

## SOUTH WEST REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

7<sup>th</sup> November 2016

ELMORE FOOTBALL CLUB, TIVERTON



### Present

Hugh Copping (Chairperson), Tim Sampson (Vice Chairperson), Sharon Avery (Secretary), Lesley Reynolds (Treasurer), Justin Gatting (Assistant Treasurer), Gary Phillips (Bristol), Steve Leggett (Commissaire), Andy Parker (BC), Bethan Hallett (Riders Rep), Paula Hallett (Tiverton), Sam Leggett (Tiverton), Steve Leggett (Chief Commissaire), Jason Roberts (Cornwall), Vanessa Harrison (Braunton), Chris Draper (Torbay), Lisa Draper (Torbay), Val Hommell (Points Secretary), Annie Dodd (Bath), Karen Powell (Llynfi) and Ryan Powell (Llynfi)

### Apologies

Matthew Rowlands (Llynfi), Lee Sweetland (Llynfi), Sue Cornelius (Burnham), Michelle Fryer (Burnham), Neil Forsyth (Decoy), Charlie Leggett (Riders Rep), Mark England (Cornwall) and Carl Harris (Exeter).

Discussion	Actions:
<p><b>RACE DATES</b></p> <p><i>Regional dates confirmed:</i> 12 March - Exeter 9 April - Torbay 30 April - Cornwall 7 May - Turnham 14 May - Tiverton 25 June - Bideford 9 July - Bath</p> <p><i>Regional dates to be confirmed:</i> Bristol - 4 June Decoy - 18 June Llynfi - 6 August</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. GP to confirm Bristol swap with Decoy</li><li>2. Llynfi to confirm August date</li></ol>
<p><b>SERIES QUALIFICATION</b></p> <p><b>It was voted by 10 votes to 8 that a rider must race in a minimum of seven of the ten SW regional rounds to qualify for the series trophies.</b></p>	

## SW CHAMPIONSHIPS

**It was agreed that we drop the rule that you need to compete in 3 SW rounds to qualify for the champs** - riders only need to be registered with a SW club. It was agreed that riders from other regions should be able to participate. Out of region riders can be placed and get a trophy but only a rider registered to a SW club can take the SW1 plate.

After further discussion and a vote, **it was agreed that out of region riders must ride in two SW rounds to qualify for the SW Champs** (11 votes for 2 rounds, 5 votes for one round, 1 vote for 3 or more rounds).

## NOVICE RACING

HC proposed that novice racing is no longer offered.

SL proposed that we drop novice racing for Male 12 and above, as experience proves that the younger children are motivated by a medal and the less intimidating atmosphere. He also proposed that novice riders are not allowed to wear clips regardless of their age.

**Agreed – Novice riders cannot ride in clips.**

AP explained that BC priority was for more local/club racing before children reach regional level racing; and that certain standards would be introduced before children can move to regional level. HC/BH agreed that this pathway would mean that novice racing not necessary but exception could be that parents allowed on start hill for 6 and unders, as long they can't push or shout. A Commissaire to supervise.

It was pointed out that if you start novice in one year, you will not be able to ride nationally the following year. (Riders must have done 5 expert races, but once you have ridden in one national, you are then able to ride any.) It was deemed the responsibility of the club to advise new riders/parents.

BH reiterated the value of the current pathway; novice to expert to national.

SL highlighted that riding regionally does not ensure you are ready to ride nationally.

RP pointed out there were pros and cons to novice racing. On one hand, his son didn't benefit until riding with experts - on the other, racing with experts immediately may well have put him off.

HC asked at what point novices should be riding expert and proposed that if a novice wins 3 consecutive races, they should be forced to ride expert. Only two people agreed in a vote; it was agreed there were too many variables to make this a rule.

LR asked if a novice can race in the SW Champs and it was confirmed that all novices can race but only as experts. GP pointed out that you can only ride one season as a novice although there was agreement that this could be discretionary for the under 6s.

**Agreed – Novice remains, with current classes, for the 2017 series but no Novice racing at SW Championships.**

## RIDING UP

Val questioned the rule that if riders ride up all year, they could still choose to ride down for the SW Champs. After discussion, PH pointed out that the SW Champs is the time to celebrate the best person in their age group so it should be continued. **It was agreed to keep this option.**

HC queried the amount of riding up that happens, what are the rules and how much discretion is required.

SA said all riders who wish to ride up must have come first or second in their previous year and have a coaches recommendation. The committee can exercise discretion on any riders who fall outside this criteria. After discussion about the pros and cons, SL asked if all riders should return to their correct age and group at the start of next season.

VH was concerned about how this would affect female riders who choose to race with the males.

All riders have the option to change their race age after the first race of the season.

Val questioned the rule that if riders ride up all year, they could still choose to ride down for the SW Champs. After discussion, PH pointed out that the SW Champs is the time to celebrate the best person in their age group so it should be continued. This was agreed.

**It was agreed that all riding up rules will stay the same.**

## NATIONAL COUNCIL

PH is due to attend a meeting of the South West Cycling Board on Wednesday 9 November, in advance of the National Council meeting on the 19 November.

It was agreed Mark England could replace PH as the SW BMX representative.

PH read out the three agenda items which concern BMX - put back 16 places per age group in the World Champs, give back national series points to the 7 and under age groups, and reverse the latest series restrictions. **Committee happy to support all three items.**

(The decision to limit numbers from 16 per age group was made after safeguarding issues at Zolder where there were not enough adults allowed by UCI to properly supervise the number of children. UCI have now reneged on this ruling so that the appropriate number of adults can now be present; thus it is hoped that the numbers can rise to 16 again.)

GP asked if BC would continue to use national series points to allocation world champ places, or return to national rankings. The committee believes it will continue to be based on national series.

**AOB**

Val would like to access the BC event management system which only HC currently has access. Only HC currently has access, presumably due to data protection issues. BC may look to change this but it will take a long time. HC will share access with VH.

Website - the option to upgrade the website was considered by RF who has offered to make necessary changes within existing website.

SA asked if we could introduce another trophy at the end of each season; Rider of the Year (Junior and Senior). This is in addition to Team/Club/Dedicated Person of the Year. **This was agreed.**

HC stated that he will be collecting the remaining national trophies at the next Manchester Winter Series round.

**It was agreed to discuss RSR and the Brits at the next meeting.**

BEM Meeting - Phil Townsend from British Cycling want to host a meeting in November or December. **It was agreed to delay this until January, if possible.**

HC invited clubs to show an expression of interest in hosting the SW Champs at the next committee meeting.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 9th January 2017. Elmore Football Club.

TS to book the room.