**Minutes of the NDCXL General Meeting**

**Monday 23rd October, 2019 at 7:00pm**

**The Red Cow, Allestree**

**Present:**

Richard Shenton (Beeston CC) (chair); Andy Naylor (Fossa Racing) (minute taker); Nick Chilton (DMRC); John Holmes (Team Empella); Maddi Smith (Bolsover and District CC); Heather Wimble (Drogon RT); Steve Kirk (Belper BC); Phil Newall (Cycle Derby); Tim Berry (Team Empella); Neil Mansfield (MI Racing); Ian Bradley (Ilkeston CC); Stuart Reeves (Coalville Wheelers); Gavin Hardwick (Fossa Racing); Karen Lifford (British Cycling).

1. **Apologies** received from Emma Payne, Heather Downey and Tim Cooper
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 16 Sep, 2019** were accepted as an accurate

reflection of the discussions that took place – proposed by John and seconded by Andy.

1. **Matters Arising**

* **Vacancies** – Posting of vacancies is ongoing. Quartermaster post has been filled by Nick. Stuart Reeves is now working with Maddie. More volunteers required.
* **Code of conduct -** Karen working on code of conduct text for registration.
* **Regional Champs** – Richard has amended league rule concerning average points.
* **Communications -** Karen to send details on how to contact all riders via BC ‘Dashboard’ to Maddie so the details can be forwarded to organisers.

**ACTION:** Karen to provide instructions on emailing all riders entered in an event.

* **Communications** - Steve has sent out some email distribution lists for checking, more to be sent.
* **Derby Merc at Markeaton?** - Event has been moved to Moorways
* **Ashbourne CC** – Heather D to check if Ashbourne CC have been invoiced as a non-participating club

**ACTION:** Heather D to confirm if Ashbourne CC has been invoiced.

* **Derby City Council** has agreed to the use of their Markeaton based container to store league equipment – confirmed by Nick - see item 8.
* **Commissaire** **training** – Karen confirmed that the training session was a success and included a number of participants from the Notts/Derby region. .
* **Grants for NDCXL riders -** see item 15.
* **V60 race info details** – Richard confirmed that Appendix C has been amended.
* **Pre-race text** **for riders** – Text used last season sent to Emma by Steve Kirk for amendment and distribution to organisers.
* **Presentation medals –** The medals have been ordered by Andy.

1. **Admin Team**

Richard noted that a number of queries have been dealt with. There were issues at Bingham that stemmed from different version of sign on sheets being used by registration and Smartiming.

1. **Communications**

Vacancy notices still to be distributed. NDCXL email distribution lists are still to be sent and checked for some teams.

1. **Results**

Heather reported that the league now has 462 affiliations, which is similar to last year. Heather suggested closing affiliations after round 4 in future as this is the point at which sufficient counting rounds can still be completed. Heather also stated that on-line links from chip timing are sometimes broken and a few results have been wrong, although this isn’t creating an issue.

1. **Finance**

In Heather D’s absence Richard read out her report: Balance £18,118. Levy payments outstanding from Belper, and levy sheet from Empella. All payments are up to date. Invoices are outstanding from first aid. Forme sponsorship is yet to be invoiced. Provision has been made for van hire for event organisers (see item 13) as well as the Frank Griffiths fund (see item 14).

1. **Logistics**

Nick reported that use of the Derby CC storage container at Markeaton Park by NDCXL has been authorised by Christine Chilton. Authorisation from a more senior council employee has been sought but not been forthcoming. Nick reassured the meeting that this was not a concern as Christine is senior enough to authorise the use. Collection of equipment by event organisers is going well but is mostly being moved between organisers, from event to event. So far only two marshal bibs have been lost. Radios have moved into Nick’s remit. Number distribution to continue as is.

1. **Officials**

John reported that there is a continuing issue finding four commissaires to officiate at each event. Current position:

Ilkeston 3 comms

Berry Hill 3 comms

Holme Pierre Pont no chief comm

Moorways 0 comms

Matlock 2 comms

Bolsover 0 comms

Broxtowe 2 comms

Chilwell 3 comms

John will re-send request to trained comms but there aren’t sufficient active comms to fill all slots at each event. This issue could result in the cancellation of events.

1. **U12 Course Practise Arrangements**

The trial separation of U12s from the older categories during early practise for safety reasons has been largely successful with only one negative comment heard. It was noted that the separation brings the league into line with National Trophy events. It was acknowledged that opening the U12 courses at 9:30am put additional pressure on the comms team but Andy noted that if the U12 course inspection is prioritised over the remainder of the course 9:30 opening is possible. Strict separation of the age groups has been difficult to police but the consequence of the separation is a much safer practise period. It was stressed that event organisers, marshals and parents must be made aware of these new arrangements. During the discussion a message from Tim Cooper, who suggested alternatives, was shared.

Following consideration of the feedback it was proposed by John and seconded by Nick that Appendix C of the league’s rules should be amended to make the change in the early practise arrangements permanent:

0930-1000 U12 (only) practise

1000- until U9 gridding starts other cats practise (no U12s)

**13 for / 0 against / 0 abstentions - PASSED**

In addition Heather proposed that, for safety reasons, U12s should not be allowed on the course during later practice periods. Seconded by Ian Bradley.

**13 for / 0 against / 0 abstentions – PASSED**

**ACTION: Richard to amend Appendix C to reflect rule changes.**

1. **Senior / Jun Mens race duration**

Following a successful trial period it was proposed by John and seconded by Chris that Appendix C of the league’s rules should reflect a permanent reduction of the Senior / Junior Men’s race to 50 minutes.

**13 for / 0 against / 0 abstentions - PASSED**

**ACTION: Richard to amend Appendix C**

1. **U12 prizes rule clarification**

There has been some confusion over the rule relating to prizes for U12 races. NDCXL rule 3.4 stipulate that U12s should be awarded ‘prizes’. Traditionally this has been interpreted as ‘goody bags’ for all riders but some event organisers this season have read it as meaning prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. It was agreed that the rules are ambiguous and should be amended.

**ACTION: Richard to propose alternative text at next meeting**

1. **Event Equipment Transportation Costs**

Because of a potential need by VC Nott it was agreed by team leaders outside a general meeting that the league will cover the costs involved in the transportation of equipment when an event organiser is unable to collect the equipment using any other method. On production of an invoice hire costs of up to £200 will be covered. The arrangement is limited to this season only and will be reviewed at the end of the season. It was noted that all the event kit will fit into a Transit Connect sized van.

1. **Grants for Members Competing Abroad**

Five applications were received and all five were successful:

Lotta Mansfield

Finn Mansfield

Xan Crees

Ellie Dilks

James Swadling

Each will be funded £200 on production of a post event report.

Post event reports from last year to be publicised, together with details of the awards made this year. Note that applications closed on 15th October.

**ACTION: Richard to contact Harry Gould regarding the use of the legacy**

**Richard to contact the successful applicants**

**Neil to publish reports from last year’s successful applicants**

1. **Prize Presentation Evening**

Andy offered to organise the presentation evening at the John Godber Centre. The meeting accepted Andy’s kind offer.

**ACTION:** Andy agreed to investigate possible dates and circulate.

1. **Event Reviews**

* *Alfreton* – It was agreed that the event was very well organised although lap lengths were considered too long. Plans to build a school and leisure centre may impact on future events at the park.
* *Hilton* –The discussion focussed on complaints made about the event by the father of a youth rider. His concerns were sent to the events team by email with British Cycling copied in. Richard explained that he had responded, inviting the complainant to this meeting where his concerns would be discussed. Unfortunately he was unable to attend. Richard summarised his concerns:
  + The use of a muddy field containing cow faeces for car parking

It was noted that many regional cx events are forced to create car parks in fields that are affected by the weather conditions. Karen offered to circulate BC guidance on utilising fields that are used for grazing.

* + Charging for car parking

It was agreed that event organisers are free to make event budgets balance in any way they can. It was also noted that all personnel are volunteers and all events are run as not for profit.

* + Delays during youth gridding

The delay was required for safety reasons as determined by the chief commissaire.

* + Youth race finish

Heather read out Rob Wimble’s notes (chief comm at the event) about the youth finish: The race leader was missed on the line on the last lap but the flag went out afterwards. A few riders stopped, but they were then sent out again. In discussions with Smartiming the results were checked comparing penultimate and final lap finishing positions. This affected one rider only who was consulted and was in agreement with the final results. It was noted that the riders who were stopped were of different categories and this had little effect on their race positions. Richard offered to respond to the complainants concerns and it was agreed that the response should refer to the complainant’s unacceptable language whilst speaking to event volunteers, drawing his attention to the league’s code of conduct. BC to be copied in.

It was also noted that the timing of the vets race was confused.

**ACTION:** Karen to find and circulate BC guidance on use of farmland

**ACTION:** Richard to communicate with the father of the youth rider at HIlton

**ACTION:** Heather to contact Smartiming to discuss youth finish and clarify durations of races

**ACTION:** Maddie Smith to contact BC to ensure Senior races are listed as 50 min

* *Bingham* – Parking was ok, although it is limited. No issues were noted. Some parts of the course seemed less technical than previous years. The course change was noted.

1. **Any Other Business**

* *Nick* asked how U12 gridding is arranged. Appendix C of the rules states that gridding is determined by “league position”. Heather explained that this is not the case as it is based on average points. Appendix C to be amended accordingly.

**ACTION:** Richard to amend Appendix C accordingly.

* *Karen* explained that BC are looking to obtain a better sense of volunteer activity and would like to distribute a questionnaire to league volunteers. This was encouraged.
* *Ian* asked a question on behalf of Simon Hale who argued that while the women’s race has grown a little it has “killed the day”.
* *Maddie* is concerned about the time spent discussing U12 races. She would like to discuss deformalizing the races. It was agreed that this might be an AGM discussion.

1. **Next Meeting – 4th December, 2019 – 7pm – Red Cow, Allestree**