

MINUTES OF 6th ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING of 2018 HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12th DECEMBER AT WALSHAM LE WILLOWS FOOTBALL CLUB

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

Mr P Nash; Ms L Berwick; Mr A Wright (by invitation)

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.

2. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 19th September were approved as a true record. Proposed A Foskew 2nd C Ralph.

3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

Item 7 – Dunmow – Club has been dissolved.

P Armes – dates all now resolved and will be sent to P Sewter to put on website as 'Provisional'. PA to circulate to committee members as soon as possible.

4. **PERMITS AND FIXTURES:**

A Hay – Mr Hay advised the committee that despite several requests, levies and insurance fees had not been paid by Norfolk and Suffolk Juniors for events on 19th August and 23rd September. P Armes will speak to P Kibble to try to resolve this. Nothing to report on current permits.

5. **STEWARDS REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

C Cook will act as Steward on 3rd February for Castle Colchester Trial. C Dopson will be Steward on 10th February for Lowestoft Trial.

C Cook will Steward the Endurothon on 30th December 2018.

Reports:

MX – 16th September J Nickerson Diss Well run meeting No adverse comments.

Ms Berwick reported that there had been an issue with a rider using tear-offs which are not allowed at Wattisfield. Mr Waters had confirmed that it was stated in the supplementary regulations that tear-offs were prohibited. Suggested that this is put in the race programme also in future.

30th September Woodbridge (Blaxhall) P Grantham Well run meeting – No adverse comments.

28th October J Nickerson EASCC Wakes Colne Riding in the paddock should have been better managed. Medical cover – the minimum amount was on site – discussion over whether this was adequate for the number of youth entries.

Trials: 28th October Woodbridge. *I Barfield listed as both Clerk of the Course and Chief Technical Officer. This is against the rules. P Armes will feed back to the Woodbridge Club

Enduro:

19th August -2man Wattisfield Diss J Hearn Good event. No adverse comments

2nd September Woodbridge Butley Neil Sargent Good event well run. No adverse comments

14th October Woodbridge Blaxhall 2man J Hearn Good event. No adverse comments

*I Barfield stated as Clerk of the Course and Chief Technical Office as per the Trial mentioned above.

18th November Diss Muntjac Thetford Forest A Foskew Very good event 7 injuries. Well laid out course. Entry of 201

6. **SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Moto Cross:

Mr C Ralph reported that following a mx subcommittee meeting in November, the final draft of the 2019 ACU Eastern Championship had been presented for approval. All committee members had received a copy. Mr Ralph clarified the changes to all present and the reasons behind such change, the main one being a change to accept up to 200 riders where possible, which should ease the pressure of denying entries for the race secretaries. The first 4 rounds will be able to accommodate this. Agreement has been reached with Bickers Lifting and Stebbings Car Superstore with £3000 being confirmed as sponsorship for 2019. HRM Boilers will again sponsor the Championship but this year, instead of the hole shot awards, a cash award for 'Rookies' within the expert championship will be trialed for experts in their first and second year. This is hoped to encourage new experts to continue in the sport. If successful, a consideration will be made for this to be added to the Championship in 2020. Prize fund has been increased from £1050 to £1140. Experts now being awarded prize money down to 10th place.

P Armes questioned if the sponsors gain free entry to the Championship Rounds, it was confirmed that they will be sent two passes to each round.

It was agreed to invite Paul Bickers to the Awards evening to present the MX Awards.

C Cook – asked if the entries dropped off at the end of the season – response was that there was a drop in numbers but not significantly.

Youth MX: Mrs Secker has supplied the names and addresses of the Youth Champions. Ms Berwick has sent invitations to the winners to the Awards Evening on 9th February.

Dates have been chosen and confirmed and are in the calendar.

Mr Ralph commented that Mrs Secker had informed him that Forestry Commission rules only allow 75 adult riders to take part in events held on FC land.,

Trials:

A Trials Forum had taken place in November and had been very well attended.

Mr Armes has received Championship Conditions for 2019 from Mr Dopson.

Ms Berwick asked for clarification regarding the sidecar championship where the winners were an out of Centre team. The rules state that the winners of the Eastern Centre award must reside within the Eastern Centre. Therefore, the out of Centre winners will be invited to the awards evening and a trophy/trophies purchased. The Centre Trophy will be awarded to the best Centre team.

Grasstrack:

Mr Foskew reported that following a discussion regarding the Centre Championship round held by the 500cc Club, the Centre Champion is J Shanes. The 'on the day winner' was A Davies. He explained that the 500cc club awarded points which culminated in Mr Davies being the overall points winner, but the Centre Championship rules state that the Centre Champion is the winner of the Final. Mr Armes suggested that before the 2019 Championship, that this is resolved to avoid confusion.

Champion Club has been awarded to 500cc Association. Best Youth rider- Archie Rolph.

Mr Foskew sought the committee's approval to award the Centre Championship event to G W Racing for 2019 on Saturday 8th June at Gosbeck. This was agreed.

Ms Berwick asked Mr Foskew if he would write a report for the website as it had been pointed out to her that there had not been any information uploaded since 2015. Mr Foskew will write a report and send to P Sewter.

Enduro:

Mr Hearn circulated minutes of a recent Forum and a sub committee meeting to all present.

The Two-man Championship sponsored by Dave Barkshire Motorcycles will continue with the committee looking to promote the series. Woodbridge have requested an additional date to run a round on 3rd March at Iken.

There will be a lunch break at two-man events in 2019 following requests from riders.

5 rounds of the two-man- all to counts

Solo Championship – 7 rounds. 6 to count

There is to be a rookie award for the Championship Class, suggested by Lewis Bond, for 1st and 2nd year riders. G Hockey to provide the trophy.

Mr Hearn circulated the final championships standings.

There is to be a rule change in the solo championship. Following complaints regarding riders just taking part in the final round at Thetford, agreement has been made that riders not having competed in a previous round will not be allocated points as this could have a bearing on final championship standings.

Mr Hearn will forward all championship round venues and dates to Mr Armes.

Mr Hearn reported that the Sudbury Club have acquired the use of two pieces of land. Event on 14th April will be at Halstead Hills.

The other land is at Pebmarsh and will host a two-man round.

Youth – clubs may invite youth and run a youth class if numbers are sufficient.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Armes had attended the recent National Management Council meeting and reported that:

Insurance for Premier Permits will increase by 5% from January 1st 2019.

Basic insurance remains the same.

ACU had a 10% increase to pay. New insurance matrix will be released shortly.

The £25 refund ceases. The ACU was set up as nonprofit making and for three years the refund was paid for a surplus.

Trials and Enduro committee are not implementing the FIM rule of knee and back protectors. ACU are asking for feedback from riders.

Mr Armes will publish the provisional calendar towards the end of next week.

Mr Armes requested that all championship conditions for 2019 are sent to him by 21st December.

Noise meters – Mr Hay took them to Rugby and they have now been calibrated. Mr Armes will check who the licensed officials are in the Centre and look to provide noise testing at events in 2019.

Mr Armes has been asked to list technical officials in the ACU Eastern Handbook.

Mr Hay – timing equipment insurance – still to be resolved but he is awaiting two quotes.

Mr Hay sought agreement to charge NSJMCC £150 as a fixed fee for hire of the transponders rather than on the basis of how many were hired out – agreed by all present.

MX2 Trophies – Mr Hay asked Mr Ralph if that included 250 two strokes – not for 2018 as per ACU rules.

E Wass – First Aid – has found a provider who would charge £60 per person for training. Will keep the committee updated.

Stewards passes – Mr Armes will update Mr Wass on the Stewards who are eligible for passes for 2019. Commented that the number of Stewards is reducing – Mr Armes will bring that to the attention of the Board.

Mr Hay asked the committee to acknowledge that Paul Aldridge had successfully attained his National Clerk of the Course Licence.

Mr Hay advised that the Trials and Enduro Committee and MX Committee both currently have one position vacant.

Mr Armes commented that the 'Over 70' age issue has not yet been finalised.

Mr Wright asked if it would be possible to tag noise testing training onto the upcoming technical seminar. After discussion it was agreed that this would not be possible as the training for noise testing is quite specific.

Mr Foskew presented a new trophy for the GT 140 class – named the Foskew Trophy. It was agreed that his son and daughter would present this to A Shipp at the Awards Evening.

C Ralph – MX Forum has been arranged on Friday 18th January 2019 at Walsham le Willows FC commencing at 7.30pm.

Election of Officers to take place.

Mr Ralph that a change to a world championship round to 3rd March had been made today which would have a knock on effect for the British Championship.

P Armes proposed thanks to Mr Hearn for supplying refreshments.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00pm

Date and time of next meeting:

January 23rd 2019 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms commencing at 7.45pm