

SOUTH WEST BMX REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

DATE - 7TH March 2016

Venue - Decoy BMX Track

Present - Paula Hallett, Del Commons, Mark England, Hugh Copping, Gary Phillips, Richard Eyre, Sharon Avery, Tim Sampson, Chris Draper, Nicola Sinclair, Justin Gating, Val Hommell, Steve Leggett, Charlie Leggett and Carla Saunders.

Apologies Andy Philips, Neil Forsyth and Tracy Day.

Previous Minutes – Chairperson - PH

SA was told she needed to differentiate between commissionaires and commissaires so as not to confuse or misinform as this was spelt incorrectly in previous minutes.

GP added clarity to riders riding up in 2016 may only ride up one age category and they must have finished in 1st or 2nd place in their class in the 2015 Regional Series, although riders that were already riding up in the 2015 Regional Series may go up with the same age group in 2016.

GP also wanted it noted that the week before and the week of the World Championships (14 days, Sunday to Sunday) should be kept free from regional series events. PH said that made sense when a large amount of riders had competed as in the previous year in Europe but long distance ones probably would have little impact as only a few would go. With next year's being in the USA this might need to be considered in the series planning.

Thank You – DC wanted to thank NF with regards to helping at the RSR and his support for the SW riders on the event. SA to share as NF not here tonight

Communication – The FB committee page has made a big difference to communicating and sharing info. It is starting to work really well but people need to regularly check and be responsive, likewise with emails for any information and enquiries to be shared effectively amongst the group. All the group need to be active with input, opinions, thoughts, ideas and info- each member on this group is there for a reason.

SA also asked for everyone at the table for their contact no's.

Mark England	Cornwall Chairman	07595568531
Tim Sampson	Tiverton Chairman	07857178597
Carla Smith/Saunders	Exeter club secretary	07984618069
Charlie Leggett	Rider Rep	07913908111
Steve Leggett	Senior Commissaire, Coach-Tiverton	01626 201182
Val Hommell	SW Registration/coordinator 46 Rolle St, Barnstaple. EX31 1JW	01271 371604, 07984625514
Chris Draper	Torbay/Parkfield Chairman)	01803 428479
Justin Gating	Bideford Rep	078008545526, 01237 237205

Sharon Avery	SW Secretary, Decoy Secretary	07970506279
Gary Phillips	Bristol Rep	07771666382
Del Commons	SW Vice Chairman, Coach	07891336194
Hugh Copping	ST Treasurer	07779319474
Nicky Sinclair	Torbay/Parkfield Rep	07901777198

Committee Decisions

1. Teams doubling up. This was discussed by the committee via the FB page when it was decided by the group to let the Teams to decide what and if they wanted to double up- riding both 20" and cruiser. It was put to the vote and the majority of Team Managers were for it and the fact that BC have it like this within the National series it seemed in keeping to follow suite. So it was announced that they could do so. However once the teams started sending in their teams they were told this now wouldn't be the case and caused confusion amongst the Team Managers. After discussing any issues, it was agreed that they could double up as it was their choice. It was suggested that copies of their original responses should be kept in case they later complain.
2. With PH having been recently seriously ill, it made us all realise that she holds so much information and that most of us don't know a lot the answers without having to put great deal of effort to find out, sometimes quite simple things. This opened the discussion to recognising a "Core" of individuals in the committee of whom being Chair, Vice, Secretary and Treasurer which then led to the Regional Constitution which was brought to the table at the AGM needed to be still be passed and published. HC asked to be sent an electronic copy. *PH said she would do so. *ME said he had seen where some amendments needed to be put in place and would do these. This would be done and put on the Committee FF page for us all to see and to make further suggestions if required then for committee to sign off and then these to be made public and put up onto Website for transparency.

Treasurer – HC sent in an email request prior to meeting of the following: HC says its nearly 4 months since being elected to this role. He feels that it would be a good move for the committee members to understand all roles and what is expected from each position. Roles and responsibilities for each post holder should be established and detailed.

In order for him to fulfil his role he needs to see and have answered the following -

1. Access to the accounts. .PH has now given HC these to sort through
2. Access to the bank account. This is work in progress.
3. What percentage of race day income will clubs receive in 2016?
4. Should these accounts be audited?
5. How much money is in the bank account? Approx. £3200
6. Have all the clubs be paid for the regionals they held in 2015?

We are aware that Exeter is still waiting for SW Champs Pre-reg money but where is it? PH has contacted BC about this and HC is now aware and will try to sort.

7. What should we be spending the regions money on? HC explained that the SW BMX Association is a not for profit organisation but that cash must be managed appropriately. HC asked what cash reserves should be held to allow the committee to make its payments and to allow for any potential investments. HC asked if the region could/should set money aside to possibly help fund future riders to the Worlds as we have 2 World Champions in the region who will not defend their titles in 2016, alternatively a kind of grant/scholarship or towards a development within a club that the SW region riders would benefit from.
8. What would the region do with the money if a sponsor came on board? HC asked if a sponsor came forward with say £20,000 what would the region do with it – PH suggested finish line cameras/ technology.
9. (SA added to the list) should we have a PayPal account? When asked why, SA said it might be useful to have one set up even though it would rarely be used there may at times be an advantage with payments incoming and outgoing on occasions. PH said there was no need and it would cost.

Additional to the above HC had also been collating Regional entry numbers that he had sourced from the BC website as he didn't have any official documentation to hand. HC asked if the committee should be concerned with the decline in Regional entries over the period from 2013 through to 2015. Most clubs said they had experienced a healthy influx of new members and it might be easier to answer this once we have numbers from the first few regionals.

Riders riding else where and why. It was felt that these weren't lost members but ones who enjoy racing at other tracks where there might possibly be more competitive racing and larger groups. HC reminded the group we have 2 World Champions of our own which could/should encourage riders to want to ride in the SW. It was added that it was the quality of the tracks that encouraged riders to race out of regi

Should the regional series be promoted more? It was decided that some posters would be designed and produced for each club in the series with relevant info and then to post up. * TS said he would deal with the posters. *HC to continue looking at the number of riders' entries and subsequent revenue.

Regional Presentation – Trophies ordered and SA gave HC the invoice. Also SA said she had received the invoice for Clennon Valley Hall hire. 188 Expert, 30 Novice several to the SW British No 1's and 3 Shields (Club, Team and Norris Bradley).

A few things to finalise like do we have a compere and someone to present the trophies. *TS said he would ask Dan McBride. Bristol have returned their trophy, Crucial knows their trophy needs to come back and PH has the third one. This one is the Norris Bradley award for dedication & commitment to BMX and *PH has asked Karen England if she could sort these voting sheets. The presentation will be 2.30 for a 3pm start.

Invoices for the trophies had been emailed to PH and paper copy given to HC. HC concern was if there was enough money to cover the cost to these.

Website – Things to be added:

1. The Constitution once available for everyone to see.
2. Any RSR/Cluster sessions/coaching info page to be added.
3. Minutes and link sent to clubs

South West email address – is there one in use and is someone actively being responsive to it? If so who is dealing with the emails and responding? PH does the SW email. It was discussed how we could operate more than one to deal with email enquiries especially if the one person doing this was for whatever reason unable to do so. *PH said she would ask Rob Flavell to put an email forwarder in place so that any emails are automatically forwarded to the 4 “Core”. One of the Core members will then be able to respond to the email, keeping everyone in the email chain.

Race Day and are we ready?

1. At present Pre-reg is open for Paignton, the first race in the series but only as a generic category which means there’s no ages, classes, etc. and pretty much all the info on there is out dated, incorrect and therefore needs updating. The consequence to this means unless it gets sorted as soon as possible the pre-registration online on the day of the event will be of no benefit. PH at the moment is the only administrator to make any changes. PH said to double-check to see if more than one administrator could be added. Both HC and SA have spoken to BC with trying to resolve the issue. **Due to Richard Clarkson being the required and only person to be able to amend and away from the office till the morning this was needing to be sorted then.** SA has been told to send email ahead which she will do after the meeting to check everything is ok and in case committee have alternative info to add with all categories and amendments. *SA to send email to BC. The rest of series needs amending and set up in the same way.
2. Pre-reg cards have been distributed to clubs, hopefully clubs are handing them out. SA gave VH some completed cards to go home with.
3. Green plates do we have? PH said this is sorted.
4. Purchases for first regional? PH said toner and paper.
5. Photographers – what paper work is needed to have in place? PH to bring folder to regional.
6. Welfare issues? Any issues, the folder with paper work will be at regional. PH also that each regional will require 2 people in the pen area one on call up and the other to keep a check on behaviour. *It was also agreed that the region should purchase a megaphone for pens.
7. PH said the PA/commentator will need a walkie-talkie at each regional.
8. Finish line - number confirmed was a minimum of 3, 5 would be preferable.
9. Classes categories HC wants to discuss girls racing with the boys. This was discussed as HC felt the girls especially under 13’s would benefit especially with groups being small and some already deciding to ride in with the boys. It was decided to keep as it was due to not wanting to put off girls off riding as feared some wouldn’t ride if mandatory. Girls had an option already to ride with the boys.

10. How many to constitute a race class? This was agreed a minimum of five, however their point would be put back to their original class category.
11. Super cruiser category would remain the same and with regards to points.
12. Other changes to cruiser race groups 12 & under to remain the same, 13- 16 changed, 17-29, 30-39 and 40+.
13. Practise times to remain the same.
14. Regional elite fees and payback/ prize money to remain the same.
15. Registration fees break down on pre-reg is £7 to clubs and £5 to the region. With the new fee of £20 the proposed break down is club £11 and £9 to the region.
16. Expenses for the registration ladies is Val Hommell £80, Karen England £40 and commissaires X3 £15 each.

Who's in charge? - Responsible for the overall running for each race day and its running?

PH explained that each club has its own "Race Director" for the day making sure that everything is covered and no issues within the venue for each event. Steve Leggett/ref responsible for the racing.

Commissaires - Each club to approach Steve for race day support/commissaires. Steve to share any info and to contact them for race day cover.

Team Registration - Teams have been registered. SA made an error saying registration fees were to be paid at the first event at Parkfield as unaware that these are paid usually a month before. She had been able to collect some of teams fees but others had said they would pay on the day. This to be corrected for next year. Message to un-paid Teams on the day to be: No fee – No allocation of Team points.

The Teams are-

- DT-Racing/Danco Team 1 - Graham/ Sharon Watts
- DT-Racing/Danco Team 2
- Psykopath Industries - Dan Hodge
- BMX Pistols – Simon Spooner
- H. G. Racing – Haydon Green
- Green Machine – Matt Marchant
- Mick's Pix - Mick Wells

Coaching Info - Any Info to be shared on the FB Coaching page RSR's etc. This page to make any info available, for example, RSR's will be posted on here so that all coaches/clubs are receiving the same info. It is important that coaches deliver this info back to riders and clubs.

Dan Hodge submitted riders riding up requests, there were no other requests received, should we give Coaches another week to submit the requests? There was some concern that everyone had received this info so it was agreed that this gets posted onto the FB coaching with the date extended to Midnight Sunday 13th by SA ASAP.

The next RSR will be held at Parkfield but there's no date confirmed as of yet, DC will inform everyone when it is. With regards to Cluster Sessions, *DC said some available Saturdays first need to be found and some clubs to come forward to host these as these would help fund the RSR to Manchester. If these don't go ahead the region would have to consider other options to try and fund it such as asking clubs to contribute. The cluster sessions would be open to all in the age group.

South West Champs

1. Request to change date as it clashes with RSR Regional competition at Manchester. Both PH & DC said this date gets sent out by BC and it's set with no reference to what's being held elsewhere. Everyone agreed it would be best to change. The alternative date first suggested was the 18th September but once diary checked a race at Calais is on that date with possibly a few going it felt that this should be changed. The next suggested date was Sunday 25th September which the South region are having their Champs which the committee recognised that a good few from the SW do participant in. The alternative was to give consideration to having a Saturday Champs on the 24th September with a possibility of holding a full presentation afterwards with the end of season trophies. This could be considered with the next point regarding a request to hold the SW Champs
2. Club requests to hold SW champs to present their proposal in writing to the next Committee meeting bearing in mind point 1.
3. It was also suggested that novice classes should run at the SW Champs.

First Aid Course – short notice but has been put on FB SW page that there's a first aid course at Dawlish if anyone desperately needs some on 12th March. See SA ASAP or Exeter to book in.

Commissaires Course- Exeter club have asked if there is anyone from the region interested. At the moment there is no date/venue as they need at least 7 to hold one. Contact Exeter Club if anyone from your club is interested.

The Brits – ME has made lots of enquiries for funding or sponsorship for race shirts and looking for £3,500 to cover the cost for approx. 250 shirts at £16 and £5 being contributed by the rider/parent. As yet, no luck and he asked everyone to consider other ideas to share with him.

Brits sub/committee still needs to be formed but due to time this subject was postponed to the next meeting.

National BMX Council- had sent a message to SA and HC to share. HC shared the email with everyone. It was well received and everyone had a clearer picture what the group was about. It was agreed that the SW Region would be interested in being actively involved with a nominated person/person representing it. The email will be posted at the bottom of the minutes for everyone's reading. *It was also agreed that SA would post link with regards to the survey.

Action Points

- PH to send HC an electronic copy of the proposed SW Regions Constitution
- ME to make amendments to the proposed Constitution and share on FB or via email
- PH to check with Karen England if she could sort the voting sheets before Saturday 19th March for Norris Bradley Shield nomination
- TS to organise the posters to promote the SW Regional Series
- HC to continue looking at the number of riders' entries and subsequent revenue
- TS to ask Dan McBride to present the trophies
- PH to ask Rob Flavell to arrange the email forwarder for the generic SW email address
- SA to send DC the available Saturdays for RSR
- SA to post link for the NBMXC survey to SW FB page and share to the regions clubs
- HC to purchase suitable megaphone for use in the pens
- TS to book the Elmore club for the next Committee meeting and to confirm

Next Committee Meeting Date: [Monday 25th April 2016](#) venue Elmore Club, Tiverton.

This is the email as to referred to in NBMXC as above:
On Monday, March 7, 2016 7:40 PM, NBMXC Secretary <info@nbmxc.org> wrote:

Open letter to the Southwest BMX regional committee

March 7th 2016

Re: Consultation into the formation of a national BMX council

Dear Southwest BMX,

We're writing to each BMX regional committee to find a way that your region can input into the idea for the creation of a National BMX council. You may have seen the idea on social media or on our website www.nbmx.org. If not, we'd encourage you to take a look at our proposal and consultation and give us your thoughts.

Our steering group met last weekend to discuss the progress of the consultation and to discuss what more we can do to engage with the BMX regions. The suggestion from the meeting was to contact each region and ask their view on the following suggestion;

"We'd like to formalise the relationship of the proposed BMX council by gaining official representation from within each region's elected committee. We propose that each region elect a representative who will join the NBMXC steering group and represent the views of

their region to the group and in turn disseminate their discussions back to their region's committees."

1. We're completely open to who you choose to nominate and how they are selected but encourage you to do it in a democratic way.
2. A potential conflict has been suggested to the independence of the NBMXC if the region's selected representative is also a member of the BMX commission. We ask that you consider this within your committee and decide for yourselves if you believe a conflict exists.
3. We will respect and welcome whoever your region puts forward to represent you whether they are on the commission or not.

The workload is minimal with most of our discussions conducted in an informal Facebook group and via email and video conference.

We intend to meet 4-6 times a year but are yet to agree a formal schedule or whether the council will even be formed!

Today we simply want to formalise our dialogue with your region and help ensure the NBMXC proposal is aligned to the best interests of your members.

You may find these links helpful to understand the current situation:

<http://www.nbmx.org/#!/proposal/dux7x>

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/nbmxorg>

http://media.wix.com/uqd/c189a7_493866c5188a479caec1b368910ab507.pdf

We look forward to hearing your region's views and hope that we will be able to work with you for the good of our sport.

If you have questions, please email us at info@nbmx.org or visit our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/nationalbmxcouncil/>

Yours sincerely

Dan Harris

