

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN MOTO CROSS COMBINE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007 AT BLINDLEY HEATH.**

**PRESENT** : 18 delegates were present representing the following Clubs :- Brighton, Crawley, GEST, Greenwich, Sidcup, Twickenham and YDP Racing. Also present John Bramall from the TSM, Jim Wood ( London Federation of Sport Rep ) and Ken Piles ( permits Secretary ).

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

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** : Apologies for absence were received from Jamie Clarke.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** : The minutes of the previous business meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007 having been circulated, it was proposed Colin Bushell and seconded Monty Lane they be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Carried.

**MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM :-**

**High Viz Jacket** : Sidcup had now found the missing jacket but Les has donated enough for each club to have their own and Roger will get them printed up for use by the travelling marshal on the first lap of practice.

**Clerk of the Course Seminar** : The numbers were slightly down on those booked but everyone passed and the licences have now been issued by Rugby. The seminar was run by Eddie Herd and Peter Burton.

**Technical Officer's Seminar** : Roger Brown and Peter Burton ran this seminar on a presentation and questions eventually supplied by Dr. King. The meeting was very well attended with over 45 taking part from both the MX and Enduro disciplines. Colin Bushell said whilst he did not wish to criticise this particular seminar he felt there should be more emphasis on the practical side at all seminars. This generated some discussion as to whether a tick list should be issued for people as a guide to follow when checking a machine, Eddie said newcomers should start off under the guidance of an experienced official whilst Alan Clarke said the recent DEP Meeting run by the new MC Federation had done away with scrutineering altogether. Agreed machines must always conform to the regulations in force for the meeting.

**Banner** : Les apologised that nothing had been sorted yet and said it was still ongoing.

**WEBMASTER'S REPORT** :

Marge reported the average daily visits had been steady between 80-90 during the Winter months. She asked for Clubs to let Jamie have the postcode of their tracks so that he could put it on their track maps as this information is needed for satellite navigation systems which are now being increasingly used.

**ACU MATTERS** :

**Moto Cross Committee Minutes** : The only set of minutes in the public domain at present were those of the January Meeting and the following points were discussed:-

**TECHNICAL MATTERS**  
**Regional Basic Scrutineer License**

The Committee would like to incorporate basic Regional/Club scrutineering as part of the Regional Motocross Clerk of the Course Seminars. The attendees who acquire the pass mark would then apply to the ACU for a Motocross Clerk of the Course incorporating a Basic Scrutineers license. There would be no change to National Technical Officials; the Committee Chairman would seek approval from the Board of Directors.

Marge wondered if potential scrutineers would be put off if they had to take a full Clerk of the Course licence.

## **TECHNICAL MATTERS**

### **Sound Levels**

Mr Summers reported that the ACU sound booklet would be altered and re-published in 2007. The maximum sound levels to be adopted by the ACU for Motocross in 2008 are as per FIM regulations:

96 dBA 2 stroke machines / 94 dBA 4 stroke machines

Colin asked what the penalty was for failing a post race noise test at a Regional Meeting. Agreed it was catered for in the Championship Conditions for British Championship Events but there was no guidance for Regional Events. After some discussion it was proposed Colin Bushell and seconded Kevin McDavitt in our Centre Events if a machine fails the noise test an additional 10 places will be added to the rider's final placing. Carried.

## **REGIONAL SEMINARS**

### **Regional Motocross Clerk of the Course & Steward Seminars**

These seminars will be run throughout the year in various regions. The Centres will be required to arrange the facility at their own cost and the ACU will cover the travel expenses for the instructor. It is envisaged that there would be approximately six regional seminars including at least one at Rugby. Mr Herd noted that we should encourage Chief Marshals to attend the seminars.

### **Southern Centre Seminar**

It was brought to the attention of the Committee that the Southern Centre were organising a Regional Clerk of the Course & Steward Seminar to include different disciplines. The Centre was advised against this procedure in 2005, the Committee strongly feel that Motocross Seminars needs to be held separate from other disciplines. The Committee Secretary will write to the Instructor and inform him that he cannot run the seminar incorporated with Grass Track and Enduro and if required a local Committee member would conduct the seminar for Motocross

## **MOTOCROSS RIDER GRADING SYSTEM**

The Chairman gave the Committee an update on the new recording system for Motocross riders grading which is currently being devised.

The proposed system will mean that Club secretaries will forward results/programmes direct to ACU Head Office after their meeting as well as their Centre Recorder.

Marge said she had not been informed by Rugby that we should be forwarding results to them so she had just forwarded Sidcup's last meeting results to Les as usual.

## **TRACKS / COURSE GUIDELINES**

After reviewing the 2006/07 Course Guidelines Handbook the Committee discussed the use of whoops at Motocross events. It was agreed to make no changes to the original ruling of whoops although this may be looked at in the future.

The Committee discussed the use of the new green plastic fencing being used at Jersey LC & MCC. Mr Warren will liaise with the Club to arrange an inspection, discuss future arrangements and risk assessments.

## **CENTRE LEVEL MOTOCROSS**

### **Club Report**

Following recent discussions the Committee need to be more involved in Motocross at grass roots levels. It has now been decided that following any Motocross events, Clubs will be required to complete a simple event report form to be sent to ACU Head Office. The Committee felt this would benefit the Club as well as the Sport in general. The form will request information about sound monitoring, level of stewarding, results for grading. Mrs Goggin was asked to produce a form to include all the necessary information.

### **Sound Levels 2008**

The Committee agreed that at the majority of Club and Regional events, machines were not being sound tested. The Committee decided that noise testing should take place at all events and riders should be penalised if their bike was found to be over the required limit.

It was agreed that by 2008 it would be compulsory at every Motocross event that a Sound Official must be appointed. Clubs must return a Sound Inspectors report along with their results and their club report form to ACU Head Office.

Information will be made available so that Clubs can be advised on the use of meters, training will be arranged where requested.

Roger felt this would not be welcome by Clubs as it was just another piece of red tape that would have to be completed by overworked officials. Eddie said he thought the idea was faltering.

Marge said we would not have any problem meeting the Sound measuring requirements as our Centre was sending a Sound Official to all MX events.

#### **ONLINE ENTRIES**

The ACU have now accepted online entries for events without the need to sign individual forms. Riders will be required to accept the terms and conditions while entering online and then sign on at the events as usual.

Roger said that Roy Barton was going to trial this system and John Bramall said there could be advantages for the TSM as well in the future.

#### **Dual Licences**

A member of the Peveril MC & LCC had enquired to the Committee Secretary whether riders on a dual license may enter both a youth and adult race at the same event. The Committee were all in agreement that this would not be permitted; the rider may choose to take part in an adult or youth class at an event but not both. Mrs Goggin will reply to the club.

Chris Parish said she was pleased a definitive ruling had been made as GEST had in the past struggled to solve this problem.

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

**New Insurances :-** Roger explained the contents of a Press Release and paperwork that had been distributed by Rugby. Insurance for events would now be a 3 tier system for which separate paperwork must be used. Basic and Basic Plus would both offer a lower level of cover than that offered at present and no cover whatsoever for riders personal accident, the premium for this is a flat fee which must be paid for before the event and the permit applied for from Rugby for £50. The existing cover will now be renamed Premier and will still be per capita and paid for after the event. Roger said this new style of cover had been introduced to try and keep the various new style of organisers within the ACU rather than let them go for a cheaper deal with another Federation. For an additional premium of £75 a year, riders can top up their personal accident cover to that similar to the Premier cover. Kurt was worried that riders would be unaware they were being covered for less and not take out the additional cover. Roger said the entry form must state clearly what insurance rate was being supplied. He said the choice was solely for Clubs to make but he would recommend they stuck with the existing level of cover i.e. Premier. He pointed out the scheme could affect the Centre's finances with loss of revenue, he felt those advertising their regulations in the TSM should now be charged for the privilege if they were getting their permits from Rugby. Alan said the world around us was changing quickly and there most likely will be more radical changes in the future, one of which could be not having a steward at a meeting. There was a general discussion and it was felt all clubs would wish to continue having a steward to monitor their events.

#### **THE SPORTING MOTORCYCLIST :**

John said the May issue contained a lot of MX regs and he was pleased to welcome a new lady contributor who was taking photos at events. The circulation has stayed about the same this year and he was about to visit the S. Midland Centre with Andy for an update meeting.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS :**

Les said the **permanent numbers** were still coming in. Jim Wood said at the meeting in March he had stood down from the Executive Committee of the **London Federation of Sport**

in favour of John Claridge. They have had a visit from Sport England and Roger said there was some query about whether motorcycling is a recognised sport. Peter Burton said clubs were quite often stuck for helpers rather than marshals and he had noticed in the regs nowadays it states people will be **balloted to help** rather than balloted to marshal. At a recent Sidcup Closed to Club they successfully took licences off people who did not provide a marshal but promised to help clear up after the meeting. Alan reminded delegates not to take entries from **SMX** as they were no longer affiliated to the ACU, at a recent Sidcup meeting 2 riders had entered but when queried on the day they showed membership cards for other clubs. Yan said the cancelled **Winterpick meeting** was rescheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> September and he would like to run sidecars, Les warned him to check with the UMX first. The 1<sup>st</sup> July **Ringmer** meeting is to be moved to 15<sup>th</sup> July and Marge said that would now clash with a Sidcup closed to club event. On **1<sup>st</sup> July** there would now be a classic charity meeting at Winterpick. Marge reported that Sidcup had stumbled across an **impostor** at their last meeting who gave a different name to the first aiders after he had been injured. The matter was being dealt with by the Centre.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 10.25 pm.

Date of next meeting fixed for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July.