



Present

Committee: Hugh Copping (Chairperson), Tim Sampson (Vice Chairperson), Sharon Avery (Secretary), Justin Gating (Assistant Treasurer), Steve Leggett (Chief Commissaire), Val Hommell (Points Secretary)

Bath: Ben Leach

Bideford: Mark Ellis, Richard Chapple

Bristol: Tracey Kite, Tracey Lovell, Russell Franklin

Cornwall: Mark England

Decoy: Neil Forsyth

Exeter: Carl Harris

Tiverton: Paula Hallett, Bethan Hallett, Sam Leggett, Nikki Sampson, Kelly Ingledew

Torbay: Emma Light, Kirsten Gill

British Cycling: Andy Parker

Apologies

Lesley Reynolds (Treasurer), Matthew Rowlands (Llynfi), Jack Williams (Burnham), Debbie Williams (Burnham), Sue Cornelius (Burnham), Michelle Fryer (Burnham), Rob Flavell (Bideford), Charlie Leggett (Riders Rep), Annie Dodd (Bath), Gary Phillips (Bristol)

Minutes from Annual General Meeting on 7th November July 2016

The minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting were circulated and approved and signed off by the committee.

Chairman's Report

It has been a huge honour to take the reins from Paula (Hallett) and to try and build on the amazing work that she has served BMX in the South West over the last (whisper quietly) 20 years. We have had some amazing turnouts at committee meetings and overall the new core committee of myself, Sharon Avery, Tim Sampson and Lesley Reynolds have learned a lot!

The 2017 season comes to a close with some notable highlights:

- We averaged 269 riders per round across the regional series – a 10% improvement on last year and the highest average of the last 5 years (where we have records available)
- Bristol broke the 300 barrier, with 309 riders at their regional, the largest round of the season and only the second time in 5 years that we have passed the 300 mark.
- Bideford hosted the largest SW Champs since 2013 with 256 entrants, putting on a grand finale that I am sure everyone enjoyed.
- We had the largest number of female entrants in the last 5 years, averaging 43 per round.
- Wales welcomed the South West to Maesteg and to the Llynfi track for their first go at hosting a regional – another great weekend with everyone enjoying a new track and for some who even managed to combine their trip with some MTB.

- Decoy can now claim to have the only 5m start hill in the UK south of Birmingham. This is now a great training facility for those gearing up for Nationals and also provides one of the best tracks for racing our regional series.
- Bath and Torbay saw big increases in the number of riders representing their clubs in the regional series, both clubs more than doubling the number of entrants from last season.
- More to come in Lesley's Treasurers Report but the sterling work that she has put in has seen an increase of our reserves from £2,457.90 at the beginning of the season to £4,226.22.
- Our Interregional team performed well above everybody's expectations, despite being down a rider due to injuries. I am sure they all benefited from the experience at the NCC in Manchester.

With the highlights, we need to identify areas that we as a region need to be working on. In 2018, the region will again go without hosting a National event or the British Championships. There was a time when the region was the envy of the others, regularly hosting National rounds and Cheddar hosting the British Championships. As a region and for all of our clubs we must push, cajole, encourage and do whatever we can to improve the standards of our facilities and our ability to host National events. For the last 4 seasons our riders from Cornwall, Torbay, Exeter and Bideford have had to travel the furthest of all riders competing at all National/Brits events.

Along with our facilities, we must also look at the opportunities we are giving to our riders to develop and train – in comparison to other regions we are lacking in coaches, both in numbers and in experience. Whilst some clubs are performing, the region must be doing more to support and help clubs to improve their offerings to their members.

As a committee I hope we can focus more on these areas as I truly believe this will help us to increase our numbers. In the short term it would be great to be able to average 300 riders at each of our rounds and the SW Champs.

Finally, a massive thank you to everyone on the committee and to all of our clubs for what has been a great first year in the role, but not least to Sharon, Tim and Lesley!

Hugh Copping - Regional Chairman

Treasurers Report

This is the treasurer's report for the South West BMX Association's accounts for the financial year ending 31st December 2017.

Although the beginning of the financial year saw difficulties with accessing the bank accounts, I am pleased to report that myself and Hugh Copping now have full signatory status and that I have been able to set up internet banking access. This means we can make much faster race day revenue payments and clear invoices much quicker than before. Existing payees can be paid via the Lloyds Bank Mobile Phone Banking App so payment requests and invoices can be settled instantly, wherever I am.

I am also pleased to report that we have ended the year with a greater balance than the previous year, the details of which to follow. Through the hard work and dedication of the committee, we have been able to build on the events of last year and have continued to rebuild the operating reserves necessary to ensure the financial stability and security of our organisation.

Opening balance of the SWBMXA's bank accounts at the beginning of the year.

Treasurers Account: The 2017 financial year began with a balance of £2,335.90 in credit.

Bus Bank Account: The 2017 financial year began with a balance of £57.42 in credit. In July (after access was gained) this balance was transferred to the Treasurer's Account so the account now stands empty.

Money raised overall and a breakdown of the funds achieved by each activity throughout the year.

Our total income for the year was £43,255.60. This can be broken down as follows.

Race entry: £38,733.68

Team entry: £550

Cluster session revenue: £270

Brits race shirts: £2,515.50

Brits t-shirts (non-riders): £619

Brits dispensation: £200

Miscellaneous income: £367.42 (Trophy top-ups & Bus Bank account transfer)

Total costs incurred throughout the year with a breakdown of spending.

Total Regional expenditure for 2017 was £41,482.61. This can be broken down as follows:

Club race day revenues: £17,092.90

Levies: £5,033.50

St John Ambulance: £3,207.60

Brits plates & stickers: £2,613

Brits Race shirts: £4,664.90

Brits goodie bags: £826.78

Brits t-shirts: £2,000

SW Champs: £1,346

End of season trophies: £2,817.90

Inter-Regional event costs £1,371.90

Miscellaneous costs: £508.13 (BEM software training, regional meeting room & other sundry expenses e.g. printing ink, stationary, etc.)

Remaining current bank balance.

As of 16.11.2017 the Treasurers Bank Account stands at £5,966.97.

However this doesn't account for an outstanding race day revenue cheque that is still to be banked.

It is, however, included in the above expenses breakdown.

It is believed the true final balance will be £4,719.22 taking this into account.

Looking forward to 2018.

With the internet banking fully set up, it is anticipated that all future race day revenues to clubs will be paid via bacs bank transfer speeding up the time it takes for clubs to get their money they are owed from their efforts with putting on a Regional/Champs event. This will prevent issues of cheques going missing in the post or not being banked for whatever reason.

In summary, I am happy to report a successful year with the financial position of the organisation being slightly stronger as we leave the year than when we entered it.

Lesley Reynolds - Regional Treasurer

2017 SWBMXA Financial Summary

Revenues		Entries						Balance at 01/12/2017					£2,457.90
Date	Club	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	+/-	Total	Expenses	Levies	Club	Region	
12/03/2017	EXETER	282	278	275	283	234	21%	£3,548.00	£300.00	£0.00	£1,796.00	£1,452.00	
09/04/2017	PARKFIELD	269	292	262	-	274	-2%	£3,812.50	£240.00	£511.50	£1,426.00	£2,146.50	
30/04/2017	CORNWALL	209	226	231	220	226	-8%	£2,912.50	£195.00	£382.50	£973.50	£1,744.00	
07/05/2017	BURNHAM	279	281	231	253	260	7%	£3,885.00	£200.00	£504.00	£1,502.50	£2,182.50	
14/05/2017	TIVERTON	290	322	288	280 258	269	8%	£4,121.00	£325.00	£544.50	£1,556.25	£2,239.75	
04/06/2017	BRISTOL	309	261	261	261	284	9%	£4,411.50	£285.00	£567.00	£1,784.25	£2,342.25	
18/06/2017	DECOY	275	243	260	259	252	9%	£3,880.50	£270.00	£496.50	£1,513.00	£2,097.50	
25/06/2017	BIDEFORD	248	223	223	221	240	3%	£3,496.00	£165.00	£442.50	£1,311.75	£2,019.25	
09/07/2017	BATH	290	-	254	-	257	13%	£3,903.00	£267.00	£516.00	£1,505.50	£2,130.50	
06/08/2017	LLYNFI	257	-	-	-	-	-	£3,665.50	£245.00	£486.00	£1,247.75	£2,172.75	
17/09/2017	SW CHAMPS*	256	263	239	236	206	24%	£3,512.00	£165.00	£483.00	£2,476.40	£870.60	
Sub Total		2964	2389	2524	2271	2502		£41,147.50	£2,657.00	£4,933.50	£17,092.90	£21,397.60	
Average		269	265	252	252	250	8%	£38,490.50			Total	£41,147.50	
Other	Team Entries											£550.00	
Other	Cluster Sessions											£270.00	
Other	Brits (Dispensation, Tshirts, Race-shirts, Raceplates)											£3,334.50	
Other	Miscellaneous											£367.42	
Other	Unaccounted *****											£43.18	
Total Revenues												£45,712.60	
											Balance	£48,170.50	

Costs		
Date	Description	Value
Other	Club Raceday Fees	£17,092.90
Other	Raceday Expenses	£2,657.00
Other	Levies (including £10 race fee)	£5,033.50
Other	First Aid	£3,207.60
Other	British Championships - Race Shirts	£4,664.90
Other	British Championships - Race Plates	£2,300.00
Other	British Championships - T Shirts	£2,000.00
Other	British Championships - Goody Bags	£826.78
Other	South West Championships (Club contribution, SW contribution, trophies, engraving etc)	£1,629.00
Other	Miscellaneous	£432.80
Other	Inter-Regional Costs (Travel, Clothing, Expenses)	£1,371.90
Other	End Of Season Trophies	£2,727.90
Total Costs		£43,944.28
Total Profit 2017		£1,768.32
Closing Balance		£4,226.22

Meeting Minutes

Discussion	Actions
<p><u>New Committee Structure</u></p> <p>HC explained the new committee structure that had been voted in at the last committee meeting and the reasons for the change. In summary this was to help us get the best people involved with the right skillsets, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities which will help us to get the best way forward. Whilst clubs will no longer be represented at meetings we will encourage all clubs to attend a committee meeting mid season for them to report back.</p>	-
<p>HC asked all attendees to read the Chairman's/Treasurer's reports. There were no questions.</p>	-
<p><u>Race classes:</u></p> <p>It was agreed at the last committee meeting (30/10/2018) that the following classes would be merged for 2018:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Female 17-24 / Female 25+ / Championship Female: the class will be called 'Female 17+'.2. It was agreed to keep the Cruiser classes for all age groups 17+, but for racing purposes all will run together as 'Supercruiser'. Rider's numbers for 2018 will be reissued with the winner of the 17-29 taking the number 1 plate followed by the rest of the class. Numbers will continue through the age groups down to the Cruiser 50+ class. Riders within the Supercruiser group will not be allowed to ride on a SW1 plate.3. Junior cruiser groups will remain the same as 2017.	Race Organiser to release number plates for newly merged classes.
<p><u>First Aid:</u></p> <p>Exeter arranged their own first aid for the first regional of the year. The remaining clubs were organised centrally by the Race Organiser. HC explained that following the incident at Bath we paid an additional £90 for the ambulance at the SW Champs. Whilst the SWBMXA is not required to provide an ambulance it was agreed that we should continue with the central approach and that we pay the additional fee to guarantee an ambulance attends.</p> <p>Paula Hallett asked that when discussing the first aid with any potential suppliers that we be more specific in what first aid we need. Steve Leggett explained that we must have a spinal board and staff should be able to administer Entonox.</p> <p>Of 8 clubs in attendance, all voted in favour of centralising the FA. 7 clubs were in favour of paying the additional fee for the ambulance.</p>	Race Organiser to arrange quotes from suitable First Aid providers.

Discussion	Actions
<p><u>Novice racing:</u></p> <p>HC explained the BC pyramid structure for rider development and that Novice racing should take place at club level.</p> <p>Advantages of removing Novice Racing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saves time on raceday • Less Grand Prix racing • Makes racing more competitive with more expert riders <p>Advantages of keeping Novice Racing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited club racing opportunities for new riders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bristol Winter / Summer racing ○ Cornwall Brass Monkey Series Exeter Winter Series • Clubs get 100% of the revenues (not shared with the region, except for BC levies) • Riders get a medal or reward for competing, encourages them to compete again • Opportunity for the really young ones to have a go with parental support on the hill <p>Sam Leggett explained that we needed more clubs to offer Go Ride racing before we could remove Novice Racing.</p> <p>HC/CH explained that club racing was a great revenue earner for the clubs. CH suggested that we shouldn't get rid of Novice racing in the short term but look at a 3 year plan to stop it, giving clubs sufficient time to ty and put racing in place.</p> <p>All 8 clubs in attendance voted to maintain Novice Racing for 2018.</p>	

Riding Up:

In the 2017 regional series 'riding up' in older age classes was allowed for the top two riders of each class (plus riders who had ridden up from the previous years); up to a maximum of two age groups (there had been exceptions and these sought by exceptional riding by individuals and was agreed by whichever committee, club coach and Chief Commissaire).

In previous seasons a rider who had earned the option to race up a class in the new season could then revert back to their own age group at the 2nd round of the series. The region had problems with this in 2017 as it wasn't clear if it was round 2 of the series or the riders 2nd round that they could then revert back.

HC said that this should be made clearer this year dependent on the regions decision, so that riders and parent would not be able to manipulate this.

It was discussed how 'riding up' should be allowed for 2018 season.

HC said it could be easier to let each rider choose which age group they wanted to race whether it be their current age group or an older one regardless to where they had finished in the previous season.

A few issues where highlighted:

- Would some parents push where perhaps a child wasn't ready.
- Some age groups were already suffering and could become even more vulnerable in numbers.
- Riders going up too many age groups (BC guidelines of allowing for two years only to safe guard under 17's
- Another issue which wasn't clear was on whether there was an issue with say a 15 yr old winning an elite purse?

It was agreed that HC would look more in depth to these rulings and seek further advise if needed for clarity on this for future reference.

Once discussed 3 options were chosen to vote on:

1. To reset and have all regional riders in 2018 to ride their own age category
 - a. The pros for this was it would possibly re-strengthen ability and numbers in ages.
 - b. The negatives- certain riders would find the racing far to easy and in challenging for their ability which may then reflect with riders not wanting to race, only doing necessary qualifying rounds or riding out of region.

Core committee to update Riders Guide to reflect new ruling.

Discussion	Actions
<p>c. No votes</p> <p>2. Remain with the previous season option of top two gain the automatic right to ride up and an option of additional riders may do so with their coaches recommendation.</p> <p>a. BC follow similar guidelines to this within the national series.</p> <p>b. 3 votes</p> <p>3. Anyone can ride up but no more than 2 years would be allowed, upon request with clubs Head Coach approval. ie. someone racing age 10 category can race 11 & 12 but not 13's</p> <p>- reasons that were taken into consideration were:-</p> <p>a. clip shoes for younger riders</p> <p>b. being within suitable age ranges (safeguarding ie issues in the pens, age appropriate behaviour)</p> <p>c. 5 votes</p> <p>Option chosen: Allow riders to ride up within two years.</p> <p>It was discussed that whatever the decision, the core committee, a club head coach and Chief Commissaire would be able to override a decision should a request be made to ride up.</p> <p>The next point discussed within the riding up, was whether a rider should stay in their chosen category or if they could go back to their original category at a latter point during the season.</p> <p>The options were put to the clubs and voted on:</p> <p>1. Option 1- Riders being able to change back. (2 votes)</p> <p>2. Option 2- Riders choose which group they will ride in and remain in that group for the whole season. (5 votes)</p> <p>Rulings for out of region riders - they too can ride in any age group they wish with the two year limit - again requests can be made for dispensation for this but final decision will be down to the core committee, a leading coach and Chief Commissaire. They will also remain in that class for any of the regional rounds they attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Val did say she had struggled with this in the past to monitor but agreed it was fairer to everyone and would look to see if anything else could be put in place to help. <p>The core committee will go over these and try to put in the suitable wording so Riders/ parents don't have any leeway to manipulate before putting into the riders guide.</p>	

Discussion	Actions
<p><u>South West Championships</u></p> <p>2007 - Cheddar 2008 - Cheddar 2009 - Duchy 2010 - Torbay 2011 - Tiverton 2012 - Bideford 2013 - Burnham 2014 - Decoy 2015 - Exeter 2016 - Cornwall 2017 – Bideford</p> <p>HC suggested that we should maybe look at club rotation for hosting the SW Champs as Bath, Bristol and to an extent Llynfi, haven't hosted the SW Champs in over 10 years. All clubs voted in favour of continuing with the existing application process.</p>	
<p><u>Finish Line Cameras</u></p> <p>Propose to use a camera (ideally a tablet device) to help finish line results for all Finals. Where the result is disputed the riders can query at the time (within 15 min of the final) but in the event of any uncertainty with the camera view, the finish line team result will stand.</p> <p>All 8 clubs voted in favour of using a finish line camera. The committee will work on the detail and confirm within the regulations for 2018.</p> <p>Steve Leggett asked that we continue with the Finish Line team and that the Finish Line team has the final say should there be any uncertainty with the cameras. He also asked that we have a finish line course for our clubs and that Phil Townsend would run for us.</p>	<p>Steve Leggett to arrange a Finish Line course.</p>

Discussion	Actions
<p><u>Race Fees</u></p> <p>HC asked whether we should change the race fees for 2018. After much discussion it was agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase 17+ expert entry fees by £1.50 to cover the full value of the levy. 6 clubs voted in favour. 2. To increase the price of racing for all riders. 1 club voted in favour, 7 against. 3. For Elite riders, all clubs agreed that it should go to £18 on the day – the increase of the £1.50 levy. <p>Fees in 2018 will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert 16 & Under - £13.50 prereg / £21.50 otd • Expert 17 & Over - £15.00 prereg / £23.00 otd • Elite - £18.00 otd • Double 16 & Under - £23.00 prereg / £33.00 otd • Double 17 & Over - £26.00 prereg / £36.00 otd • Novice - £13.50 prereg / £14.50 otd 	
<p><u>Committee Expenses</u></p> <p>To bring this in line with other regions, should committee members be given expenses for the voluntary work that they are contributing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South – 2 riders free race day entry each regional 2. Midlands – children’s race fees given free for each regional 3. North – mileage paid for every committee meeting <p>With the SW being far bigger in comparison to the three examples we would need to budget accordingly.</p> <p>All 8 clubs voted in principle of paying an expense to committee members. The committee need to finalise the plan report back to the clubs.</p>	<p>Treasurer to give some budget examples on costs incurred in giving expenses to committee members</p>

Discussion	Actions
<p><u>Teams</u></p> <p>HC asked those present whether we continue with the same approach as 2017 - £50 entry per team and no limit on the number of riders/ double bikes.</p> <p>7 clubs voted in favour of increasing Team entry fee to £60 as there hadn't been a price increase of three years.</p> <p>5 of the 8 clubs present voted in favour of staying with the same as 2017 where a team can register 10 riders at the beginning of the season, where riders are eligible to ride two bikes. Teams 7 best scores will count per regional.</p>	
<p><u>Race dates</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the following rounds would be held.</p> <p>Round 1 – TORBAY - 04/03/2018 Round 2 – LLYNFI - 08/04/2018 Round 3 – EXETER - 29/04/2018 Round 4 – CORNWALL - 06/05/2018 Round 5 – BATH - 13/05/2018 Round 6 – BURNHAM - 20/05/2018 Round 7 – DECOY - 24/06/2018 Round 8 – BIDEFORD - 01/07/2018 Round 9 – BRISTOL - 22/07/2018 Round 10 – TIVERTON - 29/07/2018 South West BMX Championships - Date and Venue to be confirmed</p>	

At this point all committee stood down.

2018 Committee Election

	Positions	Nominee**	Proposed By	Seconded By	Result
1	Chairperson	Hugh Copping	Tim Sampson	Sharon Avery	Hugh Copping remains
2	Vice Chairperson	Sharon Avery	Tim Sampson	Steve Leggett	Sharon Avery elected
3	Secretary	Vicky Hunt	Neil Forsyth	Tim Sampson	Vicky Hunt elected
4	Treasurer	Lesley Reynolds Nikki Sampson	Ben Leach Kelly Ingledew	Sharon Avery Steve Leggett	Nikki Sampson elected
5	Race Organiser	Russell Franklin Neil Forsyth			Agreed to share role
6	Points Secretary	Val Hommell			Val Hommell remains
7	Chief Commissaire	Steve Leggett			Steve Leggett remains
8	Regional Welfare Officer	Nikki Powell	Steve Leggett	Neil Forsyth	Nikki Powell elected
9	Regional Coaching Manager	Tim Sampson			Tim Sampson remains
10	Brits Organiser	Lesley Reynolds Kelly Ingledew	Ben Leach Nikki Sampson	Sharon Avery Neil Forsyth	Kelly Ingledew elected
11	PR / Comms / Social / Webmaster	Rob Flavell	Neil Forsyth	Tim Sampson	Rob Flavell elected with support from Natasha Milne
12	Branding / Funding Coordinator	Mark England	Steve Leggett	Neil Forsyth	Mark England elected

Meeting ended.