

Eastern Cyclo Cross League  
Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 7:30pm

Any actions are in red

1. Apologies  
Mark Wyr, Jo Denny,
2. Minutes of Last Meeting  
Signed as a true record
3. Matter Arising

Brian Allerton has resigned from the committee

“After plenty of thinking I have decided I will not be racing this season. I have put on a lot of weight over the Covid months, a combination of over-consumption and no exercise and feel I need to focus on getting back to a healthy lifestyle before I get back to racing. As a result, I will not be re-joining BC or the League so feel the right thing to do is resign from the League Committee.

Please pass on my thanks to the Committee for making me feel welcome at all times and for allowing me to contribute to meetings and committee business. I have enjoyed my time as a committee member and have been impressed by the way you all contribute to making it a well-run League. “. Paul Moss has replied and thanked Brian for his contribution to the ECXL

Ian Poole to post out medals/prizes from 2019/20 season asap

4. Season review so far
  - a. Springfield CX  
Good, well-run event. Good course for the riders and good to manage from a comms point of view. Lee Rowling had some good feedback.

- b. CC Ashwell Milton

- excellent cooperation with Cambridge Junior Cycling Club,
- excellent cooperation with Milton Country Park,
- Milton Country Park are happy to have two races per season at this site, so long as there is approximately a 3 month interval between the events,
- it was hard to put on being remote from home and we were stretched a bit,
- the site is hard to marshal,
- at the end of the day we think the day went well,

2 issues

1) Someone got onto the course and interfered with the Women's race. We did what we could to protect the course but it is a public park; this is a risk that cannot be completely eliminated.

A runner was on the course for the V50 race but there were no issues,

2) Confusion lead to the course not being reset after the start lap of the Women's race. We were dealing with an injury and arranging transport to hospital at that moment. Ultimately we failed to manage to course properly and apologise to those concerned.

- b. VC Revolution Hillyfields  
Good course. Pits very small and on the left. Pinch point too early after the start. Riders enjoyed the course and overall a good event. SG will have a chat with Dave Hales to enlarge the pits and look at a better start loop.
- c. Welwyn  
Some inconsistencies with warmup times especially for seniors and prize fund was equalised to include more prize for women/juniors. This is fine but causes issues with other organisers who may not be able to offer additional prizes so league will need to look at prize list. In future events ask Welwyn to cover course warm ups at 12pm after the v50 race.

## 5. Upcoming Events

- a. WSW  
Lots of work going on to prepare the course. Should be a good event and no concerns
- b. Neil Pears Memorial  
No concerns. Peter Hall organiser.
- c. Diss  
Dave Wilby organiser. No concerns. Diss/Mark Wyr were going to promote as a “come and try it” event to encourage a large women’s field.
- d. Regionals  
Are we restricting to Eastern riders only? Because there are other regional championships at the same time but this race is also an Eastern League race so some may want to race in the league for points rather than their own championship. Agreed to restrict to Eastern region and league members who have been a member since the 24<sup>th</sup> October only. No entries on the day. Ian Doe will check the entries every morning to make sure riders are already league members and are Eastern region only. Race will be changed to organiser selects field. **Steve Grimwood will post on FaceBook and Dave onto the website**

## 6. World Masters Update

Everything progressing nicely. Thank you to Ian, Paul, Dave helping with selection of riders and handling the entries. Coming together well. Encourage anyone to fill in the volunteer form. Need to speak to RiderHQ about checking licenses in advance rather than on the day. UCI meetings have been very good. Communication has been really good. Accounts looking really good and very healthy. Around 500 entries representing around 20 countries so good spread. 50-55 and 60-65 races are at capacity. Good to see a large women’s field.

## 7. National Trophy bidding 2022

Email from BC asking for organisers to tender for National Trophy bids. No venues or organisers that we can think of that would have the capacity to organise a trophy.

## 8. Treasurers Report

Attached accounts show healthy surpluses for both League and Association accounts. Everything is back to normal this season with very similar levies and memberships for this stage of the season. There are no concerns and will probably finish the season with a surplus.



Accounts\_20211024  
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9. What to do with surplus funds?

We should be supporting events rather than riders. Maybe we should look at supporting organisers for medical provisions and equipment. Big subject that needs further discussion so committee will go away and think about ideas and then have a specific meeting after Worlds masters to discuss options. **Send any ideas to Paul Moss so that we can come to a meeting with a focused discussion**

10. Southill site visit and possible race

- opportunity to run an event at Southill Estate,
- same longitude as Princess Helena, Welwyn and Grafham Water,
- private land,
- requires cooperation of cricket club, then excellent parking and HQ facilities,
- mix of terrain, hill, woods, grazed field; we are confident we can put on a great course,
- very long start straight possible,
- would the ECXL like us to see if we can promote an event in this current season? If yes, what the preferred dates? The requirement to avoid the shooting season is now understood to be not so strict. Yes, Eastern region would be delighted to have an event there this season.

Ian Poole offered to inspect the course/venue as he knows the area quite well. **Daniel will look at dates and discuss with Ian Doe to see if one can be fitted in.**

11. Named race organiser's ability to race. Is there another way?

Yes, if you want to race as an organiser put someone else down as the organiser.

12. Publishing gridding before the race

Dave suggested that we publish gridding before the race so that any anomalies can be sorted out prior to the event. Plan was to publish the grid on the morning of the race on the website so anyone at the race can see it and can question the comms/sign on before their race starts. **Dave will try at a future race and see how it works.**

13. Coaching update

October report:

The first CX RSR (Regional School of racing) for our region was held at Welwyn Track on the 12th October. There were riders from Eastern, Central and South East regions involved. A number of coaches from the region attended to help out. The next one will be Thursday 28th October at Ardingly.

A Women and Girls session was held at Milton Country Park with 19 booked and 17 attended. 5 or 6 of those were novices with a couple more having only done 1 race before. We are attempting to get 50 riding in the senior/junior women's race at Diss which would be a record for an Eastern League event.

3 Contenders coaching sessions booked for youth riders. Will advertise soon.

Muddy Monsters series set up for Herts and Beds. Existing series in Cambridgeshire is struggling and likely to be only 2 or 3 events. Have hopefully found a coordinator for an Essex series.

Youth/Under 12 numbers are considerably down since the pandemic start compared to the other categories. I think many of our Go-Ride clubs are struggling both for volunteers and to get sessions restarted. I don't think BC support clubs regionally much anymore so it's going to be down to initiatives like Muddy Monsters to get things up and running again.

July report:

Short report: The Regional Development Group had an online meeting with Matt Ellis the Talent Development Coach. He explained his plans for RSRs in the bigger region (Eastern, South East and Central). As a regional group we will change the focus of the contenders sessions to U14s to lead into RSRs. In addition we will run one Women and Girls only coaching session. Some clubs are struggling to restart their coaching sessions post lockdown but others are back and running ok.

Ian Doe reported that coming into 2022 there will be a push by BC for U12 multi discipline coaching. CX will be one of those disciplines to try and encourage cross discipline participation.

14. AOB

Ruff Stuff cancelled because of forestry commission issues.

**Ian Doe will write to the owners to thank them for use of Stanborough.**

2<sup>nd</sup> online/zoom commissaire course coming up in December. We are in dire need of commissaires. Just about coping this season but next season could be a problem without more commissaires.

Email coming out next week for National Commissaires courses next May

**Ian Doe, Ian Poole and Kelvin Hoy to have discussion about Masters commissaires.**

15. Date of Next Meeting

20<sup>th</sup> December