**ECXL Committee meeting 2nd October 2018**

**Minutes**

**Apologies**

Lee Rowling

**Present**

Paul Moss, Ian Poole, Steve Grimwood, Jane DeBoltz, Ian Doe, Dave Copland, Brian Allerton, Daniel Doncaster, Pete Whelan, Steve DeBoltz

**Minutes of last meeting**

Eastern Regional Championships will now be run as separate championships but as 1 event with Central. Will Eastern riders need to purchase a timing chip? Committee agreed to pay for the extra Eastern medals.

**Season Review**

Push Sports Langdon Hills – Good racing, course good but very mountain bikey and no dismount. Fast and hard.

Springfield – Lots of dismounts! But, to be able to put a good cross race on a flat space like that is a credit to the club. Good lots of kids and a well promoted event

Northlands – Not taped all the way round. Only 1 pit but only really one place to put it. Epically wet and a very good racing course. The mud made it tough.

Hillyfields – Parking was good considering 100 rider limit, no problems. Good event. No dismounts. Pits still too small. Too much single track. Probably need a longer gap to set women off because single track caused some bottlenecks. Overall though, decent race.

**Upcoming events**

Ashwell – Separate women’s race. 34 riders so far and 9 non league riders. Encouraging to see so many women for a separate race. All looking good

Mistley – May have an issue with commissaires. Ian thinks it might be OK but could be a problem. Try and contact Ken Baker to see if we can get Neil Pears to Mistley so that we can present something to Neil. Steve Grimwood to organise engraved tankard for Neil. PM to email Neil.

SDCC venue still to be decided. Likely to be Chantry but SdB has contact at Haughley Park.

**Treasurers Report**

Agreed to open savings account for £25000 and separate league and association accounts.

Dave Copland will be buying another set of judging equipment so we can have a set stored in the West of region. Attached accounts for 2017/18 season

**Race Timetable and field sizes**

Central timetable is difficult to manage as there are no breaks. Needs lots of helpers and if races overrun little time for practise and little time for helpers to get a break. North East run the senior race in the middle of the day and finishes with the Vet race.

How do we manage oversubscribed Vet50/Women race? There followed a long discussion including proposals to reserve spaces for women and/or moving women to the vet40 race. It was felt that moving women was not really an option now that the season had started as it would require a lot of BC Admin work and would cause confusion. Reserving a number of spaces for women is not possible with the current BC Entry system so would require creating a separate womens race which would also cause considerable admin effort. Race numbers have also already been acquired for the season to cater for current races so any changes could cause numbering issues. Simplest solution is to simply increase the V50+ race to 100 spaces. This will start after Mistley as Mistley can only just cope with 80 let alone 100!

Entries for the Welwyn Vet50/Women that were entered into the Senior race will be transferred to Vet50 race

Race timetable to stay as it is but a discussion followed comparing the other CX league race structures with ours and it was felt that ours is still the best compromise between timings and participation. Will probably be revisited for the AGM.

**Trinity Park National Trophy**

Lost Renvale as the sponsor for the bridge. Steve will continue to find a sponsor but League will pay for any shortfall. Around £2000 total.

Course will probably use the woods and be based further down.

**Coaching & Rider Development Co-ordinator**

Thanks to Lee for filling the role up to now. Lee has now stepped down from this role due to work commitments.

Steve Grimwood proposed having a grant system for clubs/coaches to apply for. Steve will knock up a paragraph for approval and then put on website and FB.

CC Ashwell have a waiting list for their coaching session at Knights Templar school in Baldock but this is run and driven by Mark Wyer.

**AOB**

Central League experience. Timings are so short between races lucky to get 1 lap in for practise. Grid is published when the entry is closed so if you miss your grid or enter on the day you’re at the back. Mostly gazebos for sign on and portable toilets. Defined start with a yellow flag when course is open. No respite for helpers. Sign on was slick with envelopes containing number, pins, transponder.

Central has grown massively in the last few years and are having some big events, but, venues have to be large and “samey”. Three events at Milton Keynes Bowl. Big wide courses, more razzmatazz but not the intimate and technical courses of the eastern region and we should not feel compelled to go down that route for big races.

**Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 28th November