

**MINUTES OF 4<sup>th</sup> ACU EASTERN COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING of 2020 HELD ON THURSDAY  
13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020 VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT: Mr P Armes: Mr J Hearn: Mr A Penny: Mr A Foskew: Mr C Ralph: Mrs L Ralph:  
Mr A Hay: Mr P Nash: Mr C Dopson

1. Mr Armes opened the meeting. There were apologies for absence from Mr A Wright and Mr G Brace
2. **Previous Minutes:** The minutes taken on 14<sup>th</sup> July had been circulated. These were agreed as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising:**  
Templates had been received and circulated to all Secretaries of Meetings. Feedback had been positive.
4. **Permit Issues/ dates/calendar status:**

PA had circulated a current list. All permit issuing via Rugby has been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> December. A Penny reported that Essex and Suffolk Trial due 6/9 has been cancelled. C Dopson reported that there had been a 'virtual' Trials Committee meeting last week. He will collate a list of cancellations and events and will forward to P Armes. It is apparent that there is a need to remind Clubs to keep the Centre updated on events which are to run/ be cancelled. There has been one event that the Centre was not aware of.

Mr Dopson stated that there is still the intent to run some Trials Championship rounds and that these should be advertised in the Gazette (part of Centre rules). Mr Armes expressed concern that with permits being issued direct from Rugby, there is no recourse to the Centre. CD – needs the NMC delegate to bring this up at the next meeting.

P Armes still keen that all regs should be placed in the Gazette to keep it running. Mr Hearn agreed to speak to the Sudbury Club to ensure that they are aware of the need to publish regs. in the Centre Gazette.

CR – neither proposed practice day on 5<sup>th</sup> September or meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September at Blaxhall will take place. There is a possibility of a mx meeting with no spectators or a practice day in October if a suitable date can be found. Looking at 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. PA pointed out that NSJMCC have a date tbc on 18<sup>th</sup>.

ACU British Championship has been cancelled. The Practice Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August will take place but entries have been slow and is not full.

Grass Track on 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Ugley has been cancelled.

GW Racing running at G/T at Iken on 30<sup>th</sup> August. No spectators. Steve Brace is Steward and A Foskew will be attending. Another meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October is planned at Gosbeck.

NSJMCC have an adult only meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> August – comment was made that they are a 'youth club' and whether this was something that needed discussion.

500cc Club not running any events as yet.

PN – Poles Wood Trial due on 15<sup>th</sup> August is cancelled.

5. **Issuing of Permits via ACU HQ** and implications both short and longer term for the Centre Gazette and Permit Issuing System. A discussion took place on what will happen after 31<sup>st</sup> December. AH suggested that the Centre makes representation to Rugby prior to 31<sup>st</sup> December and CD added that the Centre should ask that the situation should revert back to the Centres being involved. Mr Armes agreed to draft a letter, which he will circulate to committee members, to be sent to Rugby.  
It has been apparent for some time that Rugby would prefer to centralise permit issue but the consensus of those present would that this would be detrimental to Centres.  
LB commented that she no longer receives an alert when a permit for an event within the Centre is issued.  
CD stated that only 2 Centres do not list a Permit Secretary in the ACU Handbook. It was agreed that the letter would be copied to all other Centres.

## 6. Any Other Business:

MX – C Ralph expressed concern that entries seem to be down. Normally events are full within ten minutes but this has not been the case for the Woodbridge Practice day or the NSJMCC and Halstead events.

Trials and Enduro Risk Assessments: CD had looked at the two discipline risk assessments and there are a few anomalies. Travelling rules are one of them. The previous catering issue now appears to be resolved. One accompanying 'mechanic' allowed for Enduro – none for Trials.

The Trials committee had discussed whether if riders agreed to wear a mask at sections, that some of the rules could be relaxed. CD to write to the Enduro Secretary at Rugby and copy to John Collins.

There will be no Trials Forum this year therefore all rules for 2020 will be carried into 2021.

There has been one Trials Stewards report this year from Bury Club – P Fenn was Steward. Mr Dopson will forward a copy to P Armes. The only issue seemed to be the social distancing at the beginning of the event.

A Foskew: Not much to report on Grasstrack. Needs a Steward (Trials) for Middleton.

Mr Dopson confirmed that Trials would be advertised as 'Championship' rounds as previously touched on as this has to be published in the Gazette, but that they would only be Championship events if the entry numbers were sufficient.

A Penny: informed those present that Maddie (one of the Trials and Enduro staff at Rugby) had been involved in a motorcycle accident and would be off work for some months.

National Rally is going ahead with no 'manned' check points. Mr Penny will forward details to P Armes for inclusion in the Gazette.

Enduro: J Hearn reported that Stewards are required for 6<sup>th</sup> September Sudbury Club and 13<sup>th</sup> September for Stowmarket Club.

Mr Ralph commented that he had heard that the Foxborough enduro had problems with social distancing and that this had not been dealt with. C Cook was Steward and reported that it had been a good event.

Mr Hearn will send a copy of the Stewards report to P Armes.

Comment was made that if Rugby were issuing permits, was it then their remit to appoint Stewards?

LB – raised the question of AGM and suggested that the Dick Williams and Bill Spurrell Awards be suspended for one year. She had discussed this with J Hearn. This will be discussed by Centre Officials as the Advance Notice has to go out at the end of this month.

P Armes suggested that we might, as a committee, try to find a way to include Alex Wright and Chris Cook.

P Nash will help C Cook with Teams and LB will contact A Wright.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

### **Date and time of next meeting:**

Virtually via Microsoft Teams: Date and Time to be confirmed.