

ACU EASTERN

(AFILIATED TO THE Auto Cycle Union)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Board 2019 held Wednesday 17th July 2019 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms in the presence of

President	Mr A Penny
Chairman	Mr R G (Jack) Hearn
Vice Chairman	Mr A Foskew
Vice Chairman	Mr G Brace
Treasurer	Mr A Hay

C Ralph	Woodbridge	K Doherty	ECMC
A R Chaplin	Sudbury/VP	A Wright	Halstead
J Read	Woodbridge	Mrs D Blyth	Woodbridge
Mrs V Hearn	Stowmarket	K Weavers	Halstead
A Kenny	Harwich	Mrs J Nash	Southend
P Armes	Watton	P Nash	Southend
Mr E Hood	Triangle Ipswich	Mr P Fenn	Essex and Suffolk Borders
Mr C Keeble	Norfolk and Suffolk Group	Mr P Tomlin	TOMCC
Mr A Brace	VP & Chelmsford	Mr A Waters	Diss
Mrs D Blyth	Woodbridge	Mr J Blyth	Woodbridge
Mr D Cordle	Ipswich MCC	Mr R Sayer	Triangle Ipswich
Mr A Waters	Diss	Mr P Grantham	Diss/Littleport
Mr P Hubbard	Diss	Mr R Greengrass	Lowestoft
Mr P Sewter	Norwich Vikings	Mr C Cook	Braintree
	BY INVITATION		
Mr R Humphrey	ACU Chairman	Mr Neil Doctor	ACU Asst General Secretary

Mr Hearn opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Chairman welcomed Mr Roy Humphrey, Chairman of the ACU and Mr Neil Doctor assistant General Secretary to the meeting.

A few moments silence was then held in respect of Bob Harvey, John Lockwood and Mike Bavin who had all recently passed away.

Apologies for absence were received from: Lyn Ralph, Clive Dopson, Yvonne Smith, Margaret Mellish, Eddie Wass, Dennis Slaughter.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th April 2019 were proposed for approval by; Roger Chaplin 2nd Sidge Kenny

2. Matters Arising:

The ACU Events losses were due to 171 cancelled events and the refunds to riders incurred bank charges as full refunds were issued to riders. Basic insurance is paid up front at the start of the year but this is non-refundable.

Timing equipment is covered by insurance when on loan.

3. Correspondence:

Sports Committees and Board of Directors paperwork has been circulated to all Clubs

Trials Expression of Interest request from Kathryn Roche has been forwarded to relevant parties.

Precis of Minutes from MX Committee: Board of Directors Precis Minutes: Trials and Enduro precis Minutes (2 meetings) had been received.

Drugs and Alcohol Seminar: With regard to the Drug testing seminars, there would be a combined AMCA, ACU seminar on 22nd August. Mr Roy Humphrey said this could turn out to be very expensive procedure for clubs., with swab tests looking to be the way forward. Mr A Foskew had shown an interest in attending.

Press Release – Age limit reduction for the ACU 85cc Big Wheel Class from 2020 – will be 11 – 14 years.

Medical Service Providers – Medical panel are considering an amendment to the Medical Regulations for 2020, in particular relating to the definition of an ambulance and the transportation of casualties to hospital. Clubs were asked to forward data to Rugby of their appointed medical services.

4. Treasurers Financial Report:

Mr Hay provided a report for the current year to date with the comment that income is at the expected level with a recommendation that the Board notes the current levels of income and expenditure.

Mr Roy Humphries brought up the subject of Non-Territorial clubs on basic insurance., which the Centre's were originally paid a commission on. This payment has now appeared to be stopped. This was confirmed by Andrew Hay. Otherwise all ok. The Centre function would still receive a £1000.00 budget.

5. Competitions Committee Report

Mr Armes sought adoption of the minutes of the 3rd competitions committee held on May 22nd.

Proposed: Albert Brace, seconded Keith Weavers.

500cc grass track, not running.

Littleport club would not sign Mildenhall disclosure document. Therefore, could not run.

Phil Armes said that the Women's race at Lyng had brought a large amount of publicity for the event. The ITV crew were there for 2-3 hours. The ACU were to run a one round championship in 2020. Phil was of the opinion it should be more than this. Plus, it was to be called Woman's and not Ladies Championship.

6. To discuss the issue or permits applied for by a Non-Territorial Club:

Mr Armes took the lead in explaining the circumstances behind this item. The permit secretary had received a notification that EASCC had applied for a permit to run on 28th July at Mildenhall. This clashed with an ACU Eastern Centre Championship round at Blaxhall hosted by the Woodbridge Club. The Centre has 48 hours to reply to Rugby and had opposed this permit being issued immediately following discussion with Woodbridge DMCC Ltd. The ACU Moto Cross committee had voted to deny the permit and this was communicated to the Centre. Within hours, an email was received stating that this decision had been overruled by Mr R Humphrey, ACU Chairman. The Permit Secretary responded to the ACU stating that Mr Humphrey was not in a position to overrule a Sporting Committee. This was not the first time that EASCC had been granted permits running up against two British Championships, one at Lyng and one at Blaxhall and despite objections, these were allowed. Since the problem of the permit issuing of 28th July, a further request for a permit to run on October 13th at Wakes Colne which clashes with another Eastern Centre Championship at Lyng has been received. The permit secretary has advised Rugby of the Centre's objection to the issue of this permit also.

Mr Armes stated that a representative aligned to EASCC had attended the Centre dates meeting and had been asked to supply a list of their 2019 dates, and he had agreed, but the list was never supplied.

Following a robust discussion where many of the delegates asked Mr Humphrey for the reason, he had overruled the MX Committee's decision and pointed out that he did not have the right to do so, Mr Humphrey was unable to give a reply acceptable to those present.

Mr Paul Nash confronted the Chairman, Mr Humphrey, concerning not running to the rules of the Union and also then directed the question to Mr Neil Doctor, who had not come prepared and stated that he was attending as 'an Observer'. Mr Hood suggested that Mr Humphrey withdraws the permit and advises the EASCC of this as soon as possible. Mr Kenny also challenged the powers of the Chairman.

At this time, the permit was still active and Mr Armes stated that if this decision was not overturned, he would be feel he had no choice but to adhere to the following statement which he had sent to the Chairman: 'A situation has arisen over the last seven to ten days which has finally pushed me to a position where I have advised Jack Hearn that I will stand down from all ACU motorcycling activity as from the AGM in November - which includes all my Eastern Centre positions i.e.: Chairman of the Competitions Committee, Permit Secretary, and Gazette Editor. It has been an ongoing issue for a number of years, but a decision by the ACU Chairman last week was the final straw'. Mr P Sewter stood and said that he would follow suit and resign from his positions that he holds.

It was pointed out that prior to entries being accepted, a permit number must be obtained to appear on the paperwork but in some circumstances, this has not been happening and entries have been opened up before a permit number has been received. It was also noted that this would have an effect on the insurance of the event. Mr Keeble, also commented that the system of permit issue, needs looking at in respect that it is not clear who is responsible for their issue for the different disciplines.

At this point the discussion was drawn to a close with no conclusion.

7. To receive a report from the National Council Meeting held on 11.5.19. Mrs V Hearn:

This had been covered under matters arising.

8. Nomination for National Management Council Delegate 2020

One nominee received and Mrs V Hearn was elected.

9. To discuss the updated Centre Byelaws as circulated.

Representatives were asked to take the proposals home and bring comments or proposals to AGM. To be put on The AGM agenda.

November and April to be normal Board meetings, with July as a Strategy meeting possibly open all

10. Access and Environmental Issues. Mr E Wass

As Mr Wass was not present, there was no report.

11. Eastern Centre Gazette: To receive a report from Mr P Armes (Gazette Editor and Mr R Greengrass (Gazette Treasurer)

Mr Armes would like some more articles for Gazette. Possibly a Rider profile page.

Mr Greengrass was chasing one advertiser for an unpaid invoice, but thought this would be ok. It was also pointed out that the web site costs were for 12 months on the balance sheet.

12. Benevolent Fund: To receive a report from Mr M Cross

Mr Cross reported that there had been not much action since the last Board. Mrs Hearn had sent a cheque to Mr Cross from the collection at a board which had not been cashed. A new cheque will be issued.

Mrs Blyth will take on the role of Benevolent Fund Officer as from November.

13. Centre Function Update

Mrs Hearn confirmed the 2020 date as the 8th of February at The Needham Market Community Centre, with Mrs Hubbard doing the catering. Mrs Hearn asked those attending to help put the tables and chairs away at the end, otherwise this would involve extra cost.

Mr Humphrey then requested to leave the room to make a phone call.

14. Any Other Business: Time permitting and at the discretion of the Chairman

Paul Nash had been asked if he would still attend the Trials Working Group at Rugby.

He was still prepared to do this, with the blessing of the Centre.

Mr Roy Humphrey then came back into the meeting, and requested Neil Doctor to withdraw the EASCC permit that was issued for July 8th first thing on Thursday morning.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm

The next meeting will be Sunday November 10th at Stanway Village Hall commencing at 1pm.