

MINUTES OF 2nd ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING of 2021 HELD THURSDAY 27TH
MAY VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Mr P Armes: Mr J Hearn: Mr A Penny: Mr. C Ralph: Mrs. L Ralph: Mr. P Nash: Mr. A Foskew ; Mr. M Beadle
By Invitation: Mr C Dopson:

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Mr. A Hay

2. Previous Minutes:

It was agreed that the previous minutes were a true record. Proposed A Penny; 2nd C Ralph.

3. Matters Arising:

C Dopson: sought confirmation regarding the comment that Southend Trial would be run under AMCA could now be run under ACU rules as permits could now be issued by ACU Eastern. It was confirmed that this is correct as it is only Centre Championship rounds that must be entered via the ACU online system. Following the relaxation of rules (should they go ahead) on the day entries could again be accepted. Regarding the 5% increase – Mr Dopson referred to the end of the previous minutes where this question had been answered.

4. Permits Issued and amendments to fixtures:

P Armes reported that 99% of permits issued by the Centre were for Trials. There has been a change to the online system where some modifications have been made. More documents now need to be uploaded. P Armes will advise all organisers in due course. P Armes and P Sewter are working on a template in Word format.

Amendments to fixtures:

Halstead Sidecar Cross Championship date is now 12th September which does clash with a round of the 2man Enduro Championship.

C Dopson reported that a replacement B Class Championship round running under Lowestoft Club banner will hopefully take place on 5th September at Alderley (by Nick Ogden)

P Nash – 3rd July date needs to change as another event is taking place at the venue. 17th July Trial at Corton is cancelled.

C Ralph reported that the Woodbridge Club are hoping to run two Saturday evening Trials – PA suggested that Trevor Andrews could be asked to speak to Dave Cordle who is also looking to run a couple of evening Trials so that a clash of dates are avoided. CR to deal. LR informed the committee that the Woodbridge Trials would not be run until after the British Championship MX on 8th August.

A Foskew: Gosbeck Grass track will now be held on Sunday 29th August in place of Monday 30th.

There is a new Grass Track Club – Classic Grass Track Club, contact is Dave Brown. They are also intending to run other classes rather than just Classic – They have affiliated as a Non-Territorial Club. Dates that Classic GT are running are 20th June, 1st August and 3rd October – all at Ugley.

5. 2021 Calendar and Centre Championship updates:

Although there have been a few calendar changes, it appears that things have settled down.

Confirmation that Round 7 of MX ECC is at Wakes Colne on 3rd October and Round 8 on 10th October at Lyng.

6. Stewards – update from P Armes:

P Armes had circulated a document earlier today (copy attached) following a response from Rugby regarding the future of Stewards (see previous minutes) which confirmed that they do not see a need for an appointed Steward for events of less than National status. Following discussion, it was apparent that all disciplines of ACU Eastern still wishes for a Steward to be appointed for Championship rounds. CR will revisit this subject with the MX Committee.

For MX National events, the question was posed: Is there a need for a Centre Steward to be appointed as a National Steward appointed by Rugby will be present? It was also confirmed that Promoters provide a Steward, therefore it would not be necessary.

Trials – non championship events – Steward to be appointed on the request of the organising club or if the Trials’ Committee deem it necessary.

Enduro – Championship Rounds – yes – National Events – No or if the organising club requests a Steward.

Grass Track – AF stated that all GT events should have an appointed Steward.

Appointment of a Steward should also be considered to aid new clubs.

PA would like these queries resolved by the next meeting so that the new rules are ready for the 2022 season.

It was also clarified that if a club requests a Steward’s attendance, that the club bears the cost. If any of the Centre Committee’s requested an appointment then the Centre would pay.

7. **Steward’s reports:**

Woodbridge & DMCC Ltd MX 25th April - P Grantham. Run under covid rules with no spectators – well run as expected. No issues. CR commented that all covid rules were adhered to, with club members overseeing parking etc. No prize money but the club did make a profit. Reminded all that it is still necessary to liaise with Local Authorities.

Sudbury Hare and Hounds – 16th May – A Foskew. Very good event with a Youth and Adult event run under covid rules with no spectators.

PA reported that in the run up to Lyng the number of spectators was set at 4000 but the N Vikings kept to 4000 in total on site including riders and their teams. PA fully expected someone from the police or Council to attend at Lyng for the British Champs as it was the first event run with spectators, but no-one arrived.

(M Beadle joined the meeting at 7.55pm)

Briefly confirmed the British Sidecar date and that there would be solo supports.

He also confirmed that the Evos and NGR would now run alongside the Richard Fitch MX on 18th July as the riders in those Championships had stated a preference for not running alongside the sidecars.

8. **Levies.**

A discussion took place. PA was not sure if the Competitions Committee were the correct forum to make a decision and would like to have a separate meeting with the Chairs of the discipline committees and Treasurer to discuss the issue and to see how levies could be made equitable. The aim is to have this made ready for a proposal to be put before the Board in November.

9. **Sub Committee Reports**

MX – C Ralph: 2 Championship Rounds have been held, both non-spectator and both had been very good meetings. Wakes Colne had impressed with the improvements made. Both Halstead and Diss had 160 competitors and there has been a good influx of young riders. To smooth the transition from youth to adult racing, LR has devised some information which is sent out as they join the Club.

The 3rd round is due at Blaxhall on 30th May, with spectators for the first time. It does clash with a MX Nationals meeting so a few riders will be lost but there was no other available date. WDMCC have purchased card readers which will be trialed in a bid to reduce cash handling. WDMCC intend to try online ticket sales for their July 11th meeting as a precursor for the August 8th British Champs.

Youth MX: CR reports that NSJMCC have held the 1st Round of the Championship on May 2nd with 70 adults and a reasonable line up of youth riders.

Trials: P Nash reported that the Eastern Experts Trial (Essex and Suffolk?) had taken place and had attracted an entry of 9 Experts and a total entry of 60 riders.

Expert B Class seems to be growing. C Dopson stated that the Trials Committee needs to look at older riders being able to go down a class.

Badwell Ash – shortly sorting out dates and B Class rounds. Keeping the Turkey Trot Trials as a spare date for now.

Grasstrack: A Foskew reported that there had been no meetings held as yet – 26th June at Gosbeck is the first event by GW Racing.

Enduro: JH reported that Round 1 of the Solo Championship had taken place with a full entry on 9th May and all went well. The next event is the Sprint at Blaxhall on 6th June (to date 101 entries) and then 13th June at Hadham.

10. **Correspondence:**

Various updates, risk assessments etc had been received from Rugby and all circulated by the Secretary.

11. Any Other Business:

PA – reported that the Norwich Vikings British Championship at Lyng had used an advanced ticket sale system via Eventbrite embedded on the club's own website reducing cash handling to the minimum. The tickets went live at 8am on Monday and closed at 2pm on the Friday before the event. The event had been paid for by the Wednesday and proved to be advantageous for club funds. The club now have a database of nearly 3000 motocross fans which could prove very useful for feedback etc.

Scanners were purchased using old iPhones and tickets scanned at the gate. There were no hold ups and no queues at the spectator gate and numbers had been available and monitored. 94% of tickets sold were utilised.

Mr J Hearn extended congratulations to the Norwich Vikings for the way that the event was run and controlled.

There being no further business, Mr Armes thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20.20pm.

Next meeting –Thursday July 22nd Via Zoom at 7pm