

East Anglian Region
Annual General Meeting
13th October 2014

Attendees: Peterborough: Pete Sargent (PS)
Norwich Dan Harding (DH)
Braintree Julie Watts (JW) Gav Stokes (GS) Jen Cannons (JC)
Milton Keynes: Marc Devereux (MD) Micky Kit (MK) Alan D'nut (AD)
Royston: Phil Townsend (PT)

Apologies Ipswich: John Lillingstone
Braintree: Julian Allen Rich Watts
Norwich: Chris Rowe
Royston: Jason Abbot
Walpole Warriors: Jon Curtis

MATTERS ARISING FROM the AGM held 21ST OCTOBER 2013

Rider of the Day: This was not awarded in the 2014 Summer Series and it was agreed not to reinstate in the future.
No other matters and the minutes for the meeting were agreed to be true and correct.

CHAIR REPORT

JW went through the highlights of the year for the region:

- Overall it was a good year, with rider numbers increased by 20%, PT advised this was on par with the increase in other regions.
- Activities within the Clubs have increased and most now having regular racing.
- The Regional held at the London Velopark in May, was a great success especially as it was the first event to be held since the 2012 Olympics. It was a good meeting and a large turnout. MK said he thought the parking was surprisingly easy, Phil noted that another 50 spaces were available than thought.

FINANCE

PT passed around the finance report 1st November 2013 to 9th October 2014 and then talked through the report.

- As riders could register for races online and on-day the summer and winter series income has not been separated.
- Often there has been more online registration than on day, so the region has then had to pay the hosting club retrospectively, instead of the club paying the region.
- We have now received £1,700 out of £2,500 owed by J Goldsworthy.
- British Championship income is down to the purchase of Brits shirts with a total of £3,000 spend.
- Overall the bank account has increased by £1,000 to c£8,000.

PS commented and it was agreed by all that PT has done a great job as stand-in Treasurer considering the other roles and responsibilities he has.

ELECTION

JW stood down as Chair and as vice chair PT took over the meeting until a new chair was elected.

Post	Nominated	Proposed	Seconded	Elected
Chair	Julie Watts	Marc D	Jen C	Julie Watts
Vice Chair	Phil Townsend	Julie Watts	MK	Phil Townsend
Treasurer	No candidate			
Secretary	No candidate			
Lead Coach	Julian Allen	Marc D	MK	Julian Allen
Race Official Co-ordinator	Mark Tomsett	Phil T	Julie W	Mark Tomsett

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As there were no candidates, it was agreed that for the time being PT to carry as Treasurer and JW will look after the secretarial role until someone steps forward. It was asked for the floor to ask their respective clubs for any volunteers. PT suggested that as Race Official Coordinator the secretarial role would fit nicely with this and he would speak to Mark Tomsett.

Phil suggested that role of the Lead Coach to be changed to include co-coordinating the regions coaching.

JW thanked GS his time for as lead coach and also asked for the regions thanks to be passed on to Chris Rowe in for his hard work as Secretary.

Julian Allen would continue to look after the website.

It was suggested that the circulation of a questionnaire for thoughts and comments from the riders and parents on what they thought of the region and the racing this year may be beneficial in understanding how the regions riders were feeling, especially in view of the lack of attendance at this AGM. Instead of having specified questions as before it was agreed to ask for opinions and comments via Facebook, noting that any comments must not be taken personally.

ACTION 01: JW to put post a request for comments and thoughts through Facebook.

BUDGET

Winter Series Levy's

Currently the club keeps the registration fees and pays the region a levy for each rider in the winter. PS suggested changing this from 20% of registration fees to £3 per rider so the club know how much they would be getting. PT advised that for the Peterborough regional this would equate to the same amount however this would not always be the case. After a discussion it was agreed to keep the 20% levy in place.

Payment to Officials

PT advised that some regions pay a fixed amount to their Commissaires, which should then be declared to HMRC; however they can take on the day expenses (mileage at 40p per mile). As the region is not a limited company it can't pay out other expenses. However, if we decided to pay commissioners 40p this would equate to an additional spend of circa £2,500 per year and was considered unsustainable by the region.

MK suggested doing something for the commissioners at the end of the year, PT advised we could hold a commissioners training event which included a meal and this was agreed as a good idea.

PS said the most vital job of the race, is the finish line which is the most difficult to staff. We should be able to have 5 finish line people with representation across all the clubs. After a discussion on why this is difficult to staff it was suggested to give 1 free registration to the next event to any parent who works on the finish line. However it was agreed before this was implemented each club to continue to push and encourage volunteers.

Change to Cost of Classes.

There was a large discussion about increasing the on-day race fee to £15 and leaving the online fee at £11. It was noted that many other regions have increased race fees to (at least) £15. It was hoped this increase would encourage more people to use the online registration. However it was agreed to continue with the current price of £11 online and £12 on the day for the time being. Discount for a 2nd bike would also continue for one the day registration only. Each club was encouraged to promote using the online registration, as if it is not used more the on the day price will have to go up to £15.

PT noted that there is talk at BC that qualification for the Brits may stop being automatic for both Cruiser and 20" categories. Therefore, to race both at the Brits, you may have to qualify in both categories. It was thought that this would be good overall for regional racing and we would wait for a decision from BC.

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Brits Shirts, Plates and Goody Bags

The goody bags at the Brits were very well received by all the clubs and kids. Thanks to the ladies who put the bags together.

Process

It was agreed that the clubs are happy with the current report and finance process.

Series Format

GS suggested adding a regional inter-club race with one of the London clubs. PT stated that he thought that the Midlands aren't interested in continuing the current inter regionals. It was agreed to discuss further once the national dates are set.

ACTION 02: Add Regional / inter-club race with one of the London clubs as part of the 2015 Summer series to a future agenda.

DH asked about the Female classes and if there is a possibility of split out the girls classes in the 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12. Still race together but split out the points into separate age groups. It was thought that there is not enough female riders to make this viable in the region, but it could work for the national series. JW and PT to take this to the next National meeting.

ACTION 03: JW and PT to suggest splitting the points in the female races for the national series.

It was agreed that the Superclass worked well and the 17+ also worked well. The Superclass had a lower entry than the open classes, but it worked well. It was agreed that all other classes would stay the same.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GS suggested commissioning a 5 minute video promoting regional racing with all the club contact details this could then be sent to local schools to be circulated to the parents and a link to a longer You-Tube video. GS suggested that he thought one of the older riders may be interested and would find out the costs. Phil T thought there might be a Sport England grant suitable for this.

ACTION 04: GS to get costs on the Video.

ACTION 05: JW to find out information in what schools can be sent.

ACTION 06: JW to send out an email to update the contact details.

The EA website is now looking dated and could be updated however the information is there and easy to find. MD has a friend who sets up websites and he would be able to set a new one up.

Action 07: MD to find out about updating the East Region Website.

EA Championships

PT stated that the EA Champs is currently an open event whereas other regions have to qualify for their champs. After a discussion it was agreed that it was good for regional racing to have other rider from other regions joining our races. It was therefore agreed that the EA Championships would continue to be an open event.

REGIONAL COACHING

RSR age groups have now changed to 13 to 15 male and female. Mark Seaman has taken forward the coaching role. This narrows the eligibility our riders however a team has been selected to represent the region at the National RSR event 18th October. It will not be a full team, as there are no suitable female riders and only 6 males aged between 11 - 13.

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GS stated that Regional Coaching is down to club coaching with clubs linking up for joint sessions and it is now down to the clubs to organise. GS suggested all clubs and coaches should now focus on age groups 11 – 16 for RSR and concentrate on improved and increased coaching in all clubs.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) It was agreed the current First aider provider would be requested to continue.
- 2) JW reminded everyone to complete and have up to date Risk assessments for club and regional races. This should be on display or available to view at all events with a copy to be sent to Rick Clarkson at BC.
- 3) JW reminded everyone that that any racing needs to be registered with BC to ensure the event insurance is valid.
- 4) JW asked if we wanted to change the location for the regional meetings. Rotating the meetings to each club/area in turn was discussed but would be passed to the next meeting for further discussion.

Date for next Committee meeting Monday 1st December – 1930hrs at Red Lodge Millennium Centre.