centre name. There were no objections to this. Ms Berwick to advise Mr Clampin.

Ms Berwick had queried the cost of a trials registration (£25) and had been advised by Rugby that the extra £15 was for a 'temporary club membership'. The rider concerned has now paid to join Braintree Club. Ms Berwick will ask Rugby which club the temporary membership was for. Gt Hockham, no further communication has been made on this subject. Youth Championship dates have been confirmed. Nothing has been heard from EASCC regarding running a round or two in the Youth Championship.

Sponsorship – Mr Armes reported that there would be no sponsorship forthcoming this year from the cleaning product company (Sixty Nine) but there may be some next year.

Mr Ralph will speak to another potential sponsor (A Plummer) and report back.

Steward appointments at Rugby had been appointed incorrectly for the first two mx events – Mr Ralph had contacted Jacob Bourne and this has now been resolved.

Mr Brace is yet to confirm if he wishes to continue as Youth Recorder.

Grass Track Centre Championship – it has been agreed that GW Racing will run this.

The reference to the Eastern Centre running an event with Portsmouth Club should have read the South Eastern Centre.
4. PERMITS AND FIXTURES:

Mr Armes circulated an up to date spreadsheet.

Mr Cook pointed out that the date of the Braintree Trial still showed as 31st July on the website. Event is on 23rd July. P Armes will get this changed.

Permit applications are coming in quickly now.

Mr Armes had today received a request from The Woodbridge Club asking for a date of 13th August (Sat evening trial) at Blaxhall. This clashes with a Chelmsford Club Trial but after discussion it was agreed to grant that request.
5. STEWARDS REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Most appointments have been made.

P Nash will officiate on 24th April at Castle Colchester event. R Wreathall to Steward on 3rd April at Southend Trial.

Mr Penny had sent his Stewards reports to Rugby for Thetford and Iken Enduros, he will send copies to P Armes.

Mr Armes reported that on both the enduro events, steward's paperwork had not been received from Rugby. Secretaries to be reminded to ensure paperwork is received and remind if necessary.
6. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS: MOTO CROSS

Mr Ralph reported that three riders had been caught by the Police illegally riding at Two Mile Bottom (Luke Benstead; Ryan Watts and Adam Reeve). The two that are licence holders have been banned by the ACU from competing for three months from today. P Armes will write a piece for the Gazette and place on website.

Mr Ralph reported that the Chelmsford Club had some moto cross equipment (start gate, ropes/posts etc.) for sale.

Wakes Colne, land up for sale (sold) and that the first meeting is safe. Future updates will be made.

NGR – now have 40 registered riders – down a lot on last year.

Mr Ralph is liaising with Paul Hubbard to encourage more entries.

Practice Day at Woodbridge held on 12th March was well supported with 180 riders booking in.- 4 groups of 45. Tommy Searle and Jake Nicholls attended.

1st British Championship at Lyng on 20th March. 6 races only this year.

Wakes Colne entry is full for 3rd April. Some expert riders did not enter in time and therefore have missed out – this was expected for the first round. Mr Ralph has spoken to Jason Morland, rider's rep, as he has had some contact with those riders.

Youth MX – nothing to report. Mr Ralph and Ms Berwick will attend one or two events this year.

TRIALS:

Mr P Nash reported that there had been one round of the sidecar championship and there were two outfits present. Mr Nash reported that there are only 3 outfits in the Eastern Centre and that that the sidecar riders travel long distances to ride. There is a Trials Committee meeting due at the end of the month.

GRASSTRACK: Mr Foskew stated that the dates have been set by the 500 Club. Track has been moved to Highlands House Chelmsford.

Norwich New Stars have a couple of events and some practice dates coming up. D Mills and D Smith are acting as Stewards.

ENDURO : Mr Hearn reported that two rounds have been run at Santon and Iken. Both were very good events. The Santon meeting attracted some National stars. The Foxborough Endurothon had also taken place and had attracted a very good entry. Next event is the Two-man at Hawkedon. Results will be available at the next competitions committee meeting.

7. Correspondence:

Ms Berwick had received correspondence from Sonia Goggin regarding the tear off issue. It has been made clear that the rule that the Board voted for – a total ban at Centre Events – cannot be upheld as it is the direct opposite to an ACU rule. Mr Thompson has agreed that in his email, the error was the word 'Centre' and that is in the standing regulations that it is up to individual organisers to make the decision whether to ban or allow. Mr Armes has great concerns over this especially as there are clear indications that some clubs will allow and some will ban tearoffs. The Board will review this at the next Board Meeting. The Halstead Club is running the first eastern Centre Championship on 3rd April and as things stand, strictly speaking they should uphold the tear off ban. The question was asked if we as a competitions committee could suspend the rule until the Board Meeting – it was decided that it not be possible as it was a Board rule. It was agreed to monitor the situation at Wakes Colne.

Mr Wass commented that he has spoken to the NFU and they are looking into sport held on farmland. It is an environmental issue. It was noted that Clubs who use farmland do pick up tear offs after meetings.

8 Any Other Business:

Mr Wass commented that at the last Board Meeting mention had been made of a paper on insurance for quads etc. The ACU have engaged a Strategy Group in respect of the court case going through the European Courts. This case could affect all motorised vehicles and could mean that all motorised vehicles would have to have third party insurance (even motorised lawnmowers) The ACU have now added this to their policy so cover is now in place although it is not yet law.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 18TH May 2016 at Brome Swan commencing at 7.45pm