

**Moto Cross Sub Committee Meeting held at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms on**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Present: Mr C Ralph: Mrs M Ralph: Mr A Hay: Mr P Grantham: Mr P Hubbard: Mr D Mills:  
Mr K Weavers: Mr J Blyth: Mr M Beadle: Mr A Foskew: Mr J Hearn: Mr P Aldridge

1. Mr C Ralph opened the meeting and welcomed all present.
2. Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.
3. The Minutes of the previous meeting of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were approved as a true record. Proposed K Weavers 2<sup>nd</sup> D Mills
4. Matters arising not specific to the agenda:  
Mrs Ralph confirmed that a letter had been sent to K Fisher as instructed.  
T Warnes – nothing received from his as yet requesting downgrading.  
J Roper, CR confirmed that he is on the expert mx list.  
Devolvement: CR reported that devolvement of the mx sub-committee had been discussed at a recent competitions committee meeting. New Byelaws/guidelines are being drawn up and will be presented to the November Board. CR has spoken with P Armes regarding the make up of the committee to ensure the wording is correct to cover the makeup of 'organising' clubs. NSJMCC and Braintree will be included in future meetings/discussions. Braintree may not be running at Stisted but there is a possibility of a different venue. Aaron Smith will update as soon as he can.  
Riders Rep: Comps are keen that we retain a rider's rep – A Smith was suggested. To be confirmed.  
K Weavers had previously mentioned 'legality' issues. CR confirmed that any legal matters would be the remit of the competitions committee.  
A Hay – reported that as there is a MX Account, financial issues would also have to be considered in the devolvement papers. E.g., setting a figure under which the mx committee could operate without reference to the Board.  
A Hay confirmed that the revenue for the MX Account is primarily from transponder hire. It will soon be necessary to upgrade the transponder system, at a cost of approx. £4000.
5. The season so far:  
CR circulated the current standings.  
Luke Benstead currently leads the Expert Championship, Jack Youngs the Junior Championship and Matt French the Over 40. Calum Mitchell is the leading MX2 Expert. CR will speak with Simon Eastwell with regard to the Rookies Class sponsorship money and plans for 2020.  
CR reported that the Blaxhall meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July had been cancelled due to heavy overnight rain and that the ECC had then been run on 1<sup>st</sup> September.  
Wakes Colne had run the British Sidecar Round. James Barker (solo) had sustained serious back injuries. M Beadle reports that James is being transferred to a private hospital and will then go on to Stoke Mandeville. He currently has some feeling in his legs but no movement. There has been a just giving page set up. CR reported that the Woodbridge Club had held collections at their enduro and mx meetings.  
Diss had run at Wattisfield Hall on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, a Junior only meeting. The crowd had been smaller than usual. There was no Experts present due to a clash with a British Maxxis Championship. Mr Ralph had been under the impression that once signed up for the Maxxis, riders were 'contracted'. Mr Hubbard had telephoned Sonia Goggins at Rugby who stated that the riders were only contracted as such when they actually enter the Maxxis but are free to ride elsewhere if they choose. JB agreed with CR that this was not what either of them had believed and he and AH have been asked to clarify the position at the next MX meeting at Rugby.  
Next ECC is on October 6<sup>th</sup> at Wakes Colne – 92 entries to date, but only 10 experts.  
Norwich Vikings host the final round on 13<sup>th</sup> October – Junior entry is full but only 8 expert entries received to date.  
CR will speak with Bickers and Stebbings regarding continued sponsorship.  
Meetings have been few and far between this year which is a worry.

6. Grading:

Mr Ralph circulated the current points table.

O Brader will be upgraded from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 as will Daniel Sultana.

William Farrow (15 years old) wants to do the Maxxis next year. He has also just won the Eastern Youth Championship. He will be upgraded from 1.1.20.

Toby Avis – upgraded from 1.1.20.

Review Ryan Powley and Max Bickers after next two rounds.

Jack Youngs upgrade from 1.1.20.

Perry Galloway was upgraded from 1.7.19 and Ben Crane has been upgraded by South Midlands.

Matt French, scored 12 expert points at Wattisfield.

Tom Hardcastle – JB reports that Tom wants to be upgraded – following discussion where it was agreed that Tom is more than capable of expert status, CR agreed to contact him.

Thomas Murphy – CR to speak to Sonia Goggins to ascertain if he is being upgraded by Rugby.

7. Sponsorship:

Dates forms have been distributed by P Armes.

Planes for 2020 – K Weavers would like an addition to the championship conditions stopping riders waiting for the timing clock to click down. Agreed to add 'no stopping on track' to be added and that a penalty will be issued if riders do stop on track.

CR asked all present that if they hear that anyone would like to sponsor the series in some way to let him know.

P Grantham – considers that the ACU Eastern Championship is one of the best.

JB would like to see a change in the wording regarding juniors being put into make up the shortfall if expert entries are low, giving clubs the choice to include them or not. This was agreed as was a maximum of 10 fastest juniors. LR will amend the rules.

P Hubbard stated that with low numbers of experts, he would like the option of the 'Premier Class' fastest forty reconsidered. Following a robust discussion, it was agreed that the format would stay the same, experts and juniors, for 2020 with a review at the end. Mr Beadle reported that as Kensworth and EASCC would not be running, he expects an influx of young fast riders and with the upgraded riders from 1.1.20, there should be a group of new experts who are competitive in the Rookies Class.

A discussion took place over how to get Experts to enter on time. It was agreed to ask R Blyth if he could mailshot something out to them. LR will draft something to RB on the lines that the experts should realise that they cause issues by entering so late on. Clubs obviously want to have as many experts as possible as they attract the public but feel that experts should play their part by adhering to the closing date.

D Mills – Kane Fisher – worried that he should go up – CR pointed out that he does not have sufficient points, at that at the end of the year, should he not score any more, he will lose 8 and be back down to 2. Will keep an eye on this.

JB – proposed that the Junior Championship winner should automatically be promoted to Expert status. This was agreed and will be added to the Championship conditions.

8. Any Other Business:

Date set for next sub-committee meeting to which race secretaries will be invited: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Open Forum Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Mr Hay asked that the subcommittee consider Marshals' expenses. Mr Weavers also had been approached by Marshals on this subject. Mr Weavers proposed that £30 was paid for 12 race meetings and £40 for 15 race programmes. (NSJMCC pay £40 for their events).

JB was very much against any increase. Others felt that raising to £35 could be an option. Discussion took place which agreed that any change not agreed by all could lead to Marshals boycotting certain clubs. Mr Hay stated that clubs could consider a 'bonus' at the end of the season for Marshals who had been consistent and that this would be decided on a club decision basis. Following a full discussion, it was agreed to stay at £30 with the option for clubs to give a bonus if they wished.

Mr Hay asked the committee to consider an increase in entry fees due to costs to clubs continuing to rise. His suggestion was £60 but with rider + 2 passes. Some of the committee felt that this was too high although Mr Hay advised that the entry fees had not been raised for 5 years. Following

discussion, it was agreed that the cost, for Centre Championship events, would be raised to £55 with passes staying at rider + 1.

Mr Hay also advised the committee that with regard to the Numbers Scheme, the cost to Paypal had recently been increased from 38p commission to 46p commission meaning that the charitable donations would be reduced. He suggested that the cost be increased to £6 (this had been discussed at the recent competitions committee who favoured this) which would mean that each number bought would generate £5.49. Following further discussion, the committee 's preferred increase was to £5.50 and agreed by all present. This would give £5.03 per number purchased. It is also noted that the cost of a number stays the same as when the voluntary scheme run by Andy Crawford was in force.

CR reported that the cost of ACU permits had been reduced from £699 to £500, with two-day events reduced from £920 to £700. Rider licence fees are to remain the same for 2020.

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