

ACU EASTERN

MINUTES for the third Trials Committee call of **ACU EASTERN 2020**, held via MS Teams on **Thursday 17th September 2020** commencing at **7.30 pm**

Present P Nash (Chairman), C Dopson (secretary), P Fenn, M Neale, D Cordle, A Barrell, N Ogden, R Snowden

Apologies from K Hood, J Newstead, A Foskew, E Hood

1. Chairman opened meeting and received apologies for absences as above.
2. Minutes of the previous call on August 11th 2020 were discussed and approved.
3. Matter arising from the minutes not specifically listed on this agenda, nothing raised.
4. Feedback from Competitions Committee call on 14th August, supported by Trials Chairman and Secretary, notes discussed and will be circulated when approved at next Competitions Committee call on 23rd September. The subject of wearing masks to reduce other restrictions was raised with the ACU, after confusion it was decided that this was not possible when new Trials RA were issued.
5. Stewards
 - a) A Foskew reported after the call there were three outstanding Stewards appointments and requested any volunteers for 25.10.20 at Blaxhall, 01.11.20 at Raydon and 27.12.20 at Butley.
 - b) No new trials steward's reports to be reviewed
6. Covid-19 discussions to include any input to the Comps Committee call on September 23rd, this is based on Trials RA 140920,
The Covid-19 discussion covered any items relating to how events should be organised in line with any current ACU requirements and any changes required to the normal ACUE Trials conditions.
 - a) *Calendar update, secretary to continue to keep updated*
 - i. Ipswich, 18/10/20 no decision
 - ii. Braintree 27/9/20, permit applied for A class round, 18/10/20 LDT unlikely to go ahead, 20/12/20 probably will go ahead
 - iii. Norwich Vikings. 20/9/20 cancelled, 6/12/20 no decision unlikely
 - iv. Woodbridge 19/9/20. cancelled. 25/10/20 and 27/12/20 probably run as C class championship
 - v. Lowestoft, 29/11/20 cancelled
 - vi. Essex and Suffolk border, 1/11/20 permit applied for
 - vii. EFA 18/10/20 cancelled, 22/11/20 run as club trial not Thumpers
 - viii. Castle 11/10/20 could be open trial, maybe championship round
 - b) Latest instruction for wearing masks is confusing, needs clarification relating to when riding, observers and when not in paddock, however paddock is defined.
 - c) Based on the current Trials RA, it is assumed that for trials, without spectators, it is not necessary to inform local authorities or police, recent

instructions from Neil Doctor to all centres makes this a requirement for all trials. Phil Armes has offered to identify the relevant contacts for all known ACUE trials venues and to work with ACU HQ to prepare suitable wording.

- d) After discussion it was agreed that when local authorities are informed it will be more important to improve signage and availability of hand sanitiser.
- e) The secretary reported that based on recent events, control and identification of who is at each event is very important but can be difficult to maintain in particular if the venue is in more populated areas.
- f) Not all riders provided their own riding numbers, suggested to make more widely available the pdf file of riding numbers, perhaps put on ACUE website.

7. ACU On line entry system, the current restrictions make it more likely for this system to be used for all ACU trials

- a) The secretary reported that he had used the system for the first time and it had worked well with a few exceptions
 - i. Some riders claimed that they had not received entry acceptance e-mail, which included riding number and important information, following up afterwards showed the system was working correctly assuming the e-mail known to the ACU was correct.
 - ii. The system defaults to the club which issued the code used to obtain the rider's licence, for centre restricted events, out of centre riders need to be reminded to change from their default club
- b) After discussion it was decided to ask for feedback on the suggestion to make all ACUE championship trials to use the ACU Online Entry system, this would clarify the situation for entry closing dates and help with issues such as Pre70 machine eligibility as complete entry lists will be available before the event. It was recognised that if a Trials Forum was to be held this year this would be the event to discuss and decide this point.
- c) Using the system for ACUE championship trials may require non-championship class rider entries to have delayed acceptance, if it is likely the maximum number of possible entries may be exceeded.
- d) Event secretaries are requested to continue to submit all trials regulations for inclusion in the ACUE gazette, even when not normally required.

8. In the current circumstances it was decided there was no additional support appropriate or required for youth riders or trials.

9. There are still issues with Pre 70 machine eligibility for ACUE championships. Secretary had discussed with E Hood the issues at the last event in December 2019 and agreed the situation would be possible if the ACUE machine eligibility person had a complete entry list before the event, this is much easier using the on-line entry system. Based on this list the secretary can supply a list of previous issues for the machines entered to assist on the day.

- 10.** It had previously been agreed that the 2020 Trials Forum was cancelled and that the format of the 2021 ACUE Trials Championships would remain as 2020. After discussion it was agreed there were no outstanding issues to resolve that would have been discussed at the Trials Forum. It was assumed that all Trials Committee roles would remain as is.
- 11.** It was decided that the Secretary should work with the Comps Committee Chairman as previous years to prepare the 2021/2022 ACUE Trials Calendar, the process will start week commencing 12th October and will assume the Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time will continue. It was decided that the calendar should be reviewed quarterly with regard to changes in restrictions and clubs interest in running events, in particular ACUE championship trials.
- 12.** It was agreed the secretary would urgently prepare some notes from the call for review by this committee and forwarding to Phil Armes as input to the planned Comps Committee call on August 13th see sections 6 and 7 above. In addition, notes to be prepared for October ACUE gazette, in particular with regard to Trials Forum, 2021 Trials classes and requirements to use ACU Online entry system for ACUE championship trials.
- 13.** It was agreed it was sensible to plan for another call in Mid-October to consider any changes in requirements as the calendar starts to get busier, this may depend on timing of any further Comps Committee calls.
- 14.** Under Any Other Business there was a discussion about how ACU Rugby issuing ACUE Trials permits effects how post event insurance returns should be completed, to whom should they be sent and how does this effect how ACUE receives the levy. It was agreed the secretary should continue to attempt to clarify.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.