

## **EASTERN CENTRE OF THE AUTO-CYCLE UNION**

**MINUTES** for the second Trials Committee meeting of the **EASTERN CENTRE 2015**, held at **Great Blakenham, Village Hall, Ipswich, Suffolk** on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015** commencing at **7.45 pm**

### **Present**

C Dopson (Chairman), D Cordle, P Fenn, A Keeble, E Hood, M Neale, K Hood, N Ogden

Apologies from P Nash, J Douglas, and Mrs B Douglas,

1. Chairman opened meeting and received apologies for absences as above.
2. Minutes of the previous meetings on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 read out and discussed.
3. Matters arising from the minutes not specifically listed on this agenda.  
None
4. Feedback from Competitions Committee  
The chairman explained that there is a proposal that starting in 2016 there will be six Competitions Committee meetings a year, two meetings in each of the three counties in the centre.
5. Stewards
  - a) It was agreed that Steward reports between 8/3/15 and 7/6/15 can be distributed to Competitions Committee members for information.
  - b) The revised steward's form prepared by P Fenn is now being distributed for all Steward appointments.
  - c) After discussion it was agreed that it would remain that Stewards are appointed for Centre championship rounds plus any others requested.
  - d) Method of Appointment. Discussed. The question can a steward ride a trial as long as he/she was not competing in a Championship Class has been passed to ACU Rugby, an answer is still awaited.
  - e) Future appointments. P Fenn reported all up-coming Championship rounds until 20<sup>th</sup> September are covered with Stewards.
  - f) Discussion on alternative ways to encourage stewards, it was proposed that clubs requesting A or B class championship rounds in 2016 would be asked to supply a centre level steward, not necessarily a club member, to be appointed for another A or B class championship trial.
6. Review of recent trials,  
Discussion concluded that Expert B and Intermediate B was working well for the first year, but the Expert B class on the red/blue route may be exacerbating the problem of red/blue being too hard for many Intermediates to transfer from the white route. The average winning score on the red/blue route is still approximately twice that of the winners on yellow and white. Red/blue route best intermediate winner should target 10 to 15 marks lost.
7. Rider Grading and Championship tables
  - a) D Cordle has updated championship positions on the website.
  - b) D Cordle to circulate updated rider grading list to Committee before putting on website.
8. Changes to calendar for 2015/16  
Woodbridge to run trial on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

## Lowestoft to run trial on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August

### 9. How to increase rider numbers and attract new riders.

- a) Recently Norwich Vikings had run two promotional events and the centre had paid the permit fee, it was hoped this would continue to encourage any other clubs.
- b) After discussion it was decided that it was important to identify which trials in the year had a suitable beginner's route, i.e. a route below the normal white route, consider how to include in calendar.

### 10. 2016 Trials Championship.

Two documents had been received and circulated, from D Cordle and S Parker

- a) After much discussion the following grouping of classes was agreed for 2016
  - A. Expert, Expert B, Intermediate, Intermediate B, Novice, Youth A and Youth B.
  - B. Twin-shocks on Red/Blue route and Twin-shocks on white route.
  - C. Pre-70
  - D. Sidecars.
- b) For 2016 the routes ridden by each class will remain the same as 2015 except that Expert B will ride 50/50 route, half yellow and half red/blue.
- c) The number of championship rounds for each class for 2016 will be
  - 1) A and B class 6 rounds, five to count, all agreed except one wanted 4 rounds and one wanted 8 rounds.
  - 2) C class 5 rounds, four to count
  - 3) D class tbd rounds, one less than number to count
- d) All championship rounds (except D) must have closing dates 5 days before the event and no entries on the day.
- e) All championship rounds (except D) must have at least 10 sections per lap.
- f) Each A and B championship round organising club must provide a centre level steward (not necessarily a club member) for an A or B class championship round in the year.
- g) No championship rounds to be organised in June, July or August.
- h) Championship rounds to be allocated on,
  - 1) Location, 2 per county in A and B class
  - 2) Quality of land and previous events
  - 3) Applied and not granted event in previous year
- i) All results should be sent to D Cordle as an excel sheet.

### 11. 2016/2017 Trials Calendar

Document from C Keeble had been circulated and was discussed

- a) C Dopson offered and accepted to run the Trials calendar process in conjunction with P Armes.
- b) Clubs to be informed with the calendar paperwork of changes decided in 10 above.
- c) Requests and proposal for 2016 championship rounds to be circulated for review prior to Trials Forum
- d) Clubs to be reminded to supply alternative dates
- e) If possible events should not be scheduled for Saturday and Sunday on a specific weekend, if adjacent weekends have no trial.
- f) Clubs to be asked to identify if trial will have a beginner's route, i.e. a route below the normal white route.
- g) No A and B class events on same day, other clashes should be avoided if at all possible.

- h) Clubs to be encouraged to have Open permits unless specific reasons preclude this

**12. . Observers award**

2015 Observers award to be decided by e-mail vote of committee members prior to Trials Forum.

**13. Trials Forum**

- a) Trials Forum proposed for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, E Hood to confirm Parish Room is available.
- b) C Dopson to post announcement of Trials Forum in Eastern Centre Gazette and website.
- c) Agenda to be proposed and managed by current officers.
- d) Election of officers to be at end of agenda, Chairman, Secretary and Stewards Coordinator.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.