

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN MOTO CROSS COMBINE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2006 AFTER THE AGM AT BLINDLEY HEATH

PRESENT : 19 delegates were present representing the following Clubs :- Brighton, Crawley, GEST, Greenwich, Sidcup, Twickenham and YDP Racing. Also present Ken Piles (Permits Secretary) and John Bramall and Andy Wood from the TSM.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE : Apologies for absence were received from Brad Jackson (Oxshott) and Jamie Clarke (Webmaster). Marge Clarke said she had invited a representative from Witley to the meeting as they had intimated they would like to run a meeting at Winterpick but have received an apology from Peter Batt who was unable to attend.

CHAIR : Eddie Herd took the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING : It was proposed Alan Clarke and seconded Dave Parry that the minutes which had been previously circulated of the previous meeting held on 29th November be accepted as a true and accurate record. Agreed.

MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM :

Yellow Flag Rule : Les Batten suggested it could be confusing if someone fell off on the first lap of practise whilst the yellow flags were being displayed instead he favoured using the travelling marshal with a rule that no one should overtake him, after some discussion it was agreed to try the idea but the travelling marshal must wear a bib so that he is not confused with a normal rider. Roger Brown offered to print some up.

Scrutineering Notice : It was agreed that Peter Burton would liaise with Roger Brown about the wording that would be required.

Noise : Alan Clarke confirmed the Centre would be sending a noise meter operator to every meeting but that it was not up to him to make any decisions about excluding a rider but the Clerk of the Course and the Centre would not be best pleased if a strong line was not taken. It was thought to be a good idea to have some mention in the programme that excessive machines would not be allowed to start. Les Batten said that there was some tittle tattle in the paddock about whether a sound test was being correctly carried out with regard to background noise or bouncing back. Roger Brown explained the way the test was set up meant the noise meter would read the noisiest noise, if there was an echo from say a parked vehicle it would be highly unlikely to be noisier. He invited anyone to attend the proposed noise seminar at Mallory Park on the last Sunday in February. Alan Clarke confirmed the selection of riders will have nothing to do with the Clubs but the noise measuring team. There was some discussion as to whether a Clerk of the Course had too much workload and it was agreed that he should have at least one deputy and not be driving bowsers etc.

Future Seminars : Eddie Herd had enquired of Peter Burrell and found no one's licence expired in 2005, this was challenged when some people said their Technical Certificate expired at the end of 2005. There was further discussion about the ACU's curriculum containing multi discipline questions when our regional officials did not want this and it would most likely deter people attending the seminar. Marge Clarke was instructed to write to the ACU explaining our position and asking if we may borrow the PowerPoint presentation and then set our own questions which related to moto cross only.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT : Marge Clarke said the usage figures showed a slow down which was to be expected as it was the off season but even so we still had over 500 visits per day.

WINTERPICK AND THE FUTURE : Marge Clarke said with the general loss of meetings she felt it important for the Combine to run at least one meeting there this year if the Farmer agrees. Witley had intimated at the recent Centre Board meeting they were also interested in running a meeting and that would please the farmer as he has said in the past he would like 2 or 3 meetings a year. Les Batten had spoken to David the farmer and he was due to ring him again at the end of January when it was expected the DEFRA forms had been completed and agreed. Jim Wood said he had spoken to Andy Sutch from the Sports Council and he was due to meet with an MP who was closely involved in the whole single payment subsidy question and he had promised to keep us informed. Roger Brown said if we do get the go

ahead we should try and avoid the dusty season, John Bramall asked if anyone had made any enquiries about connecting to a fire hydrant as he knew the grass track fraternity had.

ACU MOTO CROSS COMMITTEE MINUTES :

Marge Clarke read extracts from the November Meeting :-

Technical Matters : The FIM CTI following a review of data and after lengthy discussions proposes to reduce the sound levels in Motocross according to the following time schedule :

1.1.2006	96dBA	Fixed RPM (Present method)
1.1.2007	96dBA	2T: 13m/sec & 4T 11m/sec
1.1.2008	As 2007	
1.1.2009	94dBA	2T & 4T 13m/sec

Mr Summers explained that these reductions will greatly improve the sound output from a motocross event; however he feels that the FIM/ ACU should work on reducing the RPM rather than the dBA. The ACU will follow the FIM for ruling for 2006 and 2007 but a suggested proposal from the ACU Motocross Committee is to reduce the level again in 2008 to 94dBA at 2T & 4T 13m/sec. This proposal is pending further investigation.

All centres should be encouraged to provide sound control at all events; equipment can be purchased from the ACU and the Sound Booklet used in conjunction with the equipment. The MCI also advised that they may fund a plastic card for distribution with all new machines about silencers and their maintenance/packing details. The secretary was asked to find out if this was still available.

Recorders :

The ACU recorders have asked if it would be acceptable for the committee to issue them with a pass that would entitle them to admission to the Maxxis Championship events. It was decided as the issue of passes is a contentious matter and that this would not be possible.

MMX Championship : The committee received a letter from Sidecar passenger Jason Peters. He asked for clarification on the tie procedure for a passenger. The following rule will be included in the regulations for 2006 but will not be implemented for this year, so the British Championship for 2005 will be awarded to Stuart Brown, Driver, and Jason Peters / Marc Cooper Passengers.

New Regulation: Points will be awarded in principle to the Driver. However, the passengers will also be classified and receive awards in the final classification together with the driver, provided that they have participated together in more than half of the meetings counting towards the championship and gained whilst competing together more than 50% of the total points awarded to the driver. If this fails to decide a tie then the championship passenger will be the passenger who finished the last championship event with the championship driver.

BYMX COMMITTEE

The Chairman stated that the Board of Directors were considering the possible amalgamation of the BYMX Committee with the Adult Committee

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR SPEED EVENTS BOOKLET

There are some new sections to be included in the 2006 Safety Precautions for Speed Events Booklet. These include details about the construction of Concrete Start Pads with diagrams and rhythm sections. The Chairman asked all members to contribute comments and thoughts and return them to him as soon as possible.

Hare Scrambles

There was lengthy discussion about the Woodbridge clubs proposal of the introduction of a new type of event. Hare Scramble seems to have credentials from Motocross /scrambling and Hare and Hound events. A draft set of regulations were looked at but concerns were raised. The committee will continue to discuss this type of event which has become popular under other organisations. The Wood bridge club had been advised to run their forthcoming centre event as a motocross.

CENTRE CHAMPIONSHIP DATES : The dates circulated were approved and Dave Parry queried the number of Expert rounds but it was thought not to be excessive. Les Batten asked if it would be Ok to include a Sidecar Championship Round at Twickenham's Invitation only meeting on May 28th. Agreed, with the regulations being published on the website and distributed to all sidecar drivers.

PERMANENT NUMBER SCHEME : Les Batten said that existing number holders had until 31st January to renew and claim the same number, after that it will be opened up to anyone and he had a waiting list of people requesting numbers. He had taken £310 to date.

WRISTBANDS : Marge Clarke asked for orders from Clubs to be in by February 14th, she reminded clubs they could have any colour or message printed on batches it did not all have to be the same. There was some discussion as to whether we should order longer wristbands and Marge Clarke said this was more expensive and thought to be uneconomical in relation to the number ordered, bands could always be doubled up to make them bigger. It was noted at Crawley's last meeting they were not used.

PRESENTATION OF CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS : Roger Brown had despatched the awards to the various clubs to be presented at their awards functions. John Bramall appealed for some photos for the TSM of presentations and Marge added they could be put on the website as well.

THE SPORTING MOTORCYCLIST : John Bramall stated he had collated the South Midland calendar within the Southern and S. Eastern Dates. Andy Wood requires photos for the Championship Covers not necessarily of last year's Championship winners but Marge and Les disagreed saying we should recognise the effort taken to gain first place.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS :

Centre Handbook / Rules : There was some discussion regarding the job Peter Burton had undertaken to update the Centre Handbook. It was agreed that perhaps in this day and age it was unnecessary to have a printed hard copy and that some form of electronic storage could be used. Marge Clarke said our rules needed to include the use of wristbands but at this stage she thought we should hang fire on the yellow flag/travelling marshal rule. Agreed that Peter and Marge will liaise to produce something that reflects all the changes since the last print run.

GEST : regarding their plan to amalgamate their 65cc class with the small wheel 85's only to be told on the rumour mill that the ACU will not permit this. The Secretary was instructed to write officially to the BYMX Committee for a definitive decision.

Banner : Les Batten asked for banners to be printed with all the Clubs logos on it, agreed up to £200 to get as many banners as possible.

Late Payment Fee : The Permits Secretary will be fining Clubs £10 a day if their payments to him are late.

Affiliations : Marge Clarke reported it had been announced at the Centre Board Meeting that the following clubs had not paid their affiliation fee to the ACU : Oxshott, Crawley and YDP Racing.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 10.30 pm. Date of next meeting fixed for April 25th.