

**MINUTES OF 4<sup>th</sup> ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017 AT STANWAY VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT:

Mr P Armes; Mr E Wass, Mr A Foskew; Mr C Cook; Mr R G Hearn; Mr A Hay; Mr C Ralph; Ms L Berwick.

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting. Apologies from: Mr A Penny: Mr P Nash
2. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved as a true record. Proposed J Hearn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr C Ralph.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:**  
C Cook – any update on the matter of Mr Smith's letter following his son's accident at Mildenhall. A Hay reported that shortly afterwards the track had been re-inspected and passed as OK. Nothing further heard.

At this point The Chairman, Mr Armes asked for an additional item to be discussed; At a recent Norfolk and Suffolk Juniors MCC Trial, there had been an altercation after Mr A Barrell, Secretary of the Meeting and Child Protection Officer had moved a youth competitor's machine from the exit of a section. It is reported that this was done quite forcibly and that the 13-year-old rider was upset by this. It seemed that a mudguard had been damaged but in fact it was a cable tie that was holding the mudguard which had snapped. James Newstead, Clerk of the Course took the bike to repair it, but it was subsequently repaired by Mr A Barrell. Mr S Bland, father of the competitor became very angry and there was a verbal confrontation which included foul and abusive language. Mr Armes was informed of this and has spoken to officials. No complaint was made on the day to the Clerk of the Course and an emailed complaint from Mr Bland was received subsequently. A letter was also received two days later from Mr Scott Larkham stating that he did not think that Mr Barrell was a suitable person to be Child Protection Officer. Mr Armes has copies of correspondence and reported that as was to be expected, there are two contrasting sides of the story. Mr Armes' concerns are that children were witnessing all this happening.

Mr Armes has kept C Cook and P Nash, joint Trials Committee Chairmen updated.

Mr Armes has also spoken to G Thompson at Rugby and sought his opinion on how this matter should be resolved. Mr Armes has written to all concerned parties plus Mr P Kibble who is a NSJCC Committee member and was also at the event. Mr Barrell has accepted full responsibility for the way in which he removed the bike. Mr Armes sought the opinion of those present on the way forward and the consensus was that in the first instance, all parties should be invited to a meeting chaired by Mr Armes with either C Cook or P Nash present, in an effort to resolve things amicably. It is noted that Mr A Foskew and Mr C Cook would prefer that this went straight to Rugby to be dealt with due to the use of such foul language.

The possibility of a disciplinary hearing was also discussed but Mr Wass reminded the committee that the last time one had been called, the Centre bore the costs of £750.

The competitions committees' feeling is that Mr Barrell should not be appointed as a CPO at any future events

The outcome is: Mr Armes will arrange a meeting with the parties concerned within the next 7-10 days. Venue to be arranged Notes will be taken at the meeting. Should this fail to resolve the issues, this would then be referred to Rugby.

Mr Armes is also concerned that we need to support the club to enable future events to be held.

4. **LAND FUND UPDATE:** LB reported that all clubs and delegates had been circulated with the relevant documents. This item is on the Agenda for discussion at next week's Board.
5. **PERMITS AND FIXTURES:**  
Chelmsford Trial on 5<sup>th</sup> August has been cancelled; Club attending the Essex Wheels event instead.  
30<sup>th</sup> July – LB had seen on Facebook that the venue has changed to Hockham following cancellation of the venue by Mr Bastick  
29<sup>th</sup> July – Diss Trial – Steward will be J Hearn.  
23<sup>rd</sup> July – Steward will be J Hearn.

## 6. **STEWARDS REPORT:**

28/29<sup>TH</sup> May: EASCC Mildenhall D Mills 400 competitors. 40 reported injuries. Meeting included 3 full line-ups of Adults. There was a protest which was dismissed by C of C whose decision was final.

28<sup>th</sup> May MX Blaxhall – P Grantham No adverse comments.

4<sup>th</sup> June MX Stisted A Foskew 2 red Flags (injuries) No adverse comments

5<sup>th</sup> July MX Wed Eve Wattisfield D Mills – one red flag (Broken femur) No adverse comments

M Nickerson reported as suffering a concussion. Placed on stop list and next event secretary informed. Centre Secretary was informed by Rugby the following day. System now seems to be working well.

14<sup>th</sup> May Solo Enduro Foxburgh Sudbury Club J Hearn Good event which included a Youth Class.

18<sup>th</sup> June Solo Enduro Event. Sudbury Club at Hadham. Also included a Youth Class. Next event at Cornard to include Youth (12-15yrs). May run a Youth Championship in 2018.

Mr Hearn reported that on 18<sup>th</sup> June he had left the event early as he had a prior commitment. N Sargent had taken over as Steward. Sadly, there had been an incident where a competitor passed away. Consequently, it had been confirmed that his death was of natural causes. The event was immediately stopped and the necessary procedures had been followed. Mr Hearn had attended the funeral of Mr Gareth Young, aged 43 years, at Weeley Crematorium last Friday.

## 7. **STEWARDS EXPENSES:**

Mr Hay brought to the attention of the committee that there is discrepancy between mileage allowance between ACU Eastern and ACU Rugby. ACU Eastern currently pays 25p per mile with a maximum of 200 miles permitted. ACU Rugby pays 33p per mile. Mr Hay sought the committee's agreement that the current 25p per mile be continued. This was agreed by all present. Mr Hay also produced the current form which is to be out with Stewards paperwork.

## 8. **CENTRE LEVIES:**

Mr Hay circulated a comparison of income received per rider from the various disciplines following concerns raised by the Trials riders. The difference between Premier and Basic permits was discussed. Mr Hay reported that on average Trials riders provide £44.55 per event to Centre Funds. Enduro equated to £77.91 per event, MX £68.94 per event and Grass Track £40.83 per event. It is noted that some Trials do not attract over 30 riders therefore nothing is collected by levies and that some permits for certain Trials events are free of charge. Rugby pays back £50 per basic permit. Following discussion, it was agreed that Rugby would be contacted and a request made to increase the payment per basic permit, which has remained the same since basic permits were introduced, which may allow the trials levy per rider to be reduced slightly. Mr Cook agreed to take the results of this discussion back to the Trials Committee.

Mr Armes if the committee would agree to Rugby being contacted and asking for an increase to £60 per permit – agreed.

Mr Hay reported that insurance declarations were still coming in after the 14-day period. This will be brought to the Board's attention. C Cook will report this back to the Trials Committee.

## 9. Sub Committee reports:

**MX** - Mr C Ralph reported that there had been 4 rounds of the ACU Eastern Championships with three more to go. Mr Ralph circulated the current standings for both Expert and Junior Championships. To date, all meetings had attained the necessary number of expert entries to allow a separate expert race. Diss are hosting at Wattisfield next, and there is slight concern that the recommended number of Experts may not be reached.

£1000 sponsorship has been obtained for the Holeshot Award – HRM Boilers – Mr Ralph circulated the current leaders of that competition.

Mr Ralph reported that Rheis Morter and Aaron Holloway have been upgraded to expert status.

A mx sub-committee meeting is due to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> July where the race secretaries will be invited to attend. Grading will be discussed. There are three up and coming young riders in Dylan Woodcock, George Grigg Pettitt and B Clark.

Mr Ralph reported that currently three ACU eastern riders are in first, second and third places in the MX Nationals Expert Cup.

There have also been two non-championship events, at Stisted and Wakes Colne. Both excellent events and well supported. Evos had been included at the Richard Fitch memorial meeting. Mr Hay reported that Stebbings are sponsoring the EVO class at Lyng in August.

**Youth MX** – Mrs D Secker had informed Mr Ralph that 2 rounds of the Youth Championship had been held to date.

**Trials:** C Cook reported that there were no current problems. Discussions have been undertaken regarding the possibility of re-introduction of a Clubmans Class in 2018 and the severity of some routes had also been discussed.

### **Grass Track**

Mr Foskew reported that the Centre Championship would be run on 30<sup>th</sup> September at Gosbeck by G W Racing.

500 Club would be running a two-day event on the weekend of 7/8<sup>th</sup> October: Saturday Youth National and GT Cup: Sunday Super Series Finals and Supports.

### **Enduro:**

Mr J Hearn circulated the current standings of the solo championship.

Two rounds to go for solos – both hosted by Woodbridge Club.

A sprint event at Blaxhall and the final enduro at Iken.

The Sprint on August 6<sup>th</sup> is a fairly new concept – Mr A Penny has agreed to act as Steward.

It was reported that Joe Wooten has been included in the six days team.

10. Correspondence – None
11. Any other Business – None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm

**Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms at 7.45pm.**