

ACU Eastern MX Committee Meeting

Tuesday 26th October 2021 via Zoom

Present: C Ralph: A Hay: P Hubbard: P Grantham: M Beadle: K Weavers: L Ralph: P Aldridge:
D Mayhew: A Smith: A Foskew

1. C Ralph opened the meeting welcoming all present. No apologies received prior to the meeting. (Retrospective apology received from Donna Secker Tuesday morning – she had been unwell)
Mr Ralph explained that the purpose of the meeting would include preparation for the upcoming Forum which is being held on Thursday 28th October. Response had been slow although the Forum had been advertised both in the Gazette and on the website.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th July 2021 were proposed for approval by P Grantham 2nd P Hubbard
3. Matters Arising:
Rider who complained about the meeting held on 11th July at Blaxhall had ridden in other meetings following the Blaxhall event, under the same format and had seemed happy and coped well.
4. Club Representatives for 2022 as follows:
Woodbridge: Mrs D Blyth; Mr S Leek
Norwich Vikings: P Aldridge; G Muff
Halstead: M Beadle: C Garrod (M B to send email details to LR)
The rest as 2021.
Norfolk and Suffolk: tbc
5. Review of 2021 ACUE Championship:
CR reported that the Championship had run well and expressed regret that Halstead had to cancel their last round.
Norwich Vikings had attracted a full 200 entry for the last round at Lyng.
CR had circulated the list of upgraded riders for 2022, Rugby have been informed and all the riders have been sent letters. They will comprise the Rookies for 2022 Rookies Championship.
As a matter of interest, CR reported that throughout the Championship, 48 experts had scored points (26/27 were centre riders) over the 7 rounds meaning on average there were 19 experts per round. 9 riders have been promoted to expert status but it appears that at least 2 experts are retiring. 68 juniors scored points in the Premier Class. P Grantham commented that all in all, the season had gone well.
CR pointed out that it would now be up to the 2022 Committee to review the Championship Conditions and a brief discussion took place on variances that could be discussed at their first meeting. CR also reminded those present that the conditions would need to be decided fairly swiftly as Phil Armes would need them before the production of the Centre Handbook.
Clubs intentions for 2022 – Halstead and Diss both will run one round, and Mr Hay indicated that Norwich Vikings will probably host 2 rounds. Woodbridge tba.
6. Sponsorship for 2022:
CR reported that Tim Hardcastle has now moved away from the area so is unsure if he will continue with his sponsorship, although Tom is still in the area studying at Cambridge and hopes to continue riding.
P Armes had informed CR that PP Sports would be willing to pay £1500 sponsorship. It will be the new Committee's remit to contact Paul Shorter to discuss what he would expect for his money etc.
Hopefully Antony Skerry will continue, P Grantham has spoken to him recently, and he still seems keen. CR asked that if anyone had any further contacts, to follow them up as it is important when realising costs to know what is available to Clubs.

CR also pointed out that the new Committee will need to involve Andrew Hay in any proposed changes to the format to ensure that these would be practicable to the timing system

CR offered to continue as recorder and carry on the administration of the Club Championship Points, Rookies etc and liaise with Paul Sewter to publish on the website. This also would be the decision of the new Committee.

7. Any Other Business:

A Smith offered to put out on Facebook the time of the MX Forum – anyone wishing to have the Zoom link sent to let LR know.

Discussion on how the 1st Committee would be elected – CR will fix a date following the Forum, Chair the opening etc and then he and Lyn stepdown and Alan Foskew will control the election of the new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. Discussion on who would be a possibility to take on the secretarial role. LR has prepared a 'job description' which she will circulate to all members in the event that they could have someone in mind willing to take this role on.

PH wondered if the 1st Committee Meeting of the new members could meet straight after the Forum. It was agreed that the Forum notes would need to be typed up and circulated to give members time to consider what the Forum had discussed/proposed. LR will also circulate byelaws for the MX Committee and a copy of the current Championship Conditions to assist the new committee in making any changes, using them as a 'working document' rather than having to type it all out from scratch.

Discussion took place over being able to score junior championship points down to top 20 including 'A' Group. It was decided that as the races in Premier Class and 'A' were of different durations, that this would not be possible. Again, it was reiterated, that changes such as this, would be discussed and decided by the new committee members. As was the possibility of increasing payment to Marshals.

CR reported that levies were being discussed and could also have an impact on costs to organising clubs. Mr Hay stated that this was being discussed again next weeks at a Competitions Committee meeting and that any decision (s) arrived at, would be presented to the November Board for discussion/approval.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

MX Forum to be held on Thursday

Date and Time of the Next Meeting: To be advised