

ACU EASTERN

MINUTES for the first Trials Committee meeting of **ACU EASTERN 2019**, held at **The Parish Room, Great Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk on Thursday 28nd March 2019** commencing at **8.00 pm**

Present

C Cook, P Nash (Chairmen), C Dopson (secretary), E Hood, A Foskew, P Fenn, D Cordle, M Neale, J Newstead, K Hood, N Ogden, (T Smith from EFA in attendance for point 6 which took place before the main meeting)

Apologies none,

1. C Cook opened meeting and there were no apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the previous meetings on July 4th and Trials Forum on November 7th 2018 discussed and approved. Again, good attendance at Forum noted and agreement that anyone with issues should be encouraged to attend and that decisions made at the Forum where possible should stand.
3. Matters arising from the minutes in item 2, not specifically listed on this agenda,
 - a) As the committee still considers that Trials is over contributing to centre funds, it was requested to exclude 30 riders from centre levy even if there are more than 30 riders. Chairmen agreed to take this request to Comps Committee.
4. Feedback from Competitions Committee

C Cook raised the subject that was dealt with in item 6 below.
5. Prompted by the steward's report for the trial on 1/7/18 it was agreed that the secretary should include in the notes for the May gazette a reminder that, irrespective of who actually marks the sections, the clerk of the course is responsible for the all aspects of the event as defined by the ACU, including section marking, paperwork, such as for environment and risk forms, fire extinguisher, riders wearing crash helmets and observer welfare.
6. A long discussion took place in response to questions about Pre 70 machine eligibility and communication from the Comps Committee with respect to the machine ridden by D Carter. The committee secretary pointed out that as early as November 2017 he had been telephoned by the father of D Carter and the secretary had clarified the situation by telling him the front hub, (identified as being Husqvarna) that he was using, did not meet the eligibility rules of the ACU Eastern Centre Pre 70 championships. The secretary read out some communication between himself the chairman of the Comps Committee. In conclusion it was agreed that the secretary should prepare a letter to D Carter on behalf of the Trials Sub-Committee chairmen explaining
 - a) As he was informed in November 2017, the Husqvarna front hub still does not meet the eligibility rules of the ACU Eastern Centre Pre 70 championships.
 - b) Any issues or grievances relating to the ACU Eastern Centre Pre 70 championship rules or interpretation should in the future be addressed to the Chairmen of the ACU Eastern Trials Sub-Committee.

Pre 70 machine eligibility was discussed at the November 2018 Trials Forum and there was no new volunteer to monitor eligibility, therefore K Plummer would continue to monitor machine eligibility on Pre 70 B and Pre 70 **C**. The committee secretary offered to monitor Pre 70 **A**. As in 2018 a list of eligible entries will be sent by the

committee secretary to the Centre Recorder after every Pre 70 championship round. This subject will be on the agenda for the 2019 Trials Forum.

In addition, it has been agreed EFA, as the organiser of the first 2019 Pre 70 championship round on April 7th that it will be explained at the rider briefing, prior to the trial, that any machines that do not meet the ACUE Pre 70 machine eligibility rules will be identified in the results and these will not score ACUE championship points. If any riders feel this is incorrect, it will be shown in the results what action they can take, this cannot be finalised as the secretary of the meeting is on holiday. Currently it is considered by the committee that it continues to be left to clubs to decide how to deal with non-eligible machines in the individual trial results, this can include placing them in a specials class. It is thought that the only ACUE club that has issued Pre 70 machine eligibility rules is EFA and they are exactly the same as ACUE. This subject will be discussed again at the 2019 Trials Forum.

7. Prompted by the steward's report for the trial on 10/2/19 there was a discussion about the acceptance of entries and eligibility for ACUE championship points. In conclusion the consensus was the current wording should remain
 - a) All competitors, who have entries accepted, will qualify to score championship points in the appropriate class.
 - b) All championship trials, except Class D, must have a closing date which is recommended should be at least 2 days prior to the event, and no entries on the day.

It was considered that point b) was only a recommendation and in all cases point a) would apply with regard to issues of who should score or not score points.

It was decided that the committee secretary should include in the notes for the May gazette a note that all riders should take note in event regulations of the entry closing date and whether entries will be accepted on the day. Also, to clarify the situation that the secretary of the meeting is the final arbiter if an entry is accepted or not.

8. Stewards

- a) A Foskew reported that a Steward was requested for 21/4, this role was filled. Overall the situation of steward appointments is better than previous years.
- b) Stewards reports reviewed for 14 2018/19 trials, 2018 3/6, 10/6, 1/7, 28/7, 9/9, 16/9, 30/9, 14/10, 21/10, 28/10, 25/11, 2/12, 30/12, 2019 10/2, after discussion it was agreed the reports can be distributed to Competitions Committee members for information. Currently there are not any overdue steward's reports.

9. Youth riders and trials

It was requested that Youth trials is a regular agenda item. It was noted that there are some ACUE clubs who are putting a lot of effort into encouraging Youth trials riders, of specific note are N&SJMCC, Braintree club and Southend club. These three clubs, and any others to work together to assist members in achieving a recognised ACU training qualification, C Cook offered to take any request for financial support to the Comps Committee.

10. 2019/20 Calendar

- a) N Ogden reported that Chelmsford club would be organising a two-day demonstration event on 15th and 16th of June.
- b) N Ogden reported that Chelmsford will not run their trial on August 3rd.

11. 2019 ACUE Trials championships.

- a) The first A class and first B class rounds were considered to be too hard, but some of that was due to the very wet weather conditions.

12. Trials Grading

D Cordle reported the following grading changes for 2019

- a) Intermediate to Expert or Expert B, James Brown
- b) Novice to Intermediate or Intermediate B, Trevor Cox and Steve Robinson.

13. 2020 Championships,

It was agreed after discussion that at the July Committee Meeting agreement is required for 2020 class structures, currently it is expected 2019 structure to continue for 2020.

14. Information for Stewards

E Hood reported that as in 2018 centre handbooks have been posted to Stewards together with gazettes.

15. Any other business

- a) Secretary to write short note for May Gazette.
- b) Secretary to arrange a second trials committee meeting for July, proposed July 3rd or 17th. E Hood to check availability of hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 pm.