

# SACU Trials Committee Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018



SACU office, Uphall, 7.00 pm

PRESENT

A Stewart, M McPhail, D Byron, B Stewart, D Paton, A Kerr, A Drysdale, B Ross

## 1.APOLOGIES

R Thomson, Lee Shankie

## 2.DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None Declared

## 3.MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – previous minutes not available

## 4.MATTERS ARISING –

### a. Target Participation Numbers.

Currently 400 Adult Riders and 80 Youth riders.

The demographics was provided and discussed. The largest numbers of riders across all classes are in the 41 to 50 and 51 to 60 age range.

A Trials Survey is being created with an objective is to create to gain information that may allow the committee to for a strategy to increase numbers of riders. (see item 13)

### b. Promotion of Trials

An online survey is being prepared - see item 13.

This is aimed at giving the committee information to help with future planning to the advantage of our sport

## 5. IMPROVEMENTS FOR 2019

a. Start Championship earlier. This is possible but subject to suitable ground where weather (unless extreme) would not jeopardise the event going ahead. Trials Academy was suggested as an all-weather venue

b. Kinlochleven Club have offered to host a championship round for 2019

## 6. STEWARDS CHAMPIONSHIP AND NATIONALS

Alan Kerr offered to steward at Dalmellington Craigengillan trial on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

## 7. DATES MEETING DATE

Meeting set for 8<sup>th</sup> December. Dougie Paton is to ask Steven Leckie if Crieff Hydro would be available.

## 8. AWARDS DATES AND ORGANISATION

It has been proposed to hold a joint awards presentation with Quads/Enduro/Trials on 19<sup>th</sup> January in Motherwell. Consensus was this is a good idea.

Allister is to find out more about venue and details as to whether it is purely awards or a social event.

## 9. TRIALS NEWSLETTER

Note from the previous minute you sent over - The Committee discussed the need to issue a Trials Newsletter.

ACTION- Committee (ALL) to issue suitable material ASAP to A Stewart who will compile and liaise with SACU office to publish.

## 10. SACU WEBSITE DISCIPLINE SPEC FOR TENDER

Donald Young is preparing to issue a tender for the development of a new SACU website

The committee noted the following features to be included

- a. Online entry forms
- b. Up to date information on "What is Trials"
- c. How to get started
- d. Photos/Videos (suggestion is Finn Yeaman)
- e. For Sale section
- f. Newsletter
- g. Committee member profiles and means of reaching out to committee members to make us accessible
- h. Licence/Trials Registration renewal online

## 11. NOVICE UPGRADE PLAN

A discussion took place relating to riders classifications. Bill Stewart and Alan Kerr advised that they had each heard other rider's comment that they wanted to remain as Novice classifications. Bill Ross noted that there is no current scope to change classification through riding in a championship trial as you do not enter as a Novice/Non-Expert/Expert. It was agreed that upgrading needs to be reviewed.

One suggestion is to include rider's status on all entry forms. Novice route was generally accepted as being the green route and an analysis could be made to see which rider across all classes in a championship would be the best novice on the green route. This could be then used to upgrade a Novice to Non-Expert. The route to ride for qualifying to upgrade from Non-Expert to Expert is not as transparent.

Davie Byron to review which trials currently count towards classifications and propose a new means of assessing/upgrading.

## 12. FACEBOOK CAMPAIGN

## 13. TRIALS SURVEY

A preliminary survey has been put together on surveymonkey. Allister is to send the hyperlink to committee members to review current questionnaire and make any suggestions before 29<sup>th</sup> June.

The aim is to gather information to help shape the sport in the direction riders want it to go.

## 14. TRIALS FUND REVIEW

As a result of embezzlement of funds from Richmond club, it was agreed that a review of the trials fund would be taken at every committee meeting. Current balance is £2500 with the only cash entering the fund is expense donations from committee members.

## **AOCB**

Gillian from Scottish Motorsport introduced a concept for a Grassroots Beginners to Trials Programme.

Suggestion is to develop a four to six stage development programme that riders can progress through by reaching ability milestones.

Objective is to re-engage with riders no longer competing and also bring in complete newcomers.

The programme could be to schools, colleges and universities

There would need to be a host club with part-time salaried staff. Part funded through direct investment fund from Sport Scotland.

Queries were raised as to protective equipment and bikes – new or used;

Gillian advised that she would handle all admin to get the programme up and running.

Meeting Finished at 9.30 Thanks to Chair

Date of next meeting **TBC @ 1900 hrs**

Minutes taken by B Ross