

**MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING (2007 SESSION)
OF THE ACU TRIALS & ENDURO COMMITTEE HELD AT ACU HOUSE ON
WEDNESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER AT 10.30AM**

Present -: Mr J Collins – Chairman
Mr D Willoughby – Vice Chairman
Mr T Fairbrother
Mr A Rew
Mr M Bates
Mr J Lightfoot
Mr A Penny

In attendance: Mrs M E Kerr

1. APOLOGIES

The Committee wished to express their condolences to Mick Wren who had sent his apologies following the sad loss of his father the previous weekend.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the fourth meeting held on 8th August were approved for circulation.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Particular note was made regarding the efforts of the Torridge & DMCC in hosting an excellent Inter-Centre Team Trial. It was understood that the Club would likely apply for a round of the British Solo Trials Championship in 2009.

4. BUDGET

Individual Committee's budgets had been presented to the Directors, and the Chairman took the Committee through the various T&E budget headings.

5. APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS

The Chairman was concerned at the fact that there remained a considerable variation in the wording of Supplementary Regulations and as such some potentially serious omissions or inclusions may be overlooked in the process of them being approved.

Standard model regulations for all Championship and non-Championship events already existed, as did standard entry forms, and Committee members were urged to be very thorough when checking them.

6. RISK ASSESSMENT FORMS

Mr Willoughby reported that a revised model of a basic Risk Assessment for Trials had been drafted and would be circulated in the near future. A model suitable for Enduros would follow.

7. MARKERS IN TRIALS

The Committee considered that they now had sufficient replies from Centres regarding their colour system for marking sections, with replies now having been sent from the Yorkshire, East South Wales, Midland and Mid Wales Centres. Results would be collated for the next meeting.

Action- Secretary

8. ACCIDENTS

Trials Importers had been asked for comments on recent reports of accidents that the Committee understood had occurred in either practice or competition where riders had fallen off and had their head or other body parts trapped between the airbox /mudguard and rear wheel. Their responses however stated that in their experience, they were unaware of any such occurrences.

9. SCARBOROUGH YOUTH TRIALS

Details of the particular Trials rules applied to the 2006 and 2007 Scarborough Youth Trials were awaited, but it was understood that a reply would be forthcoming in the near future.

10. BRITISH SOLO ENDURO CHAMPIONSHIP

Bob Mullins had raised a query as to the necessity of retaining the Open class in the Enduro Championship and after discussion, it was agreed to delete it from the list of Classes in order to save unnecessary effort when compiling the results. An amendment would be made to the Championship Regulations in the Handbook

Action- Secretary

i) Timing System

The Committee agreed that a Timing system which all organisers were prepared to employ at events was a crucial factor in the future success of the British Enduro Championship.

Following the meeting with AMB which John Collins had attended recently, the firm had produced a proposal for an Enduro timing system which was now circulated to the Committee for their consideration. As always, cost was an issue, as the AMB system involved selling transponders to riders which the Committee felt may be a stumbling block for the large number of Clubmen riders who varied from round to round. However, Vic Madeley had been in contact to say that he believed he could time the two top classes using transponders and the Clubmen with existing methods, Alan Penny had reported on what appeared to be a considerably cheaper system which he had seen operating at the Finnish UEM Enduro, and he was asked to supply further details. The Committee were asked to consider the AMB proposal in the meantime

Action- Committee

ii) Introduction of 144 2T Class

The recent decision by the MX Committee to allow for the inclusion of the 144 2T machines in their events, had prompted a number of queries as to whether the E1 Enduro Class would make a similar move. Mr Collins had replied to Chris Blomfield at length on the subject and had pointed out a number of considerations. It was suggested that a proposal may be put forward to the effect that rather than include this capacity in the E 1 class on the basis that it made for fairer competition with the 250 4T machines, it may be more reasonable to separate the 125s in E1, i.e. divide up the two capacities within that class. It was not anticipated that the FIM or UEM intended such an amendment to the rules in the near future, which could be seen as a further argument against introducing it in this country, but any further consideration to the matter would be put on hold until after a chance for informal discussions at the Autumn UEM and FIM Congress meetings.

Action- Mr Collins

11. BRITISH SOLO TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIP

A Solo Trials Organisers Forum would be scheduled for 12th January and would be advertised via the usual channels.

Action- Secretary

12. INSURANCE

Enquiries would be made of the Insurers as to the possibility of extending insurance benefits for riders injured abroad, who may want further private treatment upon return to this country.

Action- Secretary

13. AWARDS CEREMONY

The Presentation night would now need to include awards to the Bike Trials Champions. Committee members attending in January in addition to the Chairman, would be Mr Lightfoot and Mr Rew.

Action - Secretary

14. ISDE

No changes had been made to any of the riders in the Trophy and Club teams. Bikes had been successfully loaded on 13th September. Entry fees were to be transferred to the Organisers account on 26th September latest.

15. TRIAL DES NATIONS

British Mens' and Womens' teams were set to compete in the IOM on 29/30th September and Mr Collins would liase with the Secretary to finalise arrangements.

Action- Secretary / Mr Collins

16. ACU MAGAZINE

The deadline for the next magazine was to be mid October and Committee members were asked for their input.

Action- Committee / Secretary

As a result of the decisions taken at various Courts of Enquiry held in August and documented in the Sept/Oct edition of SportMoto, it was agreed that a request would be put to the General Secretary to include an item for discussion on the agenda of the next Directors meeting, whereby the subsequent penalties imposed on the Stewards would be further explained. It was further agreed that some reassurance to members of National Council may be in order.

Action- Secretary

17. BRITISH CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

After discussion it was proposed that provided the Organisers who had expressed an interest in hosting a round of the British Cross Country Championship could agree a format with the T&E Committee, a series would be launched in 2008. Further details would be released in due course.

18. TRAINING

Applications were now to be invited from potential squad members for the 2008 season, whose acceptance would be subject to terms and conditions regarding their attendance at British and European Championships in return for direct rider development support.

Action- Secretary

19. LARA /HANDBOOK CHANGES

Committee members would receive summaries of the changes to be made to the Handbook for 2008 and it was hoped that all amendments could be finalised at the next meeting. Deadline for amendments was 16th November.

Action- Secretary

20. UEM

After the final round of the Womens and Youth UEM Trials Championship held in Hobel, the UEM had released details of the final standings which showed Jack Challoner as the winner of the UEM Youth Trials Cup and Becky Cook as 3rd placed in the Women's Championship.

21. FIM

Indoor Trial des Nations

Notification had been received regarding the change of venue for the Indoor Trial des Nations from Malaga to Cordoba. The date of the event remained unchanged on 24th November. The ACU would notify the FIM of their intention to send a team but would name the riders at a later date.

Action- Secretary

Indoor Enduro World Cup

Dates for the four round series were noted.

Maxxis World Enduro Championship - 2008 Provisional calendar

Dates would be confirmed at the FIM Congress on 18th October. The series at present included a round in Llanidloes on 19/20th July.

22. LARA

Mr King had circulated a report following a meeting held in Cannock on 15th August. The next meeting was due to be held on 2nd October at the ACU.

23. 2008 FIXTURES

Applications for Championship dates were discussed and any clashes arising were to be resolved.

Classic Trials Championship

It appeared that riders were failing to grasp the true concept of the Classic series which was to create a 1960's *classic-type* Trial on modern bikes, and was not aimed at older riders on older machines. Tim Fairbrother would put some words together to try to correct this perception.

Action- Mr Fairbrother

In addition it was agreed that a change of title, ideally including the name of a sponsor, would be the way forward. Mr Collins had a number of ideas to follow up regarding series support.

Action- Mr Collins

Inter-Centre Team Trial Date

An application had been received from the North Eastern Centre to host the event and a suitable date was to be confirmed.

Action- Committee

24. STEWARDS REPORTS

Received and acknowledged -:

Wallace Cup Trial	25 th February	Anthony Rew
Dave Rowland Trophy Trial	1 st July	Ken Roberts
Hawkstone World Round	29 th July	Anthony Rew
Dyfi Enduro	4 th & 5 th August	Jeff Edwards
Mac Kenzie Trophy Trial	5 th August	Mick Wren
Alscott Cup Trial	5 th August	Tom Crease
Kent Youth A & B/C & D	11 th & 12 th August	Alan Penny
BAJA	17 th & 18 th August	Alan King
UEM Trial Norway	18 th & 19 th August	Tim Fairbrother
Manx 2 Day Trial	25 th & 26 th August	John Lightfoot
Dyfi Enduro	1 st & 2 nd September	David Vaughan
Inter Centre Team Trial	1 st & 2 nd September	John Collins
Greybeards Trial	2 nd September	Derek Clampin
Rhayader Enduro	8 th & 9 th September	John Lightfoot
WEC – Krompachy	1 st & 2 nd September	Alan Penny
UEM Enduro	Heinola – Finland	Alan Penny

25. STEWARDS APPOINTMENTS

List held at ACU.

26. CORRESPONDENCE

i) ACU Promotional tape Arthur Adams – SE Centre

Arthur Adams had suggested the use of ACU promotional tape at events but some Championship sponsors currently made provision for this, and the Committee felt that organisers of non -Championship events may feel the cost was prohibitive.

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Foot and Mouth Outbreak

An extensive reply to John Dickinson at T&MX had been drafted by Mr Collins in response to a query concerning the running of the British Solo trials event in Hook Woods, Surrey - an area close to an F&M surveillance zone. It was understood that an article prompted by a query from a rider would appear in the next edition. Mr Collin's reply wished to reassure T&MX News that in all cases DEFRA guidance had initially been sought and in view of the fact that no express prohibition of events in that area was in place, it was agreed that organisers and local landowners were best placed to make a decision as to whether or not an event should be cancelled. It had been recommended however that if landowners were at all apprehensive regarding use of their land, organisers would be advised to cancel, but this did not apply to the Hook Woods event.

Criteria for acceptance of entries in International events.

Concern was expressed regarding the standard of ability shown by certain riders in events abroad and it was agreed that there should be some yardstick by which their suitability to compete should be measured in the interests of safety. Mr Willoughby would draft some guidelines which could be used to determine this, but basically it would be expected that riders had first gained experience in British Youth or Adult Championships during the previous/ current year.

Action- Mr Willoughby

Youths in Hare & Hounds Events.

In the face of continued requests to reconsider the acceptance of Youths in Enduro /Hare and Hounds events, the Committee would seek advice from the Medical panel in respect of the suitability of this type of events for under 16 year olds. It was also suggested that the Committee's current rationale for not recommending this sport for young riders be listed and circulated to Centres, to assess any counter arguments they may wish to put forward.

Action- Secretary

28. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be held at ACU House on Wednesday 17th October at 10.30am.