

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN MOTO CROSS COMBINE MEETING HELD AT  
BLINDLEY HEATH ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2004 AT 7.30**

**PRESENT** : 18 Delegates were present representing the following clubs :- Brighton, GEST, Greenwich, Sidcup, and Twickenham. Representatives were also present from L.F.O.S.R. & the TSM.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** : Apologies were received from Ken Piles, Alan Clarke and John Claridge.

**CHAIR** : Eddie Herd took the Chair.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** : It was proposed by Monty Lane and seconded Brian Argent that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2004 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Agreed.

**MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** :

**Practise Days** : Mr. Herd said he had taken the matter up with the Moto Cross Committee and there was a lot of uncertainty surrounding practice tracks and that was probably why we had not received a written reply. Mrs. Clarke felt the ACU should be looking after the sport at Club level and not commercial operations and could not see why they could not give us an answer. The Secretary to write again to Roy Humphrey, Sonia Goggin and Eddie Bellars.

**Rogue Riders / Wristbands** : These had been used at Winterpick Farm and Canada Heights and had met with little resistance from the riders. Agreed that the Club must put the wristband on the rider at signing on and make a standard practice of always putting on the left wrist.

**TTC's** : Mrs. Clarke had circulated an internal memo dated November 03 that Eddie Herd was in possession of intimating the ACU was planning a procedure for TTC's from half way through 2004. The main differences being a National event must have a TTC inspection by a National Inspector but any subsequent events of a lower status must be re inspected by a Centre Inspector and all TTC's must be lodged with both the ACU and the Centre and will only be valid for a year. The Centre must register their track inspectors with the ACU and by February 2005 they must have all attended a National Clerk of the Course seminar.

Mrs. Clarke was worried that this document had not been circulated to the Centres and so no one knew of the changes and she had tried to get something sorted for the recent Sidcup event at Canada Heights because, although it had been inspected for their National event, no one had re inspected it for the next Centre meeting because they did not know they had to and she was concerned about the insurance implications. It was known that some clubs had additional paperwork for the steward to sign on the day but not all clubs had these. Agreed this matter should be brought up at the next Centre Management meeting and to make sure the item is discussed again at the next Combine meeting.

**Chestnut Fencing** : Les Batten reported he had managed to collect 20 rolls of chestnut fencing and about 80 stakes so far. Mr. Brown said that Mr. Frank Dixon had shown him a bill for £711 which was for 3 men @ £15 per hour. Agreed not to pay this bill until the money had been received for the chestnut fencing. The matter to be put on the agenda for discussion at the next Combine Meeting.

**Permanent Riding Numbers** : Mr. Batten said he had been surprised at the response and had about 100 riders who had taken the scheme up. A vote of thanks was passed to Les for his efforts administrating the scheme.

**125 Junior Championships** : This was proving to be extremely popular with the Sidcup meeting having a full line up of 45. There were some disappointed riders who could not get a ride in that class and have done the previous meeting at Winterpick but again it was up to the riders to get their entries in quicker. There was some discussion about the lack of room to indicate what class one wanted to enter and it was suggested the entry form could be made for solos only saving some space where the passenger's details were asked for and perhaps another sidecar only entry form printed. Liz Argent asked if the first 4 in this new 125 class would score Expert points and Mr. Batten confirmed this, Mrs. Clarke said we might have to watch the way the points were adding up as a 125 junior had 3 chances of getting points at a meeting as opposed to the normal 2 and we might be making riders up a little too quickly.

Mr. Batten added that Dorren Coutts and Steven Rudduck, both good schoolboys, should have entered the Sidcup meeting as Experts and as such he had awarded the points they had scored to the next places.

**NOISE** : Mr. Brown said we had written to the Motocross Committee last year suggesting there was a noise problem only to be told, in their opinion, there was not but passed our suggestions on to the Technical Committee which then died. Now noise abatement orders were being slapped on everyone the Motocross Committee has started jumping up and down. He had taken on the task of organising a technical seminar in the South East with Mike Askins doing a similar one in the North. Colin Armes has divulged there is to be a new sound/noise meter which looks promising and should be available for testing next month. Mr. Herd added it was not practical to expect the Moto Cross Committee to monitor every meeting.. Mr. Brown would like representatives from each club to come plus someone from various shops. Andy Summers was also willing to come and discuss technical matters and perhaps we could get DEP Pipes to sponsor the event to hire a marquee. Agreed that perhaps we should ask the Management Committee if they would fund it. Agreed to wait until the new meters were around before a date was fixed.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT** : Jamie Clarke said he hoped to put Les Batten's permanent riding numbers online for everyone to see. He had managed to put some of his own photos and those of Mick Powell's onto the website for interest. He also asked clubs if they wished to publish the regulations on the website to contact him. The Annual site fee of £15 had recently been paid .

#### **ACU MOTO CROSS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES :**

The following points from the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in 2004 were discussed :-

##### **Track Inspector Report Form – National Use**

The Chairman has produced a form based on the UEM Track Inspectors Form. The form has extensive questions and information, which will help organisers ensure that all aspects are covered for the British Championship Inspection. The form was slightly modified and then accepted and would be used with immediate effect. The Secretary was asked to liaise with the Chief Executive to see if the ACU could purchase software that could produce maps for track inspections.

Again things had been discussed in Committee but the end product had failed to materialise or any communication with clubs or Centres.

##### **Technical Panel**

New style electronic meters will soon be available to Centre's. It is hoped that if clubs purchase these meters via the ACU they can be supplied with some form of training to operators. Mr. Summers would be willing to assist with this.

##### **Training & Development Panel**

It is hoped that by 2006 " Ability to Ride " assessments will be used for Motocross first time applicants, however a move in this direction will be subject to the Insurers involvement. Messrs Higgins, Herd and Luscombe will conduct the Train the Trainers Seminar. Anyone wanting to conduct a centre seminar must receive this training and they must be strict that if delegates do not pass centre seminars they must not be issued with licences.

##### **Correspondence**

The South Eastern Motocross Combine are concerned about the new number plate regulation for the British Championships, they feel that these will filter down to Centre level events where electronic timekeeping is not available. They are asking that number plates be included on the agenda for all scrutineer seminars. The Secretary was asked to ensure that the Technical Department are aware of these regulation.

#### **CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIP COVERS AND BANNERS :**

Mr. Wood said he was almost there chasing a final advert from CISport having retained DEP Pipes but he would like to get another couple more advertisers. He would see about the banner when all the advertisers were complete.

### **SCRUTINEER'S SEMINAR :**

Mr. Burton said at the recent scrutineer's seminar which he ran the course material was not up to standard as it contained a lot of grass track questions but he managed as best he could. There were 30 applicants with about a 50/50 split between moto cross and enduros. A 70 % pass mark was set and the majority achieved 90.

### **CLERK OF THE COURSE SEMINAR :**

Eddie Herd and Peter Burton would conduct this next week hopefully with a PowerPoint presentation.

### **THE SPORTING MOTORCYCLIST :**

There was some discussion about having separate sidecar/solo entry forms but Mr. Wood said there were quite a lot of Grass Tracks in the Summer months that catered for sidecars. He asked if he could see some filled in entry forms so that he could see the problem from an organisers point of view. He also said perhaps the time had come to think about increasing the physical size of the TSM. Mr. Batten said he seemed to be getting more photocopied nowadays and suggested a TSM subscription form be put in all entries that had used a photocopied entry form.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS :**

Mrs. Clarke asked for people to be on their guard at meetings in future as a competitors bike had been stolen during their recent British Championship meeting during racing.

Mr. Herd said for 2004 the FIM were planning to cut down the number of colours being used on number plates. On the side plate there was to be a distinction between the number and the background. On front plates MX1 would be white/black ; MX2 black/white and MX3 yellow / black.

Mr Horton was worried after reading about the fines imposed on Andy Nicholls and his Reading Trail Park. Mr. Herd said there was a lot found to be wrong like the roping, no duty of care, no supervision, no instructions to Youths, no segregation and failure to manage the circuit. He suggested Mr. Horton asks for further advice from the BYMX Committee.

Mrs. Argent asked if all delegates would go back to their clubs and ask for more thorough checking of numbers at scrutineering and appealed to the various Clerks of the Course to be stricter when enforcing the rule.

Mr. Batten said he had been unfortunate enough to be balloted to marshal at both the recent Winterpick Farm and Canada Heights meetings. Both meetings finished after 6 O'clock and he thought that was too late. Mrs. Clarke said this matter had been discussed at Sidcup Committee and they could see no reason to change from their usual 5 group entry.

Mr. Batten thought entry fees had been agreed to go up because of insurance increases but the meetings run so far did not seem to reflect this.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 11.00 pm.