

Notts Derby Cyclo-Cross League Meeting

7:30pm – 26 Jan 2017 at The Red Cow, Allestree

Present:

Chair: Gavin Hardwicke - Fossa Racing

Admin: Richard Shenton - Beeston CC / Beeston RC; Sarah Naylor - Fossa Racing

Comms: Neil Mansfield - MI Racing Academy

Events: Madeline Smith – Bolsover and District

Finance: Heather Howarth-Downey - Nottingham Clarion

Logistics: Andy Naylor - Fossa Racing

Officials: Mac Lambert - Heanor Clarion

Results: Heather Wimble - Cadence Sport

League members: Peter Steed, Tim Cooper - Bolsover and District; Fred Lambert, Ian Bradley - Heanor Clarion; Martin Howarth - Nottingham Clarion; Pete Turner - Derby Mercury RC; Rob Wimble, - Cadence Sport; Chris Watts – Matlock CC; Mick Gascoine; Karen Lifford - British Cycling; Graham Snodden - SRAM

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from John Holmes – Empella, Alan Maddocks and Russell Cox.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 15th December, 2016

The minutes were accepted a true reflection of the meeting held on 15th December, 2016.

3. Matters arising

All matters arising were either actioned or are included in the agenda of this meeting.

4. Team Update: Admin

Sarah Naylor / Gavin Hardwicke –Presentation evening: Trophies have been collected by David Jack at League events and will be returned to Sarah Naylor later this week. The mixed team trophy is missing and a new U23 Women's trophy has been ordered at cost of approximately £100. Tickets have gone on sale via the website. Roller racing is being sourced and sorted. RS offered to assist set up and take down.

5. Team Update: Logistics

Andy Naylor – The rota for assisting in the erection and dismantling of League equipment at events worked well although there was some confusion in the middle of the season. BCC and Fossa are still to be invoiced for tape. Mick Gascoine announced that he is stepping down from his role in the logistics team. Gavin officially thanked him for all his years of service to the League. A discussion about how to fill the gap followed, which focussed on the possibility of asking organisers to collect the equipment from a central point. Andy offered to explore costs of renting a secure container.

ACTION: Andy Naylor to explore container possibility to store equipment.

6. Team Update: Officials

Mac Lambert – Members of the judging team are thinking of retiring so replacement volunteers will be required in the near future. Chip timing ran a bit better towards the end of the season. But, Heather Wimble pointed out that there is at least one query per race that requires her to refer to the manual results.

ACTION: Begin the process of recruiting volunteers to be trained as line judges.

7. Team Update: Results

Heather Wimble – Hoping that the final results will be ready by next week. Averages are still causing problems as riders are not signing on as volunteers. The system needs to be strictly standardised to make it easier for the results team.

8. Team Update: Finance

Heather Downey: Current bank balance stands at £12,463. Levies are still outstanding from rounds 10 and 11. An appeal for suggestions concerning Frank Griffiths' legacy resulted in 24 comments. Heather also asked if the presenter at the presentation evening could request further comments via a suggestion box that will be available on the night.

9. Team Update: Communications

Neil Mansfield: The spread of people in the team has been good although there is a requirement for more race reporters. Steve Kirk has been working on the back-end of the website. The Facebook NDCXL Buy and Sell page has gone down well.

ACTION: Begin to recruit more race reporters.

10. Team Update: Events

Madeline Smith: Thanks to Sarah Naylor for all the work she has done with the sign on spreadsheets and budget / rider number spreadsheet. Maddi will be testing Sarah's gridding spreadsheet in the run up to the AGM just in case there is a need for it.

ACTION: Maddi to test gridding spreadsheet.

11. One bike 'cross

Madeline Smith reported that Isla Rowntree, an advocate for the 'category' in the west midlands, said that one bike cross started well at the West Mids League but there were timing chip issues. Sarah Naylor asked if there would be an additional league and Maddi explained that there would be no league, no special gridding and no prizes: it would be a standalone 'competition' policed by the riders. Maddi to raise a proposal at the AGM.

12. U12 gridding – review

Tim Cooper described the U12 gridding experiment as "hugely successful". Gridding the riders takes less time than expected and there has been lots of positive feedback. Tim is happy to do the same next season and will raise a proposal at the AGM that will include the issue of how to grid the first round.

13. Presentation evening –planning update

See item 4 above.

14. Youth and Female Representation on the Committee

Tim Cooper felt that youth and female involvement at League committee level should be actively encouraged. It was acknowledged that women are very much involved at decision making level so the focus shifted to young riders (under 18). It was agreed that the current structure of the 'committee', with three named roles at exec level and a number of sections responsible for specific areas, does not lend itself to the appointment of youth/junior committee members. Andy Naylor pointed out that the timing and venue of the meetings make it difficult for youths and juniors to attend. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the League should encourage younger riders to attend meeting by reaching out to them via Facebook and the website.

ACTION: Comms to use Facebook and website to reach out to younger riders.

15. Event Reviews

a. Round 9: Bakewell 27.12.2016

Ian Bradley complained about the position of the signing-on tent as it was on the same road as the start. Chris Watts explained that the club was not allowed to put it on the car park side of the field. Ian also complained about the pits and the lack of consideration by pit users. Chris advised that the landowner did not want the pits on the other side of the road where there is more space for the pits.

b. Round 10: Broxtowe Park 14 Jan 2017

Richard Shenton: From the organiser's point of view it went very well: no significant injuries and lots of positive comments. Still concerned about car parking, which is not really adequate but there are no alternatives. Pete Turner said that the slight tweaks to the course had improved it.

c. Round 11: Chetwynd Barracks 21 Jan 2017

Andy Naylor said that they removed the concrete block that caused an issue last year. Asked about the sale of the land he explained that they have at least three years left.

16. Any Other Business

- *Gavin H:* Spirit of the League – David Belcher was mentioned as a possible recipient.
ACTION: Gavin to work with others to produce nominations for the Spirit of the League.
- *Gavin H:* Date of the AGM - the weekends of 1st or 8th March are possibles – Gav to confirm.
ACTION: Gavin to set date for AGM.
- *Graham Snodden:* The end of the third three year deal with SRAM is imminent. SRAM would like to maintain the relationship so need to discuss the requirements of the League. Should be discussed post-AGM.
- **ACTION:** Sponsorship negotiations with SRAM to begin after the AGM.
- *Karen Lifford* announced that the Leicestershire Cyclo-cross League is now up and running and ready for the 2017-18 season.
- *Ian Bradley* asked if it would be possible to develop a way of encouraging people to ride all season as rider numbers were down at rounds 10 and 11. Graham Snodden suggested offering double points at the last two rounds. Andy Naylor pointed out that races will have to be capped soon for safety reasons, resulting in smaller numbers in the earlier rounds. *Karen Lifford* said that she is working on a method of registration that will enable capping of numbers in races.
- *Andy Naylor* advised that the regional championship events are to be divided into smaller regions because of excessive rider numbers in 2016.
- *Peter Steed* explained that his daughter was disqualified from the U12 race at Chilwell along with one of the Lofthouse brothers. Peter's concerns were at a number of levels but Gavin explained that although the League was sympathetic there is nothing it can do to reverse the position. The League relies on commissaires to run its events and apply BC rules. Within this system the commissaire's decision is final. Karen Lifford advised that there is no recognised process of appeal but complaints should be discussed with Compliance at BC. Nevertheless, Neil Mansfield was concerned at the lack of process in terms of the commissaire dealing with the issue on the day. Karen Lifford advised that commissaire education is something that BC is trying to improve. Neil also observed that both disqualifications occurred as a result of parents making formal complaints – a practice that should be discouraged. Finally, Maddi Smith proposed that although the League cannot reverse the commissaire's decision it could still present the riders with an Ever Present award as they did finish every race of the season. The proposal was carried with eighteen for and two abstentions.
ACTION: Evie Steed and Jack Lofthouse to be presented with an Ever Present award despite being disqualified at round 11.

- *Heather Wimble* briefly explained why it was felt necessary to disqualify Ollie Snodden in the junior race at Chilwell.

Next meeting will be the AGM. Date and venue to be advised.