

1. Apologies – Richard Shenton
2. Annual Team Reviews -
 - a. Admin- Not much to cover, Forme have been ok this year and they are happy to carry on in the future. Queries have been nothing out of the ordinary.
 - b. Logistics – These have all been handled by Forme
 - c. Officials - We are still short of Commissaires
 - d. Results - There were a few changes this year with affiliation and this raised some queries, especially with children. Smartiming worked well for full results provision. The backup video camera was required twice. The gridding evolved during the year but seemed to be working well by the end. The team is ready for next year and will deal with the BC affiliations.
 - e. Finance - (see attached balance sheet) The balance is -£820 on last year. Income was up despite fewer rounds. Outgoings increased due to the extra judging expenses and the purchase of new bike racks. All payments have been made and the accounts closed. Two grants were made to riders to race overseas.
 - f. Communications - The website has been redesigned and it is now easier to find information. Twitter is more automated. A better way to sift emails would be helpful. Facebook is being managed by Tim Cooper.
 - g. Events - Work load is front heavy in the year.
3. Volunteer Team Vacancies
 - a. Secretary – nominations Richard Shenton (proposed J Holmes, second H Wimble) **Vote For 16, Against 0, Abstentions 0**
 - b. Treasurer – nominations Heather Downey (proposed G Hardwicke, second H Dussek) **Vote For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 1**
 - c. Chair – nominations **None**
4. Proposals (for proposal detail see attached document)

Proposal 1: Remove Ever Present Award for All Categories

- GH – Commented that the award is more important for youngsters, it's not such a reward for the older categories
- JH – Proposed that we could make the award for U16s and younger only
- NM – It can be an incentive for the youngsters to race
- IB – It is motivating for adults too
- MP – Awards night shouldn't set what the league does, it can be changed. There is always a drop off at the end of the season and this might encourage people to continue racing. CX is about everyone and we should leave it in.
- MP read out a letter from Tim Elsmore-Martin "the award is for being ever present and encourages people to turn up and race week in week out. Incentive to race is not a bad thing. It is important to get people into cross"
- TC – We could maybe streamline the awards evening
- MP – We could change the award to anyone who starts, and move the collection of the awards to being done as a whole at the end of the evening.

Vote For 0, Against 15, Abstentions 1 - Rejected

Proposal 2 -Withdrawn

Proposal 3: Award Team Prize to Winning Teams Only

- DL – Stated that the presence of the team award to third place for the youths in not promoted
- TC – The award at present adds admin
- AN – Outlined that the awards are done as they are to encourage youngsters to race as teams
- TC – There is currently no list of winners produced at the end of the season
- GH – There is a value to the team prizes for youngsters, but we need to publicise who the winners are
- AN – A list of the awards available could be added to the website

Vote For 0, Against 16, Abstentions 0 - Rejected

Proposal 4: Clarification and Adjustment of the Method of Determining Start Line Gridding Order for Youth and Above

- MP – Enquired why National Riders are ranked first?
- GH – Stated gridding is for safety, and fast riders are generally Nationally Ranked. The Commissaires still have discretion to move riders
- AN – Reiterated that gridding is primarily for safety in league events, and to ensure that riders get off the start cleanly
- JH – Pointed out the Commissaire teams only get a couple of enquiries per race so the system does work

Vote For 16, Against 0, Abstentions 0 - Passed

Proposal 5: Change Deadline for Race Entry from Midnight the Preceding Tuesday to Midnight the Preceding Sunday

- KL – Stated that with this change the event entries may get paid from BC to the organiser before the event
- HW – This change would also help with queries over lost entries
- DG/GH– The time scales are currently tight for sending entry data in, organisers have to be on the ball
- AN – Tuesday was originally chosen to soften the blow of the change to online entry, but this is well accepted and established now
- GH – We should support the event team

Vote For 16, Against 0, Abstentions 0 - Passed

Proposal 6: Introduce Processes to Highlight the BC Rule on Prize Collection and Make Prize Collection Easier

- GH – The league needs to nudge organisers to get info to the league on prizes left after races
- AN – The rules are there around prize collection, riders need to read them
- NM – The league needs to be careful around publicising U16 riders' names and around GDPR compliance
- GH – The league doesn't want to have to chase riders, but we could list the places that have been awarded prizes
- KL – The BC system could be used to publicise prizes

Vote For 16, Against 0, Abstentions 0 – Passed

Proposal 7: Addition of a Separate Women-only Race

- DG – When the league formed it was because there were no CX races in the N&D area, it was there to provide racing where there was none. It could support women's racing
- JM – As a commissaire we should encourage women to race
- GH – The changes made in the past have been successful and grown numbers, this would be the next step
- JH – Women could race the men's race if desired
- AN – This may be against the tech regs and should be checked
- MP – Having top women in the women's race provides better racing

Vote For 16, Against 0, Abstentions 0 – Passed

Proposal 8: Reconfigure the U12 Races by Instituting Separate U8, U10 and U12 races

- DL – Other leagues have a similar format, only problem might be the Sunday closing date for younger children as they may change their minds on racing
- JH – There is a time concern for organisers
- JM – We must be careful of the time pressures we place on them
- NM – We have seen a drop in the numbers of riders, but not in the number of volunteers
- GH – Friday set up is good, but Saturday set up will be harder. Moving the race times earlier in the day could be an issue, and smaller gaps between races
- NM – Some leagues have separate courses
- HD – Stated that while she believes in children's racing, we cannot pressure organisers
- DL – Stated that we need to consider both this and the previous proposal together and that the women's race probably takes precedence

- MP – We need to understand the impact on organisers of the additional women's race. We should advertise the intention to add an U8s, but we need more volunteers
- DG – The early start required will mean some organisers would have to start setting up in the dark
- JM – Practically 0600 or 0630 starts are the same
- NM – With the proposed timing things are tight, it should be noted that the last race might be faster and finish earlier
- DG – Asked if the last race could be moved back?
- GH – Available daylight would be an issue
- RO – With more races, marshals will have to be on course for longer
- CW – Vets race could be 40 min?
- AN – Vets rejected this previously as they preferred 50 min
- AN – We need to allow space between races for course practice time
- MP – Course opening times should be defined
- HD – 1020 start time would be required
- NM - 1020 start would be possible, with a 1540 finish
- GH – Voting on this may not be definitive in terms of timings as things may need to move around
- DL/JH – The proposals have been published so we can make the decision

Vote For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 1 – Passed

Proposal 9: Equalise Prize Money for Male and Female Winners by Changing the Rules Related to the Calculation of Prizes

Proposal 9a: Equalise Prizes for Men and Women

Proposal 9b: Ensure that all Categories with 3-10 (inclusive) Entries Have Prizes have Prizes that are Awarded to Riders in First, Second and Third Positions

- DL – Prizes for the top 3 is encouraging
- AN – Asked for an explanation of how the system would work
- MP – Asked if we couldn't fix the prizes
- AN – Wondered if this achieved what we are trying to do i.e. equalise the prizes
- TC – Wondered about removing prizes and reducing entry fees
- EP – Thought the prize allocations were encouraging for riders
- GH – Asked if we could set the first three men / women equal then gradient down
- MH – Could we pool the numbers in the category, split 50:50 then allocate to the top three men and women?
- AN – the decision between the old system and that proposed here equitable vs equal and they aren't the same
- GH – The current calculation is stand alone; do we want to be progressive?

- HD – Setting figures for fixed prizes isn't fair, but grouping costs per category would be ok
- MH – Could the league create a global pot for prizes and then allocate them centrally
- GH – It wouldn't be the easiest to calculate that way
- MP – Proposed to change 9b to say that per category the top 3 receive the same prizes and then a gradient is applied after
- GH – Locking the top 3 is more fair
- NM – Proposal amended to say top 3 men / women riders in each cat get the same cash value, then prizes are award to the top 20 % according to the algorithm
- AN – Whatever we do it needs to be consistent, transparent and easy for organisers to calculate

Vote For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 1 – Passed

Proposal 10: Reduce the U23 Entry Fee from £16 to £11

- AN – Either the league or the organiser would need to take a hit here due to levies
- MP – Could a similar outcome be achieved using bursaries from the league?
- JH – University students may have entries paid by the university
- EP – Without women the last race will be small and we should encourage riders
- MP – The league finances are good, and these could be used

Vote For 0, Against 14, Abstentions 2 – Passed

5. Event Date Fixing – See attached Calendar
6. AOB
 - a. KL – A East Mids Regional Off-road work group is being created
 - b. KL – BC has issued first aid guidance
 - c. AN – In light of the lack of a chair being appointed in item 3, the league needs to think about how it will run in the absence of a chair
 - d. GH – Can people please collect outstanding trophies to be awarded to people in their clubs
 - e. IB – We need more clubs involved in league meetings, GH – this can be fed back to the new EM Workgroup
 - f. HD – Intends to stand down as treasurer next year
7. Date of next meeting 21st May 2019, 1930 @ Red Cow, Alestree