

## **Minutes of the 10th Competitions Committee Meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at Stanway Village Hall.**

Present: A Penny; M Deeks; C Ralph; A Foskew; J Hearn; Ms L Berwick; E Wass; P Armes;

Apologies were received from: D Smith; A Deeks; A Hay; C Dopson

1. Mr Penny opened the meeting and welcomed all present and received apologies from the above.

2. Mr Penny sought approval of the previous minutes – which were agreed as a true record with the following amendments.

Item 4 should read Directors, not Board.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

J Hearn – paragraph one is incorrect where Mr Smith stated that the Byelaws re missed meetings applied only to the Board. Mr Hearn read out the byelaws which clearly state the rule applies to all committees of the Board including competitions committee and sub committees.

\*\*Ms Berwick to check that the byelaws on the website are the current version.

Youth Championship – Ms Berwick has spoken to the Norfolk and Suffolk Junior representatives as had Mr P Armes. Mr Armes has told them he is willing to publish dates of their Eastern Centre Championship Rounds in the Gazette.

Item 7 – Littleport MCC is now running at Mildenhall and Chelmsford are now running at Chippenham. Both will be Centre Championship rounds. There has been no further mention of financial assistance from the Littleport Club.

J Hearn – Land Fund – changes to the wording of the Land Fund rules will be an agenda item for the January Board.

Current rules will be circulated shortly.

Item 10 – C Ralph – as Mr Smith has indicated that he will not stand for another term as Competitions Committee Chair, it was confirmed that the new Chair would be chosen at the January Competitions Committee meeting

### **4. Permits and Fixtures:**

Mr Armes circulated the current position on permit applications.

Sudbury Club has requested a date of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to run an extreme enduro. Mr Armes has agreed this and has received the regs. Running on an Open permit. The event will be advertised on the website and will take place at Foxboro Farm Sible Hedingham.

J Hearn offered to be Centre Steward.

Comment was made that several dates where enduro and mx clash – consensus was that this was unavoidable.

Mr Hearn thanked Mr Armes on the way that the dates meeting had been handled.

Grass Track – 500cc Club have added in a date on 26<sup>th</sup> April making three speed events on one day. Mr Foskew stated that is the only date that the land can be used. They have also put in a two day meeting on 12/13<sup>th</sup> September which clashed with a Woodbridge MX – no problems foreseen.

J Hearn pointed out that the Stowmarket trial is on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Thanks to P Armes for the work put in – all dates now set. Thanks to Mr Dopson and the Trials Committee for ensuring the trials dates were sent to Mr Armes with all problems having been ironed out and also thanks to Paul Hubbard for working on the dates for the MX Championship rounds. All this made it much easier to finalise the dates.

### **5. Steward's Report:**

Mr Wass reported that:

Chelmsford MX 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014 D Mills – Well run meeting. Two riders fighting on the track. Mr Wass questioned why the assistant C of C sent the riders home and not the Clerk of the Course. Mr G Brace was C of C but was at the other end of the circuit. He had radioed to Mr Foskew asking him to deal with the situation. Mr Wass stated that the Centre should have investigated this

Mr Brace stated that Rugby was contacted but he was unable to get to speak to either G Thompson or S Giggins and they did not reply to emails. After discussion, where it was pointed out that Rugby were the permit issuing authority, Ms Berwick was asked to contact Rugby to find out what action is being/was taken.

Ms Berwick advised the meeting that to date, she had not received the minutes of the last MX Committee meeting where some of the points raised may well be mentioned.

Mr Wass asked if he could have Stewards reports earlier, Ms Berwick will ask Rugby but advised that the normal routine was that they come out after discussion at a MX meeting has taken place. Mr Wass commented that he has also received nothing from the Trials committee or Grasstrack.

ACU Ltd at Blaxhall – 11/12<sup>th</sup> October D Smith Reported that were several instances where Woodbridge members, not signed on as meeting officials took to the track to wave yellow flags, also giving instructions to firstaiders resulting in confusion. This was a very well run event much enjoyed by riders, teams and spectators.

Mr Ralph commented that Woodbridge & DMCC LTD have investigated this, and as far as he is aware, no-one from the club went onto the track apart from signed on officials. He requested that the Steward give details of such persons.

16<sup>th</sup> November - Muntjac Enduro A Penny – well run event, excellent entry.

All Ok except there was no disclaimer in the programme.

Mr Wass stated that in his opinion, the Centre should revert back to the previous system of one steward's co-ordinator across the disciplines. He also questioned why the Stewards co-ordinator and other officials such as Rights of Way were now appointed in November. Ms Berwick responded that this was discussed and agreed at a Board meeting two years ago. Mr Wass also asked about the permit secretary role – Ms Berwick responded that this role is appointed by the Competitions Committee at the first meeting of the new session in January.

Mr Wass feels that the steward's co-ordinator should have overall charge of all stewards' appointments. Ms Berwick stated that this had been discussed at previous meetings and agreement made that each discipline should be responsible for their own appointments following which, each discipline should advise Mr Wass of the appointments made. Mr Foskew also suggested that Mr Wass should be sent copies of the reports by the Stewards irrespective of the kind of permit being used.

Mr Armes responded that the Trials Section had been devolved for one year as a pilot, which had worked extremely well. Mr Armes requested that an item regarding Trials devolvement be placed on the next agenda. He proposes that the Trials Section carry on and discussion made regarding devolvement of other disciplines.

Mr Armes stated that it must be clear that copies of Stewards reports must be sent to the Stewards Co-ordinator. A discussion took place on Stewards passes for 2015. Mr Wass advised those present that in 2014, 46 people had passes. The result of the discussion was that only Officers of the Centre and members of the Competitions Committee would be issued passes in 2015 with other passes being issued at the discretion of the Competitions Committee. This subject will be placed on the agenda for the January Board.

Mr Armes mentioned that Diss had not received their paperwork for the meeting held under a Centre Permit – Mr Wass said that this was an oversight. Comment was made that the lack of communication in general needs addressing.

## **6.Sub Committee Reports:**

### **MX \_ G Brace:**

Mr Brace advised the meeting that Chelmsford would be unable to use the East Hanningfield Circuit in 2015 as the landowner had recently died. The family is unsure of the future of the land. Mr Armes suggested that the Club try to run some kind event to keep continuous use going.

Ms Berwick reported that there had recently been a MX Cof C / Stewards seminar where 13 had attended (6 new) Discussion was made on the future of the Centre Club Championship – the outcome was that the MX Sub Committee would discuss this further and report back with the result of their discussion.

Sidecar Championship – there will be no championship in 2015 – only one possible club willing to run (Diss).

Youth Championship – 4 championship dates have been requested. Agreed that a Steward will be appointed for each Championship round. (To contact Rugby to ensure this happens).

Agreed to monitor the number of adult riders taking part in the events run by Norfolk and Suffolk Juniors.

It is hopeful that another Youth club will affiliate to the Eastern Centre – negotiations are taking place. Mr Brace will find out the current position with a view to inviting a representative of the potential new club to a competitions committee meeting in 2015.

Eastern Centre Championship Rules have been updated for 2015 – Mr Armes was given a copy for the handbook.

**Trials – Mr Dopson** was not present but had sent a written report as follows:

A Trials Forum had been held on November 5<sup>th</sup> with 25 attendees and organisers representing 11 clubs.

For 2015 introduction of championship classes for Expert B to be included in Class A rounds and Intermediate B to be included in Class B rounds.

For 2015 to qualify as a championship round there is no minimum number of riders per class and in each championship riders will drop only one score during the year.

Trials committee agreed for 2015 as Clive Dopson (Chairman), Kevin Hood (Vice Chairman), Barbara Douglas (Secretary), Paul Fenn (Stewards Co-ordinator), David Cordle (Recorder), Eddie Hood, Jamie Douglas, Adam Keeble, Matthew Neale, Paul Nash and Nick Ogden.

Trials and Enduro Seminars booked for December 20<sup>th</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>, details will be on website. The Trials committee would request that Trials candidates take both Clerk of Course and Stewards Licence.

There is a change to the published 2015 calendar – Phil King National moves from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 8<sup>th</sup>, Lowestoft A Class Trial moves from February 8<sup>th</sup> to February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Clubs will be encouraged to apply for Open permits unless there is a practical reason not to, e.g., car parking.

Two other subjects for Trials/Competitions Committee:

- 1) Clubs to be given free or reduced permit costs for events specifically run to promote ACU clubs/trials.
- 2) Clarify if or how an ACU club can officially issue a day licence/registration to an ACU club member who wants to enter a trial on the day and ride and does not have an ACU trials registration.

Since the last meeting there have been 2 A Class, 2 C Class and 1 B Class championship trials. In 2014 there have already been more championship rider entries than 2013 and after one remaining B Class and C Class trials, it should exceed the 2012 total.

2015/16 calendar and championship rounds agreed and Mr P Armes is aware.

Stewards appointments being communicated directly to P Armes.

Mr Brace stated that there is a query on the Chelmsford Trial – advised to contact Mr Dopson.

#### **Enduro - Mr J Hearn**

An Enduro sub committee meeting had been held. Amendments for the Eastern Centre Handbook had been communicated to Mr P Armes. Dates had been agreed.

Two Man Championship – agreed that 7 rounds be held with 6 to count. In the event of losing a round, still 6 to count.

#### **Grass Track – A Foskew**

Nothing much to report. Mr Foskew had attended the 500cc AGM and obtained dates. Letters have been sent to clubs asking if they would run a championship round – nothing has been decided to date.

Mr Foskew reported that for 2016, a Youth Championship may be run now that Norwich New Stars are up and running.

#### **7 Timing.**

Mr Brace reported that discussions are ongoing. A meeting with Mr Sewter will be set up together with organisers to try to reach a mutual agreement.

#### **8. Correspondence:**

Ms Berwick had received a letter from Rugby asking if the Centre would be interested in putting together a team if the Inter Centre Team MX was resurrected. This would be likely to include 65cc, 85cc, Youth Open and Adults. No decision was reached. To be discussed at next meeting.

Ms Berwick also had received the minutes from various meeting at Rugby but due to the lateness of the meeting, there was not time to discuss these.

#### **9. Any Other Business:**

E Wass re MSA – had received a letter from MSA asking why he had not been attending meetings. MSA also asking if the motor sport liaison group should be reformed. Mr Armes said that Phil Hemmings wants to open dialogue and suggested that following the January meeting when the Chairman's position has been filled, contact could be made. This was agreed.

J Hearn – advised that the date for the TT in 2015 is 31<sup>st</sup> May to 12<sup>th</sup> June.

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