

Minutes of the NDCXL General Meeting

Date: Tuesday 29th March 2022 at 7:30pm

Venue: Zoom

Present:

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| Mark van Adrichem (Matlock) (Chair) | Simon Severn (Ilkeston CC) |
| Richard Shenton (Beeston CC) (Minute taker) | Gary Strickland (Long Eaton VC) |
| Steven Hinchliffe (Bolsover&DCC) | Chris Watts (Matlock CC) |
| Maddie Smith (Bolsover&DCC) | Tim Farr (Matlock CC) |
| Nick Chilton (Derby Mercury) | Darren Topliss (Sherwood Pines) |
| Tim Berry (Empella) | Andy Humberston |
| Andrew Naylor (Fossa) | Karen Lifford (British Cycling) |
| Ian Bradley (Ilkeston CC) | |
| Tony Donaldson (Ilkeston CC) (Treasurer) | |

Mark opened the meeting at 7:32pm.

- 1) **Apologies** received from Sandra Field (Beeston RC), Steve Kirk (Belper), Heather Wimble (Drogon) and Steve Johnson (BC).
- 2) **Minutes of the general meeting held on 8th February 2022** were accepted as a true record of the discussions that took place. Proposed by Nick and seconded by Mark.
- 3) **Matters Arising**
 - a. **Auditors** – Tony confirmed that the accounts for 2020-2021 have now been audited. There were no issues.
 - b. **Sponsorship negotiations** – See item 6 below.
 - c. **Volunteer recruitment** – See item 8 below.
 - d. **CX Commission** – Karen reported that at the recent CX Commission meeting questions concerning BC rule: CX 8.1.1 (prohibits assisting U12 riders) and the need for a manual finish-line back-up system were referred to the tech regs review process.
 - e. **Events for 2022-2023** – see item 7 below.

Karen reported that University of Nottingham students have decided against organising a NDCXL event.

ACTION: **Organiser recruitment meeting – June?** – Carry forward for discussion at next general meeting.
 - f. **Retrieving trophies** – Andrew reported that all perpetual trophies have now been returned.
 - g. **Engraving trophies** – Andrew reported that perpetual trophies are being engraved and are expected to be completed by the end of April. Two boxes of permanent glass trophies have been delivered.
 - h. **Trophy collection** – Winners of trophies were contacted to determine who would not wish to receive a permanent trophy.
 - i. **Finance review** – Karen confirmed that BC's financial review will not impact on next season. To be discussed at a future CX Commission meeting.

It was acknowledged that the sponsorship deal with Forme will help determine the entry fees, levies and affiliation fees. Finance review to be conducted before AGM.

ACTION: Sub-group to be established to review finances.

- j. **Frank Griffiths Fund (FGF)** – Tony confirmed that he has transferred £100 to both Otto and Ben Chilton, consequent on their successful application to the FGF.

It was confirmed that the agreed changes to the FGF application criteria have been amended on the website.

Richard confirmed that he has amended the FGF application document.

- k. **League tables** – League tables have been published.

- l. **Event organiser meeting** – Commissaire refreshment requirements to be added to the agenda of the pre-season event organiser meeting.

ACTION: Richard to add 'commissaire care' to the event organiser meeting agenda.

- m. **2021-2022 event underwriting fund** – As the fund was unused Tony contacted contributors (three clubs were involved) to ask what they would like to do with the money. All agreed that their contributions to the fund should be returned to the clubs. Tony confirmed that the accounts have been finalised.

- n. **Podium presentations** – see item 6 below

4) **Team updates**

- a. **Admin** Richard explained that all Admin updates are included within the agenda.

- b. **Logistics** Andrew stressed the need to order rider numbers and barrier tape soon. Nick stated that the Forme sponsorship deal may have an impact on what the League needs to purchase before next season.

- c. **Officials** Karen had nothing to report.

- d. **Results** Heather had nothing to report.

- e. **Events** Maddi reported that she has officially stepped down from her role in the Events team and Richard confirmed that he had received her email. She added that she will help Sandra Field set up the League events on the BC system in May/June. Stuart has agreed to continue to produce the start lists and Sandra has offered to help him if required. Mark took the opportunity to thank Maddi for all her work over the years and for continuing to support the team.

- f. **Comms** Nothing to report.

- g. **Finance** Tony shared the summarised accounts for 2021-2022:

- The funds transferred from EMCCA are ring-fenced for officials' expenses.
- All events broke even, although the fact that no prize money was paid out at events skewed event accounts.
- NDCXL levies covered costs incurred during the 2021-2022 season, with a £253.40 excess. However, it was noted that these expenses did not include barrier tape, race numbers (they were purchased during the 2020-2021) or the awards evening. Andrew added that the accounts also don't include income from the presentation evening or income from affiliated clubs. To get a better sense of the financial situation would need to look at the 2019-2020 season, which included all expenses and income.

Mark noted that the current position is unsustainable. Despite this, Tony suggested that a decision on changes to levies, entry fees, etc. should be delayed for two seasons to get a better sense of the real financial position, particularly as the League is financially able to cover losses. Andrew suggested increasing the NDCXL levy without adjusting the entry fees, which he acknowledged would have an impact on event prize fund pots. These discussions are to feed into the finance review. Nick asked if the accounts could be circulated with the minutes and Tony agreed to forward to Richard so they can be distributed with the minutes.

ACTION: Richard to distribute account summaries with minutes.
Finance review to be conducted before AGM.

5) Trophies – Distribution

It was agreed that a combination of methods should be used for the collection/delivery of trophies:

- Local bike shops as collection points – Karen suggested the Bike Lounge in Beeston.
- Clubs to distribute – Steven offered to collect and distribute for Bolsover; Nick for Derby Merc.

ACTION: Richard to contact Rod Rouse at Bike Lounge

6) Sponsorship

Mark outlined the current proposal from Forme and it was agreed that it was a good starting point and that Mark should return to Forme to discuss:

- Podium package – to include discussion about organising podium presentation, presenting medals to medallists, photography and commentator (an additional £400 on an event budget)
- Period of proposed agreement understood to be 1 year, but some of the proposals are one-offs (redesign logo, for instance). Is there a sponsorship proposal for years 2 and 3?
- Would prefer minimum agreement period of 2 years.
- Could cost of rider numbers be included?
- Would barrier tape be Forme branded and enough to mark out an entire event? 5,000 metres required.

ACTION: Karen to provide model for marketing metrics.

7) Provisional calendar

Richard shared the provisional calendar, explaining that NDCXL rule 2.6 stipulates that:

2.6 Where possible, the calendar should be organised so that there is no more than one occasion per season when an event occurs on the same weekend as the remaining national level events (National Trophies or Inter-Area Championships).

Because of the number of Trophy events (6) plus the National Champs and an international World Cup, dates available to NDCXL organisers are limited. In the light of this it was acknowledged that rule 2.6 could be changed at the AGM, leaving organisers the choice to hold events on Trophy weekends.

Karen asked if the three East Midlands leagues could coordinate their calendars. Richard will liaise with the other leagues.

Karen confirmed that the four regional road races in September all fall on Sundays. Even so, she was concerned about the limited stock of radios and mentioned that she might purchase more.

Chris mentioned that he may have found a new venue at Carsington Water. Nick was interested and thought Belper might consider it as an alternative to Alfreton.

Ian stated that he is positive about Chetwynd being available following Simon Hale's comments at the last meeting.

Andrew stated that he is considering an alternative venue with Karen, although Fossa may return to Chetwynd.

Nick suggested that Cycle Mickleover might be able to support Cycle Derby's event.

Karen is in discussion with Broomfield College about their grounds being used for cyclocross. Nick was interested and keen to meet with the college and see the space.

There was some discussion about the suitability of using Sherwood Pines, Harlow Wood and Berry Hill.

ACTION: Nick to contact Belper and Cycle Derby.
Karen to continue conversation with Broomfield College.
Richard to follow up with organisers.

- 8) **Volunteer recruitment**
While it was agreed that volunteer recruitment is a high priority, particularly in view of Maddi's decision to step back from her role in the Events team, it was agreed that discussions about recruitment should start after the AGM at the end of April.
ACTION: Pick up on volunteer recruitment post AGM.
- 9) **AGM**
Richard invited attendees to send AGM proposals to him.
- 10) **Any other business**
There was no further business discussed.
- 11) **Date of next meeting – AGM - Tuesday 26th April 2022 at 7:30pm on Zoom**