

## EASTERN CENTRE OF THE AUTO-CYCLE UNION

**MINUTES** for the Annual Trials Forum of the **EASTERN CENTRE 2017**,  
held at **The Parish Room, Gt Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk** on  
**Thursday 2nd November 2017**, commencing at **8.00pm**

<b>Present</b>			
R Challis	EFA	R Snowden	Diss
A Penny	E & S Bdr	C Dopson	Wymondham
P Fenn	E & S Bdr	J Newstead	N&SJun
M Neale	Wymondham	P Kibble	N&SJun
M Baldwin	Ipswich	A Foskew	EC Vice Chair
P Nash	Southend	E Hood	Triangle
T Harvey	Ipswich	C Cook	Braintree
D Cordle	Ipswich	L Foskew	ECMC
K Plummer	Ipswich	J Nash	Southend
J Yearley	Braintree	S Baldwin	Ipswich
N Sargent	Bury St Edmunds	G Wakley	Castle
C Stevens	Diss	R Norman	Castle
A Keeble	E & S Bdr	G Baker	EFA
		D Kent	EFA

1. Mr Cook opened the meeting. Apologies from J Hearn, K Hood and R Greengrass.
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:** The proposal to have ACUE Trials Facebook group was discussed again, there having been no response to requests for someone to organise. After the discussion Mr Nash offered to set it up and Mr Nash, Mr Kibble and Mr Adam Keeble offered to be moderators, the title was proposed as "ACU Eastern Motorcycle Trials". After discussion about recent dates clashes and before the next calendar is considered it was agreed that "unless agreed at the trial's forum only one trial can be held on each day, if a club wishes to move their event to a date already occupied, then the club wishing to move must get agreement from the club already on that date".
4. **Report from 2017 Trials Committee:** It was reported that this had worked well, there had been 2 meetings during the year. Mr Foskew had dealt with the Steward's appointments; some clubs were not supplying stewards as required when organising A and B class championship rounds, although overall events were being supported. Mr Cook reported on some progress in understanding the relative costs of ACUE and basic ACU permits and levies, Comps Committee are still discussing the subject.
5. **2018 Trials Championship marking (excluding Pre 70):** After discussion it was decided that ACUE trials championship will remain as stop allowed, Pre 70 is no-stop. For non ACUE championship rounds it was confirmed clubs can use stop allowed or no-stop. It was agreed that it would be helpful if permit applications and regulations stated what rules would apply, secretary to arrange.
6. **2017 Trials Review:** Overall it was thought there were not many issues, from the winner's scores the red/blue route is still on average too hard. Clubs were reminded that it had been previously 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. There was a discussion about how to encourage more youth rider, in particular the very young riders on electric bikes and it was concluded that in many cases, where parents had not competed, it was very basic training that could make a difference. Mr P Nash said that he was qualified by the ACU to train others to the level required for basic trials that could simply be delivered under a training permit. Several attendees were interested in this and a training event would be organised. It was considered that for any costs, including permit

fees, it might be worth approaching the centre to contribute. Secretary to request interest in training course via the gazette.

7. **2018 Trials Championship:** Previously the Trials Committee had agreed that for 2018 the Novice championship should return to the B championship to balance entries, this had been publicised in the gazette and on the trials dates application form. Following a discussion and a vote it was decided to retain the current grading, i.e. not introduce an Expert Elite class. All championship routes will remain as 2017, including the use of 50/50 routes, and giving each club the choice whether the first lap for experts should count or not.

Championships for 2018 are

Class A – Expert, Expert B, Inter, Inter B, Youth A and B - 8 rounds 7 to count

Class B – Novice, Twinshock ( A and B) - 8 rounds 7 to count

Class C – Pre 70 (A and B) - 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.

Clubs are reminded that permits for ACUE championship rounds must be issued by ACUE.

After discussion it was agreed to accept a proposal for a single class Pre 70 B class championship, run on the next route down from the current Pre 70 A class, in some cases this will be a 50/50 route. There was concern about machine compliance outside of the A class, it was agreed that the Pre 70 rules would apply for the B class. It was agreed that as a test in 2018, B class riders would police the machine rules in the class, and if necessary riders could opt to ride not for championship points.

8. **2018 – 2019 Trials Calendar:** The dates for next year were discussed and clashes were sorted. Mr Dopson would take the dates back to Mr P Armes.
9. **ACU Eastern Dates Meeting:** Mr Dopson explained that this was on 15<sup>th</sup> November and was for Mr P Armes to deal with any inter-disciplinary date clashes.
10. **Regulations in ACUE gazette:** reminder that for all events, except for closed to club and restricted invitation regulations must be in the ACUE gazette, this includes Saturday events.
11. **Trials Seminars:** Dates have not yet been finalised but Mr A Penny will run one seminar on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017, 11.30 am at The Parish Room, Great Blakenham, another one will be arranged at the end of January or beginning of February, details on the ACU Eastern website.
12. **2017 Observers Award:** There have been four nominations for this, Colin and Betty Smith, Richard Scales, Tony Brand and Michael Snailsham. A vote was held. Colin and Betty Smith were declared the winners, award to be presented at the annual wards presentation.
13. **Trials Sub Committee:** After some discussion, Mr J Newstead agreed to join the committee and this was accepted by the meeting.  
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. Mr J Newstead and Mr M Neale.
14. **Derek Clampin:** As a mark of respect a minute's silence was held for Derek Clampin, a Life Vice President of the centre, who recently passed away.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm