

MINUTES OF 5th ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21st September 2016 AT GT BLAKENHAM PARISH ROOMS.

PRESENT: Mr P Armes; Mr E Wass; Mr C Ralph; Mr A Foskew; Mr A Hay; Ms L Berwick; Jack Hearn; Chis Cook; Paul Nash; Alan Penny

1. Mr Armes welcomed all present. There were no apologies.
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 14th July 2016 were approved as a true record. Proposed A Hay 2nd C Ralph.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

Item 8 – re Safety Advisory group meeting. Ms Berwick gave a brief overview of the questions asked at the meeting and reported that it had been a good two-way conversation and some useful pointers came out. Mr Hay stated that he puts in a report to his local SAG each year. At present it appears that Essex do not request the information that Norfolk and Suffolk do. Mr Wass suggested that this should be discussed at a future date so that all clubs were aware of what may be required.

Item 3 – Mr Ralph reported that he had spoken to the new owners of Lt Loveney Hall and things were looking positive at present.

Grass track – should read 350cc.

Transponder – still not returned. Mr Hay has costed a replacement at 228 euros. Mr Nash asked that Reece Maclaren's address be passed on to him and he would try to either recover the transponder or would ask either John chambers or Terry Sewell to do so.

4. PERMITS AND FIXTURES:

There are now two Grasstrack events on October 16th but one is a youth only meeting.

Mr Armes commented that he had not received the paperwork from Southend for insertion into the Gazette for a recent Trial. Mr Nash stated that he did not need the regs to go in the gazette. It was pointed out that as the event was run on an open permit, it is a requirement. Mr Nash agreed to run future events as 'Centre Restricted' therefore removing the need for the gazette insertion.

J Hearn had been approached regarding the Lowestoft Invaders Enduro. This had been cancelled but had still be advertised on the website. This has now been rectified and the event has been marked as cancelled.

P Nash reported that there is to be a practice trial at Poles Wood on 1st October.

A Hay commented that there is a problem with practice permits issued online. The ACU raise the permit but the insurance declaration is not produced. P Armes will speak to Stephanie at Rugby.

5. STEWARDS REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS:

D Mills will Steward on 16th October Norwich New Stars. 500cc G/T event G Wilby will officiate.

P Fenn Steward on 23rd October. 27th November – D Clampin. 25th September change of

Steward from G Garrod to D Mills.

Stewards Reports:

Grasstrack 7th August J Sayer Excellent event. One
concussion. Rider cleared to ride the
next week by doctor.

Trials: 14th February Lowestoft Invaders
13th March Braintree

P Fenn Disappointing entry
Entries accepted on the day
contravening Centre rules. No risk
assessment. C of C riding without
helmet. Club Steward rode
contravening current rules
D Clampin Could have been marked out better.
B Wreathall No adverse comments

25th March Woodbridge
3rd April Southend

3 rd April	Wymondham	C Cook	Good trial, well organised
10 th April	EFA	E Hood	Trial moved from Gt Bromley
24 th April	Castle Colchester	A Penny	Well run event.
22 nd May	Ipswich MCC	R Hearn	Excellent event

All Steward's reports have been discussed by the trials committee prior to be forwarded to the competitions committee.

Enduro:

21 st August	Diss MCC	A Foskew	No adverse comments.
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Moto Cross:

22 nd May	Wattisfield	D Mills	2 hospital trips one rider refused Very well run meeting.
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treatment.

6/7 August	GT Hockham	D Mills	Meeting abandoned due to serious event. No 75 seriously injured. Airlifted. Police and Health and Safety called in.
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Rider

10 th July	Motoland	D Mills	Racing stopped after 3 blocks. Rider in paddock. 4 other accidents.
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collapsed

13/14 th August	Wakes Colne	J Blyth	Roller section put in which were not on plan. Medical Cover – same as at other but pushed at times. County ambulances in on both days.
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track events called

Red flags x 2. One race not rerun after discussion with riders. Meeting

finished at 6pm.

28 th August	Lyng	G Brace	No adverse comments
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4 th September	Wakes Colne	A Mayers	British Sidecars. Updated track certificate MX Nationals (J Blyth) was not available. Practice stopped after 5 minutes because of incoming water following track ground Some trophies not presented as they were available. First sidecar race red flagged then ruled null and void by C of C.
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from

works. not twice

** P Armes to remind clubs of the basic requirements for paperwork.

CR – reminded those present of the standard requirements regarding the number of ambulances as per ACU Handbook and that they should be capable of transportation.

11 th September	Blaxhall	A Foskew	Well run event. No adverse prepared track and excellent comments. Well road signage.
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25 th September	Wattisfield	D Mills	Well run meeting. Rider 745 disqualified for false start.
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Dates forms for 2017 have been sent out. P Armes advised by T Secker that Norfolk and Suffolk Juniors would not be seeking dates and would not be running. J Hearn confirmed that as yet nothing official to this effect had been received.

6. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MOTO CROSS C RALPH:

The final two rounds of the championship at Blaxhall and Wattisfield had been good events but neither had attracted the full 160. The average over the last 4 meetings has been 150.

C Ralph circulated the final standings.

Expert Champion is Luke Parker and Junior Champion is George Turner. Luke Parker also won the MX Nationals Expert Cup. All top 5 juniors have been upgraded to expert status. The MX forum had been held on 16th September but had not been as well supported as last year.

Mr Hay had been approached by a delegation of riders at Lyng concerned over safety regarding lapping. Mr Ralph and Mr Hay had been discussing the issues prior to the Forum as safety is paramount. At the Forum it was proposed that if an entry of 25 experts could be attained, that only the top 10 fastest juniors would be placed in the premier class. With the average of 16 experts this year and the upgrading of 5 more, together with the riders who intimated they would contest the series if changes were made, it seems possible.

This seemed to be appreciated by most present and will be discussed further at the next subcommittee.

Other issues such as blue flags, different coloured front plates for experts, changing the way qualification takes place will all be discussed at the next meeting also. The number of riders passes and prize money will also be on the agenda. One rider has suggested that some of the larger teams could be sited together to give a higher profile in the paddock. Youth MX – points being collated by Norfolk and Suffolk Juniors. There is not much information being feedback otherwise.

TRIALS:

C Cook reports that all seems good on the trials front but only 4 expert entries on average at an A Class event. On the yellow route, entries are on average 40. Discussion over how to encourage more to try the tougher routes.

P Armes sated there had been 74 riders at last Sundays Trial. Need to look at the layout of sections. This will be discussed at the Trials Forum. Also the dropping of first lap. P Nash prefers all to count.

P Nash has been collating statistics to see how things could be improved. A Penny suggests that Mr Nash he prepares a formula to take to the Forum as a starting point. A comparison shows that 10 years ago there are less riders but compared with 2 years ago, less events. Mr Nash has been asked why there are so few rounds and the suggestion is that 10 are needed with 6 to count. Also up for further discussion. The Forum is on 3rd November 2016.

Mr Penny announced that a sponsor has been found for world trials next year- Jake Miller running under the title of Trial 7.

World dates are not expected for a month therefore no national dates can be fixed.

GRASSTRACK: Mr Foskew reported that the provision Champion is Russell Little 250cc; David Mears 350cc; 500cc to be decided. To be confirmed at next G/T Committee.

Super Series running final round on 16th October.

Only one Centre Shield to come in and all trophies have been returned.

ENDURO: Mr Hearn circulated the final standings for all championship classes. Jason Morland has won the Championship Class Solo Championship by 2 points.

Mr Armes expressed concern that two events had been cancelled. Blaxhall due to lack of entries and Lowestoft Invaders had lost the land.

Mr Hearn reported that the two man held last Sunday had been a good event. New landowners had made a huge difference and the future of the land looks positive following rumour of planning permission being sought.

7. Correspondence:

Dates Meeting; November 16th at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms. P Armes would like all disciplines to attend.

8. Any Other Business:

Mr Hearn proposed congratulations to Mr Phil Armes on his achievement of completing a lap of the Ulster GP and the Isle of Man. A round of applause was shown by all present.

Ms Berwick had been asked to arrange a venue for the seminars for C of C and Technical (MX). She is waiting for Rugby to provide a date.

P Armes – online entries – 1st Trials had gone online and had received a good response. Mr Armes to contact Rugby regarding how to go about putting premier Permitted events online.

He reiterated that online entries need to be opened in line with the Gazette. This will be discussed at the dates meeting. Two man enduros may have difficulties as did the sidecar entry online system. Ms Berwick will bring this up at the Chairman and Secretaries meeting. Mr Hay says that practice day online needs clarifying (insurance aspect)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.25pm.

DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: Wednesday November 30th at Brome Swan commencing at 7.45pm.