

**Meeting of AMCA Board of Directors held at the AMCA Office, Cannock  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014, 10.00am.**

Attended by: D. Green – Chairman, Directors: N.Webster (Vice Chairman), C.Davis, C.Price, R.Pugh, M.Penn, D.Moreton, M.Humphries, S.Cannings.

Apologies received from M.Brettle.

S.Potts – Gen.Mg.

A.Griffiths and S.Harvey joined the meeting for relevant agenda items.

**WEB NOTES OF THE MEETING**

1. Notes of the previous meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were approved after including a change of wording to Item 3.5 Staff Levels suggested by Malcolm Brettle. The words 'foreseeable future' are to be changed to 'but will be subject to review' . (Full version and edited web version).

M.Humphries proposed the approval of the minutes with R.Pugh Seconding – all in favour, APPROVED.

2. MATTERS ARISING from the previous minutes not covered elsewhere on this Agenda.

2.1 Motoduro / hare & hounds seminar took place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December – S.Potts updated the Board on the seminar detailing who had attended and that the feedback was positive. Three officials attended from each of the Cotswold and Exmoor Clubs. It was agreed that the Southern Counties could use their ACU qualifications in place of attending an AMCA seminar but this only applies to this club. Three clubs – Chiltern Hills, Blackheath and Stourbridge did not attend the seminar. C. Davis proposed that all clubs must send a representative to a Stewards seminar before running events and ensure that a qualified Steward is present at their events.

Seconded by M.Humphries, 7 in favour, 1 against – CARRIED.

C.Price raised the issue of communication with non- MX clubs and the need for improvement.

2.2 Timing Bus – N.Webster had asked if the office can explore what is involved in having more seats put into the Timing Bus as having only one seat in it restricts it's usefulness – the office have investigated over the winter period and asked several coachbuilders for quotes to upgrade / convert the vehicle – unfortunately none are prepared to quote for the level of work required due to the age of the vehicle.

N.Webster stated that he had a contact at a coachbuilding company who is prepared to quote for the work, he will also enquire as to changing the classification of the vehicle so that it can be used for the transportation of equipment.

2.3 Carried over from last meeting – Logbuy member reward scheme. The merits of AMCA joining this scheme were discussed but it was not felt that it is a priority at this time.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

3.1 Accounts – update received from A.Griffiths, he confirmed that there had been no queries to date received from the Auditors on the information they had been provided with. A.G. went through the previously distributed pre-audited year end accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013, the overall loss stands at -£3,788 (consolidated pre-audited figure), this is before corporation tax which is yet to be confirmed.

The meeting then went on to examine a draft budget, A.G. went through the budget line by line answering any queries that arose. A.G. advised that assumptions had been made as to anticipated cost increases where these are not known and that a new power deal for electricity had been negotiated along with a merchant services change in supplier. Next year will also see the first year of transponder renewal costs appearing in the accounts. S.Potts advised that the figures relating to licences are very difficult to budget as 2014 sees significant changes to the Motocross licensing with the reintroduction of the B licence and it is very difficult to estimate the impact at this stage. The early bird discount offered to 'A' licence holders has been applied to the figures though and was included in the budget as a reduction.

A.G. asked that any further questions be directed to either himself or S.P.

Following any feedback from Directors, an updated / amended budget will be issued for final approval at the next Director's meeting.

3.2 AGM – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014 10am – administration process has begun with initial letter out to clubs sent on 27<sup>th</sup> November. Nomination form for Directors to go out shortly. C.Price is due for re-election and S.Cannings (currently co-opted) is also seeking election.

The number of Directors coming to the end of their terms over the next three years was discussed and the disparity in the numbers every year e.g. this year only one Director coming to the end of his term, 2015/2016 five are coming to an end. It was agreed that when that point arises if there are still five Director's coming to the end of their term that one will be extended for another year to even out numbers.

3.3 INSURANCE – an update on claims and premiums was given by S.Potts. S.Potts was accompanied by M.Penn to the last claims meeting with Doodson BG..

3.4 LAND UPDATE – sale of Manmoel is underway.

Breakhill – office proposed not to renew lease for coming year, meeting agreed. Any equipment that is on site will need to be removed.

Coppull track – office has negotiated to take a new exclusive lease for the use of this track.

The subject of non AMCA clubs hiring AMCA owned and leased venues was raised. BSMA and others had approached the AMCA office recently regarding Nympsfield, Bromsberrow and other venues and are awaiting a decision as to whether they will be granted permission to hire them. This was discussed at length, a proposal came forward from C.Davis to uphold the current principles in place for land usage i.e. AMCA clubs only, this was jointly seconded by M.Penn and D.Moreton, 5 voted in favour, 3 against with 1 abstention – CARRIED.

C.Price suggested that a different criteria be used for leased tracks but this was withdrawn.

C.Price explained that clubs in his area had requested use of Nympsfield but had been met with very high grading costs from the host club. Similar difficulties had been experienced when dealing with host clubs at other venues. It was suggested that clubs seeking a use of an AMCA owned track should approach the office rather than the host club.

MCI are looking for new venues for the Motorcycle Off Road Experience four day event in June, ideally one North and one South, Upavon and Bevercotes have been suggested.

3.5 BIKE SHOWS – from N.Webster a request for AMCA office / Directors to go to more shows and to get out in the field more often e.g. Telford Show.

There was no support to attend more shows at the present time, it was suggested that literature be given to AMCA clubs attending shows for them to distribute.

During this discussion the Directors moved on to the provision of a vets class at modern events and how this might boost rider numbers. It was agreed that all groups would be asked to run this class at the next Motocross Committee meeting in February. The class can include any rider aged 40 and over, they can ride any machine including modern, evo's, twinshock and super evo's.

3.6 SKEGNESS BEACH RACE – discuss the recently distributed profit and loss account for the 2013 event. S.Potts told the meeting that the same level of sponsorship from ELDC and Doodson will be available for 2015. N.Webster proposed with S.Canning seconding that the Beach race go ahead in 2014, 6 voted in favour, 2 abstained, CARRIED.

3.7 CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEES SPLIT – from Mike Humphries a request for the club / office entry fee split to be examined.

M.Humphries read out the amount credited to clubs who had ran Championships in 2013. S.Harvey explained that with the qualifying criteria for 2014 reverting back to 2012, this will result in less riders than 2013.

M.Humphries proposed with M.Penn seconding that Championship riders be included in the rider number count for calculating the club return, 7 voted in favour, 1 abstained – CARRIED.

3.8 CLASSIC FIXTURE AND ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE – from D.Green and S.Potts.

D.Green told the meeting that fifteen clubs had attended the meeting and a fixture list containing 47 fixtures had been agreed. At the meeting the clubs had agreed that if a club doesn't run an event then they cannot issue scrambles licences. It was also agreed by the Classic clubs to implement a £20 surcharge on the standard entry fee for a one day licence.

3.9 SUPPORT FOR CLASSIC DES NATIONS – support required for 2014 round in Germany, suggested donation in line with last year - £1,000 plus entry fees of £800-£900. The fund raising effort is looking to raise between £8,000 and £9,000 and have indicated that they would be very happy with this level of support for next year. In 2015 the Mortimer Club will be running the event near Reading.

C.Davis proposed with M.Humphries seconding that we proceed with the suggested donation detailed above – all voted in favour – CARRIED.

This next item was brought forward at the request of the Chairman.

3.12 UPTON MOTOSPORTS CLUB – the club has written to Don Green asking if the Board can overrule the decision made at the 31st August motocross committee meeting to uphold the fine imposed by the AMCA office. S.Potts has written to the club and informed them that the Directors cannot overturn this decision as it is not a safety or financial matter but that the Directors would be made aware of the letter at their next meeting. The Directors agreed with the content of the letter already issued to the club and asked that the club be written to again reiterating this.

D.Green excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

3.10 RULE CLARIFICATION - from Mike Penn a request to clarify that winter events do not qualify for the minimum guarantee. Also that the end of the main season be changed from end of November to Remembrance Sunday now that there is a different rate payable for winter events.

Also following the Shrewsbury motoduro which ran on Remembrance Sunday, suggestion that events can run if a club liaises with local British Legion, is mindful of local Church services, observes two minutes silence and ideally the event not to start until after 11am.

Clarification is as follows:

Main season is 1st February up to and including the Sunday before Remembrance Sunday.

Winter season is Remembrance Sunday to 31<sup>st</sup> January inclusive.

Events can run on Remembrance Sunday so long as two minutes silence is observed and activity stops for fifteen minutes either side of this.

N.Webster proposed the above with C.Price seconding, 6 voted in favour, 2 against CARRIED.

3.11 HAWKSTONE PARK – AMCA have been granted a usage on 7/8<sup>th</sup> June at a cost of £10,800 including VAT. Three Groups have already expressed an interest in helping run the event and it is proposed that on one of the two days an MX1 IMBA round is run. Does the Board of Directors approve the office proceeding with the booking?

R.Pugh proposed with C.Price seconding that AMCA office proceed with the booking, 6 voted in favour, 2 abstained – CARRIED.

3.13 65cc BIKES / 7 to 10 YEARS AT MX EVENTS TRIAL – four events took place and the Group now want to request that 65cc bikes (7 to 10 yrs) be allowed to run with 85cc / 150 cc machines (Inters). This would mean that the inters age limit when running 65cc machines would reduce to 13 years (if no 65cc machines age remains as is). Alternatively, 65cc races (to include Autos) be allowed to run at events with the 7 to 10 age limit in place.

Third option to allow to continue as per trial (no Autos).

The Group extend their thanks to N.Webster and R.Pugh for attending the four trial events.

Office comment - this decision may impact on track marking specification – S.Harvey to join the meeting.

S.Harvey outlined the rules in relation to these machines currently followed by other organisations and explained how further amendments to AMCA's current rulebook may impact on track marking specification.

N.Webster proposed with C.Price seconding that 65cc machines be permitted to ride with the Inter Juniors with the current age group of 9-13 years, 3 voted in favour, 3 voted against and 2 abstained - therefore the current rules remain.

N.Webster then proposed that the trial that had been taking place in the North Wales / North Shropshire Group be discontinued, C.Price seconded this proposal and it was unanimously agreed by the meeting – CARRIED.

3.14 DIRECTORS MEETINGS 2014 – next meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> February, D,Green suggests minimum of four meetings per year.

The Motocross Committee Meeting is due to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> February, a decision will be made following the meeting as to whether a Director's meeting is required on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

S.Potts read out two requests, one from the Central Group and one from the South Shropshire Group asking for a discussion on the future of AMCA motocross and what could be done to encourage more riders to enter events.

The Groups had requested that a sub committee be formed but the consensus of the Director's meeting was that a sub committee should not be formed and that this is the sort of debate for the Motocross Committee.

It was suggested by S.Potts that an open forum type of debate take place in the afternoon following the normal business of the Motocross Committee meeting. The debate would be open to anyone who had an interest to attend. The Directors agreed that this was a good way to proceed and would give people the opportunity to discuss their concerns over rider numbers.

## **A.O.B**

IMBA report – deferred to next meeting.

Advertisement in TMX over the Christmas period – S.Potts gave out copies of the advert which featured the fixture lists.

Nick Webster said that the West Lancs club will be ceased as a club due to the fact that the club hasn't ran events and has a longstanding outstanding debt to the AMCA. The riders will be invited to join another club and the debt written off. N.Webster will confirm that this is the course of action he wants the office to take two weeks after his Group meeting thus allowing sufficient time for someone to come forward who may wish to run the club.

END OF MEETING 4.50pm.

Date of next Director's meeting - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – To be confirmed following MXC meeting.

(Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February – MMX Comm.mtg)

(Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March – AGM)