

ACU EASTERN

MINUTES for the first Trials Committee meeting of **ACU EASTERN 2017**, held at **The Parish Room, Great Blakenham, Ipswich, Suffolk on Thursday 6th April 2017** commencing at **8.00 pm**

Present

C Cook, P Nash (Chairmen), C Dopson, E Hood, A Foskew

Apologies from K Hood, N Ogden, P Fenn, D Cordle, M Neale

1. Chairman opened meeting and received apologies for absences as above.
2. Minutes of the previous meetings on July 21st and Trials Forum on November 3rd 2016 discussed.
3. Matters arising from the minutes in item 2, not specifically listed on this agenda,
 - a) Following Trials Forum a request for a volunteer to manage an ACUE Trials Facebook page was placed in the gazette, despite no response the desire to start still remains.
4. Feedback from Competitions Committee

Only subject discussed related to items 3b from the minutes of 21st July 2016, C Cook reported that the majority of permit funding for the centre came from centre issued permits/levies and not basic (MX) permits issued by ACU Rugby. The centre treasurer has been requested to propose alternative centre permit/levy costs and/or a future budget that allowed the cost of centre permits/levies to be the same as ACU Rugby.
5. Trials Entry Forms

C Dopson showed updated permit application forms and trials entry forms as requested at previous meetings, principles agreed but detail required how to clearly show which route requested to ride on trials entry form.
6. Trials information with Steward's forms and permits.

As previously requested the current trials section of the centre handbook is being distributed with centre permits and will be distributed with permit forms in the future.
7. ACUE Trials championships.

After discussion it was agreed the following two rules would remain as previously agreed.

 - a) Riders scoring points at A then B level, as centre handbook
 - b) Twin shock on white route to be added below 50/50 route riders in championship points for each round, Trial Forum 5/11/15.
8. Stewards
 - a) Stewards reports reviewed for 14 2016/17 trials reviewed 24/7, 31/7, 21/8, 18/9, 25/9, 9/10, 9/10, 16/10, 23/10, 30/10, 27/12, 12/2, 19/2 and 12/3, after discussion it was agreed the reports can be distributed to Competitions Committee members for information.
 - b) Stewards reports are outstanding for the following trials, 20/11 (D Cordle), 27/11 (D Clampin) and 4/12 (P Collins), A Foskew to continue to chase.
 - c) A Foskew reported that Stewards appointments were arranged until 29/7.
 - d) A Foskew reported that, as required when applying for an A or B class championship trial, generally these clubs are supplying stewards, it was

noted that Castle Colchester and Lowestoft Invaders were struggling to supply stewards.

- e) After discussion it was agreed that completed steward's reports should continue to be sent to the organising club.

9. 2017/18 Calendar

The following changes to the 2017/18 trials calendar were agreed

- a) Due to uncertainty of availability of byways Braintree LDT to move from 2/4/17 to 1/10/17, no event in calendar on 1/10/17
- b) Chelmsford trial to move from 13/5/17 to 6/5/17, no event in calendar on 6/5/17
- c) Bexley trial on 3rd and 4th June to be advertised in gazette.
- d) NSJMCC trial on 17th December was discussed, after the meeting the details were checked and date to remain.

10. Review of recent trials.

Following discussion it was agreed again that overall section severity is still too hard for the appropriate class, resulting in large numbers of riders deciding to ride as B level, i.e. one route below the intended.

In particular this was commented on with regard to the Lowestoft A class round on 12th February, although the sections were affected by the weather, the feedback to the steward, was that it was the style of the sections in the seasonal conditions which made riders nervous enough to drop a route.

Comments about section style are included in Steward' Report. It was agreed to consider the time of year for this event in the future if sections are not expected to be modified.

11. Trials Grading

Due to large number of riders recently not riding correct route for class, one or even two routes below correct route, it was agreed to discuss at July meeting for introduction in 2018, one of the following,

- a) Downgrade some riders, effect on promoting riders in the future?
- b) Introduce clubman class for any rider competing purely for fun on a route lower than correct route for class, no awards or championship points etc?
- c) Any other suggestion before July meeting

12. 2018 Championships,

It was agreed after discussion that at the July Committee Meeting agreement required for 2018, current options are

- a) as 2016 and 2017
- b) move Novice class to B Class championship rounds to balance entries.
- c) any other suggestion before July meeting.

13. Gazettes for Stewards

After discussion about letters received by trials stewards from E Hood, it was agreed that the intent of the letters was in line the minutes of Trials Committee meeting on 21st July 2016, item 3a.

14. Any other business

- a) Secretary to write short note for May Gazette.
- b) Secretary to arrange a second trials committee meeting for July.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.