

Eastern Cyclo-Cross Association

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Annual General Meeting

Held at Foxhall Stadium, Ipswich

16 February 2003

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Steve Grimwood	XRT Elmy	Ian Poole	Mildenhall CC
Chris Gooch	Team Clean	Tim Butler	Ipswich BC
Ron Hunt	Diss & DCC	Daryl Gooch	Team Clean
Aubrey Byrne	Norwich ABC	Russell Parkins	XRT Elmy
Bob Hayward	Diss & DCC	Chris Jillings	Ipswich BC
Dave Copland	Ipswich BC	Bob Downs	Interbike
Kristian Downs	API Resprays	Nathan Miller	Ipswich BC
Jim Staines	Mildenhall CC	Mandy Cook	Mildenhall CC
Jo Newstead	Wolsey RC	Colin Newstead	Wolsey Road Club
Julie Griffiths	Lee Valley YCC	B Rix	Lee Valley YCC
Steven Griffiths	Lee Valley YCC	Bob Griffiths	Lee Valley YCC
Andrew Griffiths	Lee Valley YCC	Jessica Rix	Lee Valley YCC
Ivan Birch	Interbike		

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Apologies received from Neil Pears, West Suffolk Wheelers, VC Baracchi, Whitewebbs CC.
- 2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 10 February 2003:** The minutes of the 2002 AGM were proposed by Dave Copland and seconded by Aubrey Byrne as a true record. Carried.
- 3. Matters Arising from 2002 Minutes:** There were no matters arising.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman reported that following a decision by BC to impose a £10 event surcharge on all events, the Association had decided to pay the surcharge of League events from League funds and sponsorship for the 2002/3 season. It was noted that the charge had increased to £12 in the coming season and that the Cyclo-Cross Commission was examining ways of meeting the cost of this charge. Looking back on the season, he highlighted the performances at a national level by Abbie Thorrington, Kristian Downs, and the whole of the Lee Valley Youth CC as outstanding. The 16 EDP Eastern 'Cross League events had been very successful and he thanked the organisers and their clubs for the continued support. He felt that the introduction of minimum standards had been well received by promoters and riders alike and had improved the standard of promotion across the region. The use of new courses throughout the season had been reasonably successful. Finally, the Chairman announced his retirement from the chair and also the Cyclo-Cross Commission to concentrate on his other interests, namely an addition to his family.
- 5. Secretary's Report:** The Secretary reported that the Committee had met on a number of occasions during the year with three members attending all meetings. Association had been successful at having a lottery award for the purchase of bikes, camera and event equipment. Ian has drawn up a document at national level to push cross forward into the future, raising the profile of the sport.

A vote of thanks was given to Steve Grimwood on the promotion of the National Trophy event at Alexandra Park in the centre of Ipswich Bicycle Club

6. **Treasurers Report:** The Chair read the main points of the report submitted by Neil Pears.
Expenses were numbers £249, Training Day £150, Levies £1038
Income EDP £500, Training day £108 League registrations £445,
Total Profit £139.17 for season 2001-2002
It was noted that the Association was running at a small loss of £28 but this should turn around with a profit as there were outstanding levies to be paid in.
7. **League Report:** Tim Butler reported a slight decline in numbers, but quality was certainly there. The worst weather for years has probably been the cause. A good base to build on for next season.
A vote of thanks was given to Tim by the meeting. Also to Dave Copland for writing the result program for the PDA's
8. **Event Co-ordinators Report:** Chris Gooch commented on the committee helping at the events, helping the organisers on the day etc. Some organisers had to be pushed to promote and these events tended to be those that were worst run.
A big thank-you to Bob Griffiths for promoting his events at Eastway, which next season will be more expensive due to higher charges for the stadium.
Chris questioned the number of league events being promoted, is there too many? He reported that there would be at least three events less for the next season.
Dave Copland: commented that the season started too early and that there was a big gap after New Year. It was suggested that the Worlds Masters weekend would provide a possibility for an event. Russell Parkins wanted an earlier start time for the events. This was discussed but organisers and helpers would have a much earlier start setting up the event.
It was noted that it was very difficult to plan the calendar of events to suit all.
Chris asked for the riders to thank the promoters who had taken their time to put races on.
9. **Press Secretary's report:** It was noted that things were coming together on the publicity front. In the columns of the newspapers and magazines, which bother to cover cycling, the ECXA and particularly the Ivan Jeckell League have made their mark. There was now a need to consolidate.

The EDP sponsorship had been a great help in getting coverage, with more banners and signs showing a greatly increased awareness of the need for professional publicity. This focused approach by the association was needed to attract more sponsors. Thanks were expressed to Tim Butler and Steve Grimwood plus Dave Copland for the result service and also provided first class graphics work.

From the comments I have heard at events across the country, other areas are very envious. The important thing is that not just the stars, but dedicated "ordinary" riders are getting publicity. That must be good for what is in the UK a minority sport. We still have a major gap in getting meaningful publicity for the up and coming younger riders.

10. **Coaching Co-ordinators report:** Bob Hayward reported that the season had been rather quiet for results at senior national championships but Andrew Griffiths won the under 14 event, Abbie Thorrington was 2nd girl in youth, Helen Saunders was 6th in senior women, Chris Gooch 6th over 50, and Peter Middlehurst 6th in U23.
He noted that there are talented riders in the Eastern clubs but somehow we often tend to perform less well than expected when faced with high level competition. The main challenge for 2003/2004 was to work on how our riders can psychologically "raise the game" whenever they go to major competitions. We need the superhuman efforts when it matters.

Nathan Miller had successfully completed the ABCC (Association of British Cycling Coaches) coach course and is now a fully qualified ABCC coach. 5 other prospective coaches are at various stages in the ABCC process.

The cyclo-cross training day was held at Redgrave on Saturday 31st August. The attendance was a little disappointing but the quality of the effort from the riders and helpers more than compensated. The next training day will be 31st August this year but the venue has not yet been fixed.

He reported that more coaches were still needed and there were two ways of qualifying, either through BC or ABCC. It was noted that Bob Griffiths was promoting coaching sessions from 10am to 12 noon every Saturday throughout the season.

11. Committee Positions for 2003/4

		<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
Chairman	Chris Gooch	Ian Poole	Ron Hunt
Secretary	Ian Poole	Ron Hunt	Tim Butler
Treasurer	Neil Pears	Steve Grimwood	Ian Poole
League Co-ordinator	Tim Butler	Steve Grimwood	Ian Poole
Events Co-ordinator	Vacant		
Coaching Co-ordinator	Bob Hayward	Chris Gooch	Ian Poole
Area Squad Co-ordinator	Vacant		
Press Secretary	Ron Hunt	Dave Copland	Steve Grimwood
Riders Representative	Russell Parkins	Ian Poole	Chris Gooch
Committee Members	Mandy Cook, Dave Copland Aubrey Byrne Steve Grimwood		

12. **Proposal by the committee:** that all Eastern Cross League events shall have a double equipment pit
 Amendment to the proposal:
 That all Eastern Cross League events shall have equipment pits on the grounds of safety.
 Educating riders and helpers on the grounds of safety. **Carried**

Proposal by the committee: that all Eastern Cross League event starts shall be gridded, based on the standings in the League and where appropriate, national rankings points. Reason to improve starting conditions and get riders used to riding such conditions and situations

Comments: Suggestions were made about flexibility on the size of grid but it should be no more than eight wide (UCI regulation). Questions were raised on how to grid the lower cats compared with the Seniors.
Carried

13. **Proposals for the British Cyclo-Cross Commission Annual Conference 8th March**

- a Propose Ian Poole as a member of the British Cyclo-Cross Commission
 Also propose Chris Gooch in the light of Steve Grimwood proposing to stand down.
- b That the commission accept price increase on race levies in line with British Cycling price increases
- c That the Premier Category events shall have a minimum prize of £600 spread over the first 20 places
 1st prize shall not be more than 25% of the total prize value.
- d That Area Boundaries be redefined as a matter of urgency and that the regulations concerning rider qualification for Regional and Inter Area Championships are clarified accordingly
- e That the Commission prepares and adopts minimum standards for the provision of marshals at national level events (National Trophies and National Championships).

Six delegates for the region for the National Cyclo-Cross Commission Annual Conference were duly elected.

14. AOB

- 1- Proposal from Ivan Birch for a team from the Eastern Region to go over to the Continent and race.
 Requires Area Squad co-ordinator to plan. Nathan Miller to take the job on.
- 2- Commisairre training during the summer to be organised by Chris Gooch and Ian Poole.
- 3- Chris Gooch Proposed a vote of thanks to Steve Grimwood.