

Minutes of the NDCXL General Meeting

Date: Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7:30pm

Venue: Zoom

Present:

- Mark van Adrichem (Chair)
- Richard Shenton (Beeston CC) (Minute taker)
- Simon Hale (Army Cycling)
- Sandra Field (Beeston RC)
- Steve Kirk (Belper BC)
- John Dixon (Bolsover&DCC)
- Maddie Smith (Bolsover&DCC)
- Nick Chilton (Derby Mercury)
- Stuart Marriott (Derby Mercury)
- Heather Wimble (Drogon RT)
- Andrew Naylor (Fossa)
- Adam Coefield (Fusion CC Dronfield)
- Ian Bradley (Ilkeston CC)
- Tony Donaldson (Ilkeston CC) (Treasurer)
- Simon Severn (Ilkeston CC)
- Chris Watts (Matlock CC)
- Tim Farr (Matlock CC)
- Karen Lifford (British Cycling)

Mark opened the meeting at 7:36pm.

- 1) It was noted that **apologies** had been received from Tim Berry, Andy Humberston and Steve Johnson (BC).
- 2) **Minutes of the general meeting held on 5th January 2022** were accepted as a true record of the discussions that took place. Proposed by Mark and seconded by Andrew N.
- 3) **Matters Arising**
 - a. **Auditors** – Tony has made contact with Stuart who will provide an audit report before the next general meeting.

ACTION: Tony to report back at next meeting.
 - b. **Sponsorship negotiations** – Mark reported that he has had several positive meetings with Lee Flanagan at Forme. Following conversations at general meetings and an invitation from Lee to compile a sponsorship wish-list he has drawn up some thoughts under the headings:
 - Race day infrastructure
 - Social media support
 - Forme family race event

ACTION: Mark to send wish-list to Lee and report back at the next meeting.
Sponsorship item to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.

- c. **Volunteer recruitment** – Richard reported that he hasn't received any new comments concerning the updated 'Volunteer League Map'. Will leave until the next meeting then put together a recruitment sub-group.

ACTION: Team leaders to review and respond to draft version of the volunteer map by the next general meeting.

- d. **CX Commission** – Karen to raise the following queries at the next CX Commission meeting in March:

- o BC rule: CX8.1.1 – is the prohibition of assisting U12 riders against the spirit of U12 racing?
- o Is a manual finish-line back-up system required?

ACTION: Karen to ask questions at the next CX Commission meeting.

- e. **Events for 2022-2023** – Following the distribution of the minutes from the January meeting Dave Gretton made contact to suggest speaking to current and former event organisers to encourage them to put on an event next season. Mark offered to make the calls. Richard also noted that Dave offered to mentor/support new organisers. Mark thanked Dave for the offer.

Andrew was keen to stress the importance of holding a pre-season organisers' meeting to ensure that events under the NDCXL banner have a consistent look and feel.

Karen asked when an organiser recruitment meeting could be held and suggested June. Maddi mentioned that Thomas Hutchison has contacted her expressing interest in organising an event on behalf of the Uni of Nottingham. Karen has been in touch with Thomas and is meeting him later this week.

In relation to sending a formal letter to the CX Commission, Karen confirmed that the next meeting of the commission will be held in March. Richard, Mark and Andrew will draft the letter.

ACTION: Mark to ring event organisers, past and present
Decision to be made about organiser recruitment meeting – June?
Karen to report back about Uni of Nottm interest in organising an event.
Mark, Richard and Andrew N to draft letter to CX Commission for March

- f. **BC League affiliation** – Richard reported that payment has now been made.

- g. **Retrieving trophies** – Andrew reported that some perpetual trophies were returned at Broxtowe and the emailed reminders about returning trophies had some effect. There is, however, a need to chase up.

ACTION: Andrew to chase 2020 trophy holders that are current League members
Heather to chase 2020 trophy holders that are not current League members

Ian to contact Evie Hartley

- h. **Finance review** – Tony reported that League income in the form of levies from the 2021-2022 events have just about covered the League's costs for each event. The next step for the review is to confirm the level of Forme sponsorship (see item 3b above) and determine if BC's financial review will have an impact on the 2022-2023 season. Karen didn't think it would but will investigate and report back.

ACTION: Karen to report back re BC financial review and impact on next season.
Forme sponsorship deal to feed into financial review.
Sub-group to be established to discuss potential changes to entry fees, NDCXL levies, league affiliation fees, etc.

4) Team updates

- a. **Admin** Richard explained that all the Admin updates are included within this meeting.
- b. **Logistics** Nick reported that the League equipment is clean, dry and ready for next season.

- c. **Officials** Karen had nothing to report.
- d. **Results** Heather to input into item 5 below.
- e. **Events** Maddi reported that the next activity for the Events Team will be date setting for the 2022-2023 season (also see 3e above). This will be followed by paying BC's entry fees and setting up the events in June, which Sandra is going to take on.
- f. **Comms** Steve explained that his next action will be to publicise details for the presentation evening and AGM.
- g. **Finance** Nick asked about the event underwriting fund that was established from surplus funds from NDCXL events in order to support events that might not break even. Tony confirmed that he has received £2376.87, with contributions from Ilkeston, VC Nottingham and Derby Mercury. Richard explained that he is still waiting for Broxtowe entry fees to be transferred to the club from BC. He added that the excess from the event was approximately £100 only, so Beeston CC would not be transferring funds to the League. Tony explained that the fund was not used to support events, but it had been agreed that the money would be used to subsidise the presentation evening (see items 6 and 10 below).

5) **League results**

Richard explained that the end of season results have produced some anomalies that arise from the combination of applying rule 5.1, which states: ***To be eligible for a League prize, a rider must have raced a minimum of 5 point scoring rounds*** and rule 4.8.1.2, which states: ***If there are fewer than 10 events in the League programme, the two lowest scores will be disregarded.*** With only 4 x point scoring rounds to count after dropped rounds, the requirement to have 5 x point scoring rounds to get a prize means that it is possible to have the 4 x points scores needed to get a high league placing, but not the 5 needed to get a prize. It was acknowledged that the issue affects 7 league tables of the total of 12.

The V50s category was given as an example of the issue:

Danny Alexander (4 rounds – 800 points) and Simon Hales (5 rounds – 798.4 points).

If rule 5.1 is applied Simon wins, even though he has more points. It was felt that this outcome would not be fair. For instance, Simon, who was at the meeting, said he would prefer Danny to win as he is the stronger rider. However, it was noted that some riders are already claiming they have won prizes, even though there are riders in the same category who have more points but only have 4 counting rounds.

There were differing opinions across the meeting, with some arguing that the League's rule's should not be amended retrospectively, while others argued that prize allocation should be determined by points only, thereby rewarding the stronger rider. Other suggested not publishing the league tables at all. A compromise option was also discussed: awarding two sets of prizes, the first to riders who won their category and have 5 counting rounds AND riders who have more points than these winners but only have 4 counting rounds.

It was agreed that the options should be put to the vote on the understanding that:

- Any outcome would apply to the 2021-2022 season only.
- Rule 5.1 should be applied in some form in the final outcome, as altering the rules retrospectively is unacceptable.
- The regional champs should be treated as one of the point scoring rounds.
- Because of the low number of events and to avoid penalising riders who helped to organise events it was agreed that rounds where average points were awarded should be treated as 'scoring rounds'.

Initially members at the meeting were asked if the league tables should be published:

Question: Should NDCXL publish league tables for the 2021-2022 season?

Yes: 13 No: 2

It was therefore agreed that the league tables will be published.

Members were then asked how prizes should be allocated: apply rule 5.1 only (a rider needs to have 5 counting rounds to be eligible for a prize: Simon Hale would win the V50s) or apply

rule 5.1 AND award prizes to riders who have 4 scoring rounds but have more points than the winners with 5 point scoring rounds (Simon Hale AND Danny Alexander win first prizes)

Question 1: Should the 5 round rule (rule 5.1) only be applied to determine the winners of the NDCXL categories results for the 2021-2022 season?

Yes: 3

Question 2: Should prizes be awarded to the:

- **Winners of leagues who have 5+ counting rounds?**

AND

- **Riders who have 4 point scoring rounds and have more points than the winners with 5 point counting rounds?**

Yes: 12

It was therefore agreed that prizes would be awarded to both riders where appropriate.

TEAM COMPETITIONS

Heather asked how points should be allocated in the team competition. Rule 5.6.2. states that, *Riders will score team points according to their position in their respective leagues, with one point for first place, two points for second etc.* That being the case, where there are two winners should both be allocated points? Heather agreed to compare results of team competitions when using both sets of criteria.

ACTION: Heather to check team competition prize allocation
Publish league tables, when they have been agreed, along with these minutes and text explaining the decisions made.

6) Presentation evening

- **2022 presentation evening**

At the last general meeting it was felt that although it would be possible to hold a presentation evening under the Government's current COVID-19 mitigation measures it might not be appropriate to do so. To make a final decision about having a presentation evening, members were asked to vote on the question:

Question: Should the NDCXL hold a presentation evening at the end of the 2021-2022 season?

Yes: 3

No: 8

Abstentions: 1

It was therefore agreed that NDCXL would not organise or hold a presentation evening to mark the end of the 2022 season.

- **Trophy engraving**

As final league tables are to be published, it was agreed that trophies and medals will be awarded in line with rules 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5. In addition, it was agreed that winners with 5 counting rounds and those with 4 counting rounds will both be awarded permanent trophies, however there was some debate over the inclusion of one or two names on the perpetual trophies. Members were therefore asked to vote on the question:

Question: Should two names be engraved on the perpetual trophies where there is a winner with 5 counting rounds AND 4 counting rounds?

Yes: 14

No: 2

It was therefore agreed that both names should appear on the perpetual trophies where appropriate.

ACTION: Andrew N to organise engraving

- **Ever present medals**

Because of the brevity of the season and impact of COVID-19 on attendance at events members were asked to vote on the question:

QUESTION: Should the NDCXL award Ever Present Medals for the 2021-2022 season?

Yes: 2

No: 12

It was therefore agreed that Ever Present Medals will NOT be awarded for the 2021-2022 season.

- **Trophy collection**

It was agreed that while there will not be a presentation evening prize winners will be able to collect their permanent trophies and perpetual trophies. It was agreed that collection/delivery should be facilitated via clubs/team representatives. There was a concern about who should have the perpetual trophy when there are two winners, but it was agreed that the winners can resolve that issue between them.

Before engraving starts it was agreed that Heather will contact winners by email to confirm that they would like to receive a permanent trophy.

ACTION: Heather to email winners re permanent trophies after league tables have been published.

7) **AGM**

It was agreed the Annual General Meeting of the NDCXL will be held on 29 March 2022. A later date would result in a clash with Easter holidays.

Members were asked to vote on the question:

QUESTION: Should the 2022 AGM be held on Zoom:

Yes: 14 No: 1

It was therefore agreed that the AGM will be held on Zoom on Tuesday 29th March 2022 at 7:30 on Zoom.

Simon kindly offered the facilities at Chetwynd Barracks for future face-to-face meetings.

8) **Frank Griffiths Fund (FGF)**

Mark reported that Otto Chilton (Junior) and Ben Chilton (U23) both submitted FGF funding applications. A sub-group met to discuss the applications and agreed to issue awards of £100 each. They have both submitted race reports with images. Mark asked Tony to transfer the funds.

During the assessment process it became clear that there were some issues with the FGF application rules:

- This will be the second time that members have agreed to break the FGF rules by awarding funding to more than one rider from the same family in the same season. Members were therefore asked to vote on the following questions:

Question: Should the rule stating:

Where riders from the same family are eligible for funding only one application per family will be considered,

be removed from the Frank Griffiths Fund application rules?

Yes: 13 No: 0 Abstained: 1

It was therefore agreed that in future years the number of applications that this rule be removed for next season.

- It was agreed that the FGF application rule relating to riders racing in the NDCXL should be relaxed to read: **Applicants must be racing regularly in the current season of the NDCXL and/or ~~must~~ have raced in previous seasons of the NDCXL.** (Amendments in red)
- There was some concern that awarding funding to a rider in a UCI registered team (Ben Chilton rides for Team Spectra Wiggle) was against the spirit of the award. There was no decision made on this subject, although Nick, Ben's father, pointed out that although Team Spectra Wiggle is a pro team most of the costs in racing abroad were borne by the family.

ACTION: Tony to transfer £100 each to Otto and Ben Chilton
Steve to update Frank Griffiths Fund page on NDCXL website and upload race reports
Richard to amend FGF application document

9) **Event Review**

Round 6 Broxtowe Beeston CC

Richard reported that he'd received positive feedback from the event's commissaire team as well as riders. However, rider numbers were low and, as a result, the event came close to losing money.

10) **Any other business**

- **Heather** is concerned that event commissaires aren't being treated as well at NDCXL events as they are in the Leicestershire CX League. It's something that needs to be corrected for next season – perhaps in the pre-season organisers' meeting.

ACTION: **Richard to add commissaire refreshment provision to event organisers' meeting agenda.**

- **Ian** wanted to flag up the need to improve attendance at late season rounds, such as Broxtowe. He also asked what will be happening to the 2021-2022 event underwriting fund now that the season is over and there isn't going to be a presentation evening. It was thought that it could be rolled over to the 2022-2023 season or be refunded. Richard suggested that, as the transfer of funds from organising clubs to NDCXL was voluntary, it is a matter between the NDCXL treasurer and the organisers.

ACTION: **Tony to contact organisers that have contributed to the event underwriting fund to confirm if they would like the money to be rolled over to 2023 or refunded.**

- **Simon** confirmed that Chetwynd will be available as an event venue next season.
- **Richard** explained that Adam Biggs of Forme had proposed agenda items relating to:
 - Podium presentations for U9s, U12s and youths
 - On-the-day entry for U9s and U12s.

Richard responded stating that tonight's agenda was very full but the topics will be carried over to a future meeting.

ACTION: **Podium presentations and on-the-day entry for U12s to be discussed at a future general meeting.**

- **Tony** referred to his long list of venues that he shared before the meeting. Stu stated that he may have a venue and would like to know if there are criteria on which venues can be assessed. Nick offered to talk it through with Stu but stressed that a venue requires an energetic club to create a successful event.

11) **Date of next meeting – Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 7:30pm**

Mark closed the meeting at 10:10pm.