

Eastern Cyclo Cross League

Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Google Meet call -> <https://meet.google.com/omr-ewmj-gjm>

1. Apologies

None

2. Present

Paul Moss, Ian Doe, Steve Grimwood, Daniel Doncaster, Brian Allerton, Lee Rowling, Jo Newstead, Dave Copland, Pete Whelan, Ian Poole

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Still not done anything about last season awards which were going to be held over to the beginning of this season which may now be some time away!

Do we send them out or try and get them to points where people can collect them?

We have not tracked down the whereabouts of the Ron Hunt trophy which is awarded to the best young rider of the season. Last person we believe won it was Sophie Wright who was not presented with the trophy. Paul M will contact Fergus

4. 2020/2021 calendar

We believe National events are slowly not happening and we anticipate that we will be left with National Championships in at Crawley in January.



Eastern Cross  
League - Response 1

Ian Poole sent round a cross league update attached here

It looks like we have lost or will lose all events up to 21<sup>st</sup> November. No decision yet on WSW or Grafham but highly likely to be cancelled or postponed to 2021. Diss are still planning to go ahead 21<sup>st</sup> November but with lots of restrictions.

Venues to use could be Haughley Park, Trinity Park and Colchester Gateway (due to open Jan), Tank Museum in Norfolk (2021), Thick Thorn just outside Norwich, all of which are big and/or remote venues which lend themselves easier to CV-19 guidelines. Organisers could be encouraged to use these venues but they are obviously distant from their normal locations and may then suffer from overuse.

So we have got some potential events from November onwards and can continue into March.

5. Rider acceptance/league membership

Agreed to only allow riders who were members last year in order to try and limit entries to events as most other leagues are not running and we could be overrun with riders

No charge for league membership it will just carry over from last season

Local lockdown can be managed by BC dashboard page

6. Race schedule/format

All will be single bike races i.e. no pits or support crew allowed.

Extra time needs to be allowed between races to allow more warm up time, more difficult gridding and more difficult distancing at call up, therefore, all races will be reduced by 5-15 minutes in length. Races will have a last lap cut off so that races can be kept within time limits but how this will week needs to be worked through.

There will be no league under 12 races in order to increase time between races and limit large entourages with children. Organisers will be free to promote U12 coaching and/or racing sessions on a separate course where the venue allows.

No presentations on the day.

No results on the day

No prize money

After lots of discussion it was agreed that gridding will work the same as now but with greater distance and a 5 rider wide grid. PA system will be required for race briefing and call up but this will need to be kept brief and riders encouraged to line up in the order they would expect to be gridded and distanced.

There is no plan to restrict race sizes or to introduce any kind of staggered start.

Organisers will need to design courses with distancing in mind at all times, i.e. wider tracks, fewer bottlenecks, ease of overtaking.

#### 7. Format/viability of running the league

It was felt that the league could continue to run in some form or other as it stands. We will have fewer events but league points can probably still be awarded.

#### 8. Treasurers Report

Not much to report. We have around £35000 in the bank and there have been no ins/outs since the last meeting. Financial year closes on 31<sup>st</sup> August and looks like we will have a



Accounts\_2019-20\_  
20200729.pdf

surplus for 2019/21 of £2809.32. Accounts attached here

Agree that where organisers need financial support to put races on we will do as we always would and support organisers who need it. We won't subsidise races unless it can be justified.

#### 9. AOB

Brian A asked if we can we actively promote junior training? Mark Wyer is trying to do something with "contenders" sessions. And Muddy Monsters is also something that youngsters are encouraged to do.

Do we need to think about number of judges and handling of tablets between judges?

Steve approached Trinity Park and they are keen to have us back there. Possibility of a 2 up CX race where riders race each other on parallel course in a time trial format. Steve thinking October possible.

Mark Wyer sent round an update via email but for completeness I've included it below:

Youth and Coaching Development: I'm intending to run the Contenders sessions this season as normal. Will work on dates soon. I need a calendar first if I can be sent the provisional one. I will also create a coaches online forum to support coaches and to discuss the development of youth riders etc. My recommendation would be that a similar forum is created for event organisers to discuss the current issues, course design, good practice etc. Everyone is getting used to attending online meetings so it's a good opportunity to get this going. I would be prepared to join that meeting to feed in course design ideas for developing our riders.

I'm assuming you are going to discuss the racing guidelines issued by BC. My thoughts are (probably way to complicated but a basis for discussion): I guess many venues will not be available this season. The CCA one cannot be used this season. We also need large venues with plenty of space for wide start straights and courses. My idea is that it might be worth negotiating with 2 or 3 big venues to run most of our events there e.g. Grafham Water, Stanborough Park and Trinity Park if these are usable. It might be worth considering creating

2 courses of up to a mile at these venues and splitting each race into 2. Have heats and A and B finals for each category so that fewer riders have to be gridded, called up etc. Each race could be half (or a third) the time of normal but the two courses would provide the extra capacity. You would need more judges but with fewer riders and a shorter race the results could probably be done on paper rather than a PDA. It's probably too complicated and the scheduling would be a nightmare but it's just a thought for discussion. Maybe we will just have to limit the fields to about 50-60 rather than 80 and have fewer counting events for the league and a maximum number a rider can compete in.

The rolling start idea is completely bonkers and presumably not from anyone who's ever seen a CX race (unless I have misunderstood how it would work). We need to ensure riders have taken off their jackets etc before they get gridded so that helpers don't go near the grid. It means we have to be very sharp with the gridding in the depths of winter. Officials are not supposed to shout anymore so we need some megaphones for our Commissaires and Grid callers. We need enough that they don't have to be passed between officials. We will need a cleaning system for the PDAs, bell, flag etc. I think the Committee will need to create a generic Risk Assessment (particular for officials, judges etc) and the event organisers will have to slot in their site specific details. Signing on will be an issue. Any chance that something like jotform (online form that takes signatures) could be used for on the day signing on? Or perhaps HQ will allow riders to not actually sign anything this season. Maybe it's just a case of using hand sanitiser just before signing on and just after with masks on so perhaps I'm overthinking it!

#### 10. Date of Next Meeting