



South West BMX Regional AGM

Date: 16th November 2015
Venue: Elmore Football Club, Tiverton
Present: Paula Hallett
Matt Marchant
Mark England
Justin Gatting
Hugh Copping
Tracy Lovell
Tracey Kite
Charlie Leggett
Steve Leggett
Simon Burnett
Kathy Banks
Gordon Banks
Robert Mills
Nicholas Lumb
Andy Parker
Jason Roberts
Del Commons
Dave Fletcher
Neil Forsyth
Tim Sampson
Sharon Avery

Apologies: Kim Palmer
Tom Palmer
Annie Dodd
Bethan Hallett
Phil Brazil

Minutes of the previous AGM were circulated, read and approved by persons at previous AGM.

Treasurers Report

Due to a lack of Treasurer in 2015 we do not have a detailed report. The current balance stands at £4386 however, this is not a great reflection to the year end total in comparison to previous years as the South West Regional trophies have yet to be purchased and costs associated with this event (approx. £4,000 for trophies).

Chairperson Report

Paula circulated a copy of her report as Chairperson as follows – 2015 Season as written by PH.

This has been an interesting season, we have seen another increase in riders and general participation, culminating in the last round at Tiverton having 60 novice riders, this is a reflection on all the hard work that all the clubs/coaches and volunteers are putting in across the region to further grow the sport we all love.

Points – unfortunately the season didn't start well as the person who had previously been operating the computer and compiling the points was unable to continue in this role this year, so Val who had received no training on how to operate the system (as she was supposed to train alongside Cheryl for the 2016 season)

stepped into this void. She valiantly struggled on with the support from Karen at trackside and a lot of behind the scenes support from Rob Flavell and Rob Richards. This led to a lot of discontent as team points were not published on time etc and I thank you all for your patience. Val has agreed to carry on again for 2016 and hopefully we can get her and a team of others some training in BEM software.

Commissaire Training – after some confusion we eventually got some Commissaire Training which means the region will have a wider pool of people to call on for the 2016 season, this will be especially beneficial as all registered races must have a BC trained Commissaire present.

Coaching – coaching across the region goes from strength to strength and again training has been arranged for new coaches and a lot of the Level 2 coaches were able to progress on to the BMX Level 2 specific enabling them to coach on tracks.

Inter Regional Competition – we again were able to take a team of riders to this event at minimal cost as we had run a series of training sessions at various tracks that emulated the activities that take place at the Regional School of Racing. Many thanks to Del for over-seeing these and co-ordinating with the support of Mark Seaman and British Cycling for the opportunity for our young riders to gain valuable experience on the indoor track at Manchester; yet again the group of young people we took behaved in an exemplary manner with the team and coaches receiving positive comments from BC staff on the teams good sportsmanship and general conduct.

Brits – this event was well attended by the South West again this year. Sadly our race tops did not materialise in time for the riders to wear them at the event but hopefully the region will make an impact in them next year.

Presentation/trophies – despite the best efforts of at least half a dozen people no one has yet been able to secure a venue that can host this event for us, either with an overnight stay or without. Once we have a venue secured the trophy order can be finalised (we have been unable to place it yet as no one has room to store the trophies).

Commission – In March this year I had the honour of being invited onto the BMX Commission, to be able to contribute to the development of our sport. WOW! What an induction, after the sport had progressed with some change over the last 15 years that I have been involved all of a sudden it all got slightly crazy. Sadly I have been caught up in this and despite the majority of people involved not knowing me or anything about my background I have been slandered, had accusations made about me via social media, accosted and intimidated at my home track of Tiverton, this without the added general shunning by a wide group of the BMX community that I thought were not necessarily my friends but thought they were decent acquaintances. However, I am not easily dissuaded and as I am involved in the sport because I love it and want to see it develop and let future generations of children benefit from it in the way I have seen my children benefit, so I will persevere in my voluntary capacity to support the sport.

Biography – I have added this bit as I realise many people have no idea what my background is. I got involved in 2000 when my eldest son was breaking into Tiverton track to ride the trails that were then there. From this my youngest children, Connor and Bethan started racing, my husband and I then developed Tiverton into a reputable club although one with a very short track. I then started campaigning for a new track, seven years later and 100's of hours spent in many, many meetings we successfully got our new track. Unfortunately by this time my husband had died so he never got to see in person the track that he had strived so hard to achieve for the local community of Tiverton and the wider SW BMX region. During the time of his illness one of the enduring features of my childrens lives was BMX racing, due to the kindness of friends and BMX acquaintances Connor and Bethan were able to travel to 2 World Championships and compete at National level races across the country. I sincerely believe all of this helped them to become the well rounded adults they are today and they certainly remember the escapades well. My eldest son has gone on to become a cameraman / videographer. I have remained involved through racing / coaching / commissaireing at regional

level. I am also now the BMX representative on the SW Cycling Board (yet more long meetings on BMX behalf) which has recently enabled us to have more of a voice in national matters.

Many thanks to all those who give their time so relentlessly to all the clubs/racing and riders in any capacity across the region.

Paula Hallett

Feedback

NF said the obvious issues were the computer issues that had a negative effect over the season but on a positive note felt the Super Cruiser class had been successful and enjoyable. PH explained formats were wrong and Val was sending one format to BC and another format to Rob Flavell on the regional web page and the formats needed swapping so BC & RF each got the correct ones to publish. That everyone was much clearer with the system meaning the 2nd year should prove to be more efficient with the points. It was recognised that clubs had suffered and had indeed been patient.

Points to be discussed to be considered by the new committee at follow on meeting – these points were quickly shared and discussed where to be followed up by the newly formed committee.

SW Champs Age Groups – feedback was to keep the same.

Riding Up – question was should anyone be able to ride up or just top two of series? As the concerns were some classes left weak and low in numbers. Suggestion was – everyone to go back to their true race group this year then top 2 only go up. Was this needed?

Fees for 2016 – questions asked in regards to next year were:

1. Should we have pre-reg only or pre-reg but anyone wishing to ride on the day pay a higher amount discouraging in the day registration by the majority? Does this include Novice?
2. Family discount?
3. Do we increase the fees for next year? Suggestion was it could be index linked.
4. PH had checked with BC and confirmed that novice and double bikes could be done from the BC pre-reg and they would offer assistance so if we were to take the pre-reg only way there wouldn't be any issues. Feedback from the group was fees should remain more or less the same with more incentive to pre-reg to speed things up.

2016 Winter Series – to question our clubs for interest and to bring to a later committee meeting to encourage.

New Constitution – this has been discussed before as the previous regional constitution needed updating therefore Paula brought a copy for consideration which will be attached to this doc. This will be confirmed at the next committee meeting (in a later date to be set in Jan 2016). So if this needs any amendments recommended by committee/member they will need to forward on to Paula or bring up at the Jan meeting.

Paul Novis has asked that all clubs are informed that he is available for commentary at £75 and can be booked via Decoy or direct.

Current committee all stood down.

2016 Committee

Post	Nominees	Nominated By	Seconded By	Accepted
Chairperson	Paula Hallett	Del Commons	Matt Marchant	✓
Vice Chairperson	Del Commons	Mark England	Neil Forsyth	✓
Treasurer	Hugh Copping	Sharon Avery	Justin Gatting	✓
Vice Treasurer	Justin Gatting	Paula Hallett	Sharon Avery	✓
Secretary	Sharon Avery	Paula Hallett	Neil Forsyth	✓
Riders Rep Male	Charlie Leggett	Matt Marchant	Del Commons	✓
Riders Rep Female	Bethan Hallett	Steve Leggett	Neil Forsyth	✓
Committee	Tim Sampson	Paula Hallett	Neil Forsyth	✓
Committee	Rob Flavell	Justin Gatting	Paula Hallett	✓
Committee	Mark England	Paula Hallett	Justin Gatting	✓
Committee	Neil Forsyth	Dave Fletcher	Justin Gatting	✓
Committee	Kathy Banks	Sharon Avery	Paula Hallett	✓
Committee	Gary Phillips	Tracey Kite	Mark England	
Committee	Kim Palmer	Paula Hallett	Neil Forsyth	
Committee	Annie Dodd	Sharon Avery	Tim Sampson	
Committee	Paul Farrow	Matt Marchant	Sharon Avery	

Non committee post within the region:

Website	Rob Flavell
PR/Facebook	Sharon Avery
Points Secretary	Val Hommell
Pre-reg	Karen England
Minutes Secretary	Kim Palmer

Any Other Business

Steve Leggett on behalf of commissaires brought up about Race pants in the Expert Classes and that these should be worn by every rider for safety and as to set a good example. No track-pants or skinny jeans to be allowed only trousers made of a non rip material. No shorts without protection of full length leggings accompanied by full shin protection. No skin showing. Novice riders although encouraged may have an exception.

Next Committee Meeting Date

18th January 2016 – venue to be confirmed.

Meeting closed to be followed by meeting of newly elected committee members.