

## EASTERN CENTRE OF THE AUTO-CYCLE UNION

**MINUTES** for the Annual Trials Forum of the **EASTERN CENTRE 2018**,  
held at **The Parish Room, Gt Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk** on  
**Thursday 8th November 2018**, commencing at **8.00pm**

|                |               |            |            |            |                 |
|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>Present</b> |               | R Snowden  | Diss       | R Challis  | EFA             |
| C Dopson       | Wymondham     | A Penny    | E & S Bdr  | J Newstead | N&SJun          |
| P Fenn         | E & S Bdr     | P Kibble   | N&SJun     | M Neale    | Wymondham       |
| A Foskew       | EC Vice Chair | T Smith    | EFA        | E Hood     | Triangle        |
| P Nash         | Southend      | C Cook     | Braintree  | T Harvey   | Ipswich         |
| C Grice        | Lowestoft     | C Crowfoot | EFA        | J Nash     | Southend        |
| K Plummer      | Ipswich       | C Skedge   | Lowestoft  | J Yearley  | Braintree       |
| G Wakley       | Castle        | R Norman   | Castle     | N Sargent  | Bury St Edmunds |
| R Norman       | Castle        | T Kemp     | Ipswich    | G Baker    | EFA             |
| A Keeble       | E & S Bdr     | D Smith    | Lowestoft  | J Brown    | Chelmsford      |
| N Ogden        | Chelmsford    | J Douglas  | Norwich    | B Douglas  | Norwich         |
| M Chapman      | Diss          | C Keeble   | E & S Bdr  | K Hood     | Ipswich         |
| A Day          | Castle        | P Armes    | ACUE Comps |            |                 |

1. Mr Cook opened the meeting. Apologies from D Cordle
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:** It was agreed there not any matters arising from the above minutes which are not specifically listed on this agenda.
4. **Report from 2018 Trials Committee:**
  - a. It was reported that this had worked well, there had been 2 meetings during the year.
  - b. 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.
  - c. It had recently been agreed that Stewards, when signed on as an official, can choose to ride the trial for no award.
  - d. Mr Cook reported that a reduction in trials levy was successfully negotiated from £1 to 75p for each rider if there are more than 30 riders. It was requested could it be negotiated that the first 30 riders have no levy even if there are more than 30 riders, as rider 31 is very expensive for a club, to be discussed with Comps Committee.
  - e. Riders and organisers were reminded there is a clubman class for any rider competing purely for fun on a route lower than the lowest correct route for the rider's class within the centre. There will be no awards or championship points etc. There will not be a specific Clubman route.
  - f. The recommendation for 2019 is that for ACUE Championship rounds is that the entry closing date is reduced from five to two days before the event
5. **Comments from Mr P Armes:** attendees were reminded of the following
  - a. Complete permit/gazette application form in full – 'All Classes'/Routes/Course; implications of online entry system.
  - b. GDPR – new form raised earlier in the year and put into the 'event paperwork' folder; please use it.
  - c. Online entries to open on 4<sup>th</sup> of month in line with delivery of Gazette to tie in with paper entry option.

- d. Online entry system – regs uploaded by me (unless it is an ACU issued permit – Forestry Commission land). Aim to have them uploaded 5 to 7 days prior to opening date.

After some discussion the meeting agreed that some would like to attend a First Aid course if the centre arranged and also agreed that having a defibrillator at trials would be useful.

**6. 2018 Trials Review:** The results show that in 2018 the winners score on all routes, except for Expert A, had increased and this was not intended to help increase the number of competitors. After discussion of what might have caused this it was generally agreed that we should be targeting 10 to 15 marks winning scores in the class that defines the severity for that route. Clerks of Courses are reminded that it is their responsibility to control the severity of sections and if unsure to opt for the easier option.

**7. 2019 Trials Championship:** after discussions the following points were agreed.

- a. Twinshock B to continue on the Red/Blue and White 50/50 route, in addition it was decided by vote championship points will be calculated for Twinshock C on the white route, there was no commitment made to have a Twinshock C trophy or award.
- b. Pre 70 B to continue as 2018 and if there is a route below that used by Pre 70 B then on the lower route championship points to be calculated for Pre 70 C, there was no commitment made to have a Pre 70 C trophy or award. Mr Plummer to continue to monitor machine eligibility on Pre 70 B and Pre 70 C. It is important that the ACUE Pre 70 machine eligibility rules continue to apply to Pre 70 B and Pre 70 C.
- c. As already agreed by the Trials Committee, in a single year a rider can move up and down in Twinshock and Pre 70 classes and can score points in each class if appropriate.
- d. After much discussion and a vote (18 to 8) it was agreed not to remove the option for clubs to have a practice lap for Experts in Class A championship rounds.

**8. 2019 – 2020 Trials Calendar:** The dates for next year were discussed and clashes were sorted. Mr Dopson would issue the dates on 9<sup>th</sup> November to trials organisers, committee members and Mr P Armes.

**9. ACU Eastern Dates Meeting:** Mr Dopson explained that this was on 21st 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:** arranged by Chris Cook for 8<sup>th</sup> December at Christchurch Hall, Needham Market and 5<sup>th</sup> January at Blakenham Parish Room, Great Blakenham both start at 10.30 am. Thanks to Alan Penny for organising for many years.

**12. 2018 Observers Award:** There have been five nominations for this, Derek Bloomfield, Tony Brand, Rita Lea, Carol Read and Michael Snailsham. A vote was held. Tony Brand was declared the winner, award to be presented at the annual awards presentation.

**13. Trials Sub Committee:** After some discussion, it was agreed that the committee will continue 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. Any other business:**

- a. The recommendation for 2019 is that for ACUE Championship rounds is that the entry closing date is reduced from five to two days before the event and that clubs should enforce this and not take entries on the day. Some attendees thought this

should be a rule but it is difficult to enforce. Clubs were reminded that competitors who have entries accepted will count for ACUE championship points.

- b. Clubs are reminded that results should be sent to all observers, by post or e-mail, as a politeness and to say thank you. Results for all ACUE championship rounds and any other trials clubs choose should be sent to the ACUE webmaster to be posted on the web-site.
- c. Riders should be reminded that entry forms need to be filled in completely and accurately including supplying ICE information.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm