

ACU EASTERN

MINUTES for the first Trials Committee call of **ACU EASTERN 2022**, held via MS Teams on **Wednesday 23rd March 2022** commencing at **7.30 pm**

Present P Nash (Chairman), C Dopson (secretary), P Fenn, M Neale, D Cordle, A Barrell, A Foskew, E Hood, J Newstead

Apologies from K Hood, N Ogden. R Snowden

1. Chairman opened meeting and received apologies for absences as above.
2. Committee roles as proposed and minuted at the Trials Forum on November 9th 2021 were confirmed
3. Minutes of the previous calls on August 8th 2021 and November 9th 2021 were discussed and approved.
4. Matter arising from the minutes not specifically listed on this agenda, nothing raised.
5. Feedback reviewed from Competition Committee since last meeting, P Nash/C Dopson reported little to say except equal funding for 2022 approved at November board.
6. Stewards
 - a) A Foskew reported future trials covered as required, except for Bury July 17th.
 - a) Steward's reports reviewed for 9 trials 31/7, 5/9, 26/9, 10/10, 17/10, 31/10, 7/11, 28/11, 28/12, approved for issue for information to Comps Committee.
7. 2022 ACUE Trials Championships,
 - a) After discussion decided to review Expert A entry levels in A Class championship rounds and consider options to propose to 2022 Trials Forum, Expert A riders need to be made aware to support 2022 rounds and attend Trials Forum to decide future direction. If Expert A is removed some concern from Expert B riders about section severity, this will be controlled by Clerk of Course.
 - b) Introduction for 2022 of Youth Expert and Youth Novice championships to be monitored, Ipswich on April 10th is first round, D Cordle reported youth entries will be taken in normal age group classes and route to be ridden, i.e., Expert or Novice to be decided on day.
8. R Snowden as Recorder has said he will soon issue first championship tables after two B Class rounds and one D Class round.
9. Clerk of Course and Steward Seminars
 - a) C Dopson and P Nash reported that Trials Committee took over organising two face to face licence seminars after the December event had to be cancelled. In total 25 attended one of the two seminars, all passed and ACU-HQ have been

informed. There appears to be a delay in licences being issued but P Nash is chasing.

- b) ACU-HQ has now issued details of the Online Licence process, which initially incorrectly accepted applications from first time applicants, it is assumed that this has now been corrected.
- c) It was agreed that ACU-EC would recommend face to face licence seminars for new applicants and anybody who may not have acted for a long time, also if any officials requested support for an event a more experienced official would be supplied.\
- d) C Dopson reported that there had been issues contacting some of the licence applicants so after discussion it was decided that for future licence seminars each club would name a point of contact to coordinate applicants from that club.
- e) One of the potential problems is that licence holders have not kept their e-mail address up to date on the ACU system.

10. Feedback to ACU-HQ section marking questionnaire

- a) Based on the feedback received from clubs C Dopson had prepared and circulated an ACU-EC response to the questionnaire, this was reviewed and approved for issuing to ACU-HQ, see page 4.
- b) The consensus was that clubs followed the ACU-EC rules and would not change unless the ACU-EC rules changed.
- c) The main difference between the ACU-HQ and ACU-EC method relates to the definition of the Principal route, the ACU-EC method of this being the middle route was thought to be simpler to use.

11. Trials results on ACU-EC website, Championship rules require results for all ACU-EC championship trials to be posted on the ACU-EC website, it was suggested that clubs should be encouraged to post results of all trials within ACU-EC on the website.

12. Youth trials were discussed

- a) Braintree and Southend appear to have an increase in youth riders, specifically Braintree are running all electric youth trials as Essex Oset Cup. As these trials were not in calendar process P. Armes has worked on a method to reduce permit costs and allow easier entries, but entries will be limited to Youths on electric bikes.
- b) C Dopson reported he has had several calls from parents of youth riders asking questions which are answered by information on the ACU-EC website or gazette, more effort to be made to clarify how youths can compete in ACU-EC trials, suitable events etc.
- c) There seems to be potential issues with youth licences not being recognised when trying to enter trials online, and adding a day licence.
- d) Event secretaries need to ensure all acceptable youth age related licences are included in event set up online.

13. Feedback to Comps Committee, there seems little to feedback P Nash to attend, C Dopson to forward approved trial steward reports for information.

14. ACU-EC website and gazette, C Dopson to prepare appropriate notes from this call

15. Any other business

- a) E Hood to be ACU-EC Pre 70 machine examiner at first three championship rounds, Woodbridge, EFA and Diss.
- b) C Dopson reminded call that trials had been asked to supply more trial reports, including photographs, if possible, for the ACU-EC website and gazette.
- c) C Dopson to arrange date, time and format of next meeting/call.

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

Centre Eastern

Please collate the answers from clubs below

1. How many clubs run trials in the Centre? 13
2. How many clubs in the centre use the recommendation of **Route 1 – Principal Route – Blue (left) Red (right) Route 2 – Yellow both sides Route 3 – White** ?
ACU-EC rules for centre championship are Principal route (Middle/Intermediate) Blue (left) Red (right), Route 1 (Expert) – Yellow both sides Route 3 (Novice)– White both sides, most clubs use for all events
3. How many clubs regard the principle route as the one with the biggest entry on it? (i.e. clubman or sportsman route), see answer to question 2, generally route 2 or route 3 have the biggest entry in ACU-EC
4. How many clubs would change to the recommended system? All would stay with current ACU-EC rules.
Yes
No
Already using
5. Do **organisers** think there are too many routes in trials? Yes / No Generally No
6. Do **riders** think there are too many routes in trials? Yes / No Generally No
7. Does any club have a brilliant idea to use for section marking what system would you use and why? For some classes in ACU-EC championship rounds a 50/50 route is used.
8. Does any club have a brilliant idea to simplify the many routes in events?
9. If we standardised the marker colours and the number of routes you could use How many clubs would -
 - a. Do it
 - b. Ignore it
 - c. Leave the ACUAll clubs would ignore unless ACU-EC changed rules
10. Since the pandemic how many clubs have not restarted events? None we believe specifically because of pandemic

Please return this by the 1st April 2022
EC Trials Committee 25/3/22

Name _____ Clive Dopson, secretary to ACU-