

## EASTERN CENTRE OF THE AUTO-CYCLE UNION

**MINUTES** for the Annual Trials Forum of the **EASTERN CENTRE 2016**,  
held at **The Parish Room, Gt Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk** on  
**Thursday 3rd November 2016**, commencing at **7.45pm**

### **Present**

C Dopson	Wymondham	D Kent	EFA
R Challis	EFA	D Barrell	Ipswich
A Penny	E & S Bdr	J Newstead	Diss
P Fenn	E & S Bdr	K Hood	Ipswich
A Barrell	NSJMCC	M Neale	Wymondham
M Baldwin	Ipswich	E Hood	Triangle
P Nash	Southend	C Cook	Braintree
T Harvey	Ipswich	L Foskew	ECMC
D Cordle	Ipswich	J Nash	Southend
K Plummer	Ipswich	R Greengrass	Lowestoft Inv
S Baldwin	Ipswich	J Yearley	Braintree
N Sargent	Bury St Edmunds	R Norman	Castle
G Wakley	Castle	A Foskew	EC Vice Chair
J Williams	Ipswich	C Grice	Lowestoft Inv

1. Mr Cook opened the meeting. Apologies from C Keeble, A Keeble, R Snowden, and N Ogden.
2. **Previous Minutes:** Mr Dopson asked for comments on the previous minutes and they were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
3. **Matters Arising:** None
4. **Report from 2016 Trials Committee:** It was reported that this had worked well, there had been 2 meetings over the year. Mr Foskew had dealt with the Steward's appointments which have gone well. There was a discussion about how we could attract more new riders, and in particular younger riders, one suggestion was to set up a specific ACU Eastern Trials Facebook page, although there was no volunteer in the forum to set this up, it was agreed to advertise for a volunteer via the gazette, web-site and the web-master. The forum was reminded that during 2016 the ACU had introduced a "One Event Trials Registration" system, details to be put on the ACU Eastern website.
5. **2016 Trials Review:** There was a general discussion about the small expert entries and the generally severity of sections, the consensus was that we still need to be careful that sections, in particular the red/blue route, should not be too hard. There had been a few teething problems with the 50/50 routes, and although they were achieving what was expected, one 50/50 route per trial was the most we should have. Although the entries in the twin-shock championship were disappointing, the easier (B) route being a 50/50 route should continue.  
It was agreed for Mr Dopson to send a version of the 2017-18 Handbook Trials section for inclusion with information sent to the secretary of the meeting and centre steward for all centre championship rounds.  
It was agreed that 50/50 sections should be identified on the begins cards, the observers card and the riders numbers be identified as riding the 50/50 route.
6. **2017 Trials Championship:** Overall it was decided that all details for championship rounds should remain the same for 2017, including the use of 50/50 routes, giving each club the choice whether the first lap for experts should count or not. Any Twinshocks on the White route can score points for the Twinshock B championship below those on the 50/50 route. Championships for 2017 are  
Class A – Expert, Expert B, Inter, Inter B, Novice, Youth A and B - 7 rounds 6 to count

Class B – Twinshock ( A and B) - 6 rounds 5 to count

Class C – Pre 70 - 6 rounds 5 to count

Class D – Sidecar - 1 round 1 to count, additional rounds to be added as requested

First round ridden denotes Championship entered.

7. **2017 – 2018 Trials Calendar:** The dates for next year were discussed and clashes were sorted. Mr Dopson would take the dates back to Mr P Armes.
8. **Trials Entry forms:** the following changes were agreed to be included
  - a. Envelopes only to be supplied if results by post are requested
  - b. A box to be added to show In Case of Emergency (ICE) telephone number for each rider.
  - c. Boxes to be included to show which route the rider plans to compete on, this will require changes to the permit/gazette application forms for clubs to show which routes will be included.
9. **Protest Period Start:** After discussion, and based only some riders receiving results by post, it was agreed that the period for protests to be received would start when the results are published on the ACU Eastern website, all championship round results have to be published in this way.
10. **Open Permit Events in the Gazette:** The centre rules require all Open Permit events to be included in the gazette, Mr P Armes had agreed this was not necessary for Saturday afternoon trials, which were not Championship trials.
11. **On-Line Trials Entries:** It was agreed to encourage clubs to use the ACU on-line entry system but that postal entries must always be accepted. There was an issue that this would require earlier issuing of Permits as the on-line system cannot have the entries opening until the permit is issued by the centre. Clubs to include on the permit application that the on-line entry system is being used and agree a date for the permit to be issued.
12. **ACU Eastern Dates Meeting:** Mr Dopson explained that this was on 16<sup>th</sup> November and was for Mr P Armes to explain some of the paperwork issues and to deal with any inter-disciplinary date clashes.
13. **Trials Seminars:** Dates have not yet been finalised but Mr A Penny will run one seminar on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2016, venue to be decided, and another one will be arranged at the end of January or beginning of February, details on the ACU Eastern website.
14. **2016 Observers Award:** There have been three nominations for this, Colin and Betty Smith, Eid Smith, and Rachel Harvey. A vote was held. Rachel Harvey was declared the winner.
15. **Trials Sub Committee:** Mr Dopson explained that Mr A Keeble had requested to stand down from the committee. After some discussion, during which there were no new volunteers, Mr Penny proposed that the committee should continue as is, this was seconded by Mr A Foskew, and agreed unanimously. Committee now stands as  
Mr C Cook and Mr P Nash – Chairman (joint)  
Mr C Dopson – Secretary, Mr D Cordle – Recorder, Mr A Foskew– Stewards Co-ordinator  
Members: Mr E Hood, Mr N Ogden, Mr K Hood, Mr P Fenn and Mr M Neale
16. **Any Other Business:** After discussion, mainly about stopping riders looping out of the intended route in sections, it was agreed that the only action was to remind Clerks of Courses to ensure that where possible section marking did not allow looping, to remind riders about looping in pre-trial briefing and if seen to not allow it. It was felt, in general, that observers could not be expected to always enforce it. Mr Barrell from NSJMCC said that they were interested in running an Oset Cup Series.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm