



WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Chairman: Richard Lodge
Treasurer: Steve Meredith
Secretary: Richard Lodge
107 Dorridge Road
Dorridge, Solihull
West Midlands
B93 8BP

Minutes from West Midlands Region, Annual General Meeting on 22nd September 2008

PRESENT (26) :

Richard Lodge – Solihull CC (Chairman)	RL	Steve Meredith – Kenilworth Whs (Treasurer)	SM
Carl Robinson – Plan B (RCA)	CR	John Crawford – Redditch R&PCC (Facilities)	JC
Nick Yarworth – BC Regional Dev Mgr	NY	Jean Bayliss – Coventry RC	JB
Peter Goodman – Glendale C&AC	PG	Garry Hooper – Coventry RC	GH
Dave Miller – Coventry RC	DM	Lewis Hall – Coventry RC	LH
Roger Shayes – Beacon RC	RS	Carlton Gower – Stafford RC	CG
Alastair Semple – Stafford RC	AS	Richard Painter – Stourbridge CC	RP
Ian Ward – Walsall RCC	IW	Alan Cooper – Wolverhampton Whs	AC
Dave Cunningham – Wolverhampton Whs	DC	Mick Davies – Lichfield City CC	MD
Trevor Moore – Royal Sutton CC	TM	Louise Moore – Royal Sutton CC	LM
Doug Dring – Worcester St Johns CC	DD	Chris Dring – Echelon – Spiuk	CD
Tim Bailey – Halesowen A&CC	TB	Pete Biddle – Bilston Couriers CC	PB
Jim George – Speedwell BC	JG	Jeremy Stone – Red Kite Cycles	JS

APOLOGIES (8)

Sarah Adams – Red Kite Cycles, Ian Billington – Bromsgrove Olympique CC, Stewart Felstead – Stafford RC;
Dennis Feasey – Concorde CC, Jeff Matthews – Speedwell BC, Stefan Pearce – MJS Racing, Michael Perry – Stone Whs;
Ian Potts – Wolverhampton Whs

2 Minutes of Previous AGM meeting – 22nd September 2007

Accepted as read, proposed by **RS** seconded by **DM**

3 Matters arising from these minutes not covered in the agenda.

PG enquired whether any further information was available regarding the matter raised by Jim George (Item 6) in relation to the removal of signs by the Highways Agency affecting CTT events. **AS** noted that the agenda for the Regional CTT meeting indicates the removal of signs has now stopped.

4 Chairman's/Secretaries Report

RL highlighted the continued growth in Regional membership, as well as a good increase in licence holders. Also noted the significant contribution to national and international success across many aspects of the sport by West Midlands riders and they were all to be congratulated on their efforts. Accepted as read, proposed by **RS** seconded by **DM**

5 Treasurers statement

SM highlighted the difference between certain income which is passed onto HQ, and those income sources which stay at Region level. A discussion followed in which **SM** outlined in more detail certain sources of income. **SM** asked the minutes to note that there is an additional income in the West Midlands accounts of approx £600 which is paid to each Region by HQ reflecting the participation numbers in each respective Region – ie some Regions will be more, some less.

Treasurers report accepted as read, proposed by **RS** seconded by **JC**

6 Regional Event Administrators Report

CR took the opportunity to publicly thank all those that had helped him settle into his new REA role in 2008.

CR noted that one factor which had been surprising this year was the increased number of responses from general public, usually via local police officers, regarding incidents at road race events. He put this down to the increasing profile of BC with the successes at the Worlds in March and the Olympics such that many public now know how to get hold of us. Generally the comments are supportive of the sport, but also raising questions about use of the roads and behaviour of cyclists and marshals alike in inconveniencing local peoples lives during an event.

CR also noted that he plans to revisit all road circuit risk assessments in the coming year as is happening in many Regions.

REA report accepted as read, proposed by **JC** seconded by **AC**

7 Women's Team Report

LM/TM noted that West Midlands was still the only LGM to support a team in the womens series events, for which the meeting thanked them for their efforts.

Report accepted as read, proposed by **JC** seconded by **GH**.

Other reports as appropriate

- a. Junior Team Report – **JC** noted that there had been two team entries this year, to the Junior Tour of Ireland, and the Junior Tour of Wales. In both events riders had performed very well, some gaining very valuable experience as being relatively new to the sport. **RL** noted that some riders had been fed into the team from the work done by Mike Perry in the north of the Region in running a development squad aimed specifically at riders below Talent Team Level and/or new to cycling.
- b. Birmingham Council – Cycling Advisory Group (CAG) – **RS** reported on the latest developments covering the cycling strategy for Birmingham City Council and this Regions involvement in progressing various issues to support wider cycling initiatives in the City.
- c. BC Regional Manager – **NY** presented a summary of the years activities delivered by BC across the West Midlands. Several comments by way of feedback were discussed. Several comments from the meeting noted a lack of perceived linkage between the sessions delivered by the BC employed coaches at schools, and the local Go-Ride clubs. **NY** noted there is to be more focus on trying to make this happen in the future. Queries were also raised regarding the pricing for Holiday clubs, and the competitive experience of some coaches. **NY** also highlighted the introduction of a Go-Ride club forum this year to encourage information sharing, and this is to be continued across the Region.
- d. Facilities Officer update – **JC** noted that the Solihull circuit was now in use and had been used for a series of events across all age groups and road categories. A query was raised as to the availability of the circuit to clubs other than the Solihull, as some riders had been refused permission to join in the sessions there by the Solihull club. **RL** noted that the Council wished to operate the circuit on a trial basis initially (using just the local club) to ensure the protocol for more open use in 2009 can be clearly tested and defined. **JC** is not aware of any other facility developments currently.

8 Election of Regional Officers

- a. Chairman: **RL** proposed by **RS**, seconded **LH** - carried by vote.
- b. Treasurer: **SM** proposed by **JG**, seconded by **JC** - carried by vote.
- c. REA: **CR** proposed by **RL**, seconded by **GH** – carried by vote.
- d. Secretary: **RL** proposed **RS**, seconded by **JG** - carried by vote.
- e. Facilities officer. **JC**, proposed by **JG**, seconded by **GH** -carried by vote
- f. Womens Team manager: **LM** proposed by **RL**, seconded by **RS** -carried by vote.
- g. Junior Team manager: Both **CR** and **JC** expressed an interest in this role. **CR** noted he was happy to act in support of **JC** taking the lead. **JC** proposed by **JG**, seconded by **GH** - carried by vote.
- h. Committee members

Of the existing committee members at the meeting, the following expressed interest in remaining involved

PB	GH	DM	RS	JS
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Other attendees at the meeting who volunteered to join the committee were

AC	MD
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Proposed on block by **RL**, seconded by **SM** – carried by vote.

RL welcomed **AC** and **MD** to the committee.

It was noted that there remain 3 potential vacancies on the committee and the meeting acknowledged that it would be appropriate to fill these by co-opted membership at the discretion of the committee ongoing. **RL** will contact those previous committee members who are absent to ask if they wish to remain involved.

i. Regional Auditors

It had been noted by **SM** that the two current auditors had carried out this task for several years and that good practice dictated a change should be made. **RP** accepted one of the nominations but without any others at the meeting, **JC** volunteered to continue.

RP proposed by **CR** seconded by **GH** – carried by vote

JC, proposed by **RS** seconded by **JG** - carried by vote

9 Nomination for National Positions

- a. There were no nominations (with the necessary paperwork) for National roles of President, Senior Vice Patrons, Vice Patrons, Trustees, or Board members.
- b. There were three nominations for Appeals Board members – Peter Biddle (proposed by **RS**, seconded **AS**) Martin Bridgwood (proposed **RS**, seconded **JG**) and John Crawford (proposed by **GH**, seconded by **LH**) – carried by vote.

10 Propositions and Motions

11.1 Provision of Emergency contact information

RL outlined the previous submission that had been made by the Region to HQ via Paul West, which had not been taken up. **PB** noted that the issue had been a very real situation and that therefore was thought necessary to address. There was a discussion as to whether the entry form was the correct place for the emergency contact details and an amendment was proposed by **JC** (seconded by **JG**) that the signing on sheet was in fact the most relevant form to capture the telephone number relevant to that day. Meeting vote carried unanimously in favour of the amendment.

Voting for the amended proposal was then carried with no votes against.

11.2 Regions Mileage Rate Amendment

PB outlined that now events in the handbook are stated in kilometres a change should be made to Regional Bye Laws to reflect this, at the same time as proposing an increase in the value of mileage paid to officials to reflect the increased petrol prices.

CR proposed as an amendment that the minimum fee of £15 payable to event officials be replaced by a mileage rate for home to event travel, up to a maximum of £25. **CR** noted that there had been an increasing number of occasions when a commissaire had to travel from one side of the Region to the other and received only £15 which did not cover petrol costs. Although this might mean

some uncertainty for event organisers (in not knowing beforehand exactly how much might be paid to cover the Commissaires travel fee, though a maximum of £25 plus race distance would be known), this amendment is thought to provide a better arrangement overall for Commissaires. A further discussion in the group on the mileage rate, noted that the current rate of 25p/mile was in use by several govt departments and companies and therefore no change was obviously required.

The meeting first voted that there was no need to change the calculation from mileage to kilometres.

The proposed amendment to the proposal – (that the minimum fee of £15 payable to event officials be replaced by a mileage rate for home to event travel, up to a maximum of £25) proposed by **CR**, seconded by **AS** – vote carried with none against. **CR** will ensure he communicates this new detail to all event organisers.

New Bye Law :

Commissaire Fee per Commissaire to cover travel to race – mileage rate of home to HQ travel	25p/mile
Commissaires Mileage for Commissaires using own vehicle per mile of the published race distance only	25p/mile

11.3 Proposal to National Council – Chief Executive Review of Regions support needed

LH outlined the points made in his covering note which he believed set out the concerns he and a number of club members feel is relevant, in part to some aspects of the West Midlands Region, but also in other Regions. In particular the lack of volunteer officials for BC committee's and events, and the increased demands upon certain Regional officials in dealing with the larger Regions and increasing membership.

There was a wide ranging discussion, with some comments noting that it was down to Regional BC members to become more involved, while others wanted to see more support from HQ.

LH accepted an amendment to his proposal in the deletion of the second sentence. The meeting generally thought that a Review in conjunction with each region would be a good idea to help the Chief Executive determine if there is a need for particular support in each Region.

Amended Proposal : "That the Chief Executive arranges to undertake a review with each Region to determine what, if any, support they require in order to function more effectively." Proposed by **LH**, seconded by **JC**. Vote carried , none against.

11.4 Proposal to National Council – Establish a Commission to report on Any Need for Functional Change

In addition to the above Review of perceived support needs, **LH** also believed that certain functions of HQ continued without apparent due attention to Regional membership. There was a perceived lack of interest in minutes of Regional Meetings, lack of communication from BC employees, lack of general communication from HQ on matters of interest to Regions, and lack of attendance at Regional meetings. **RL** corrected **LH** comments, noting that **NY** had indeed attended several previous Regional committee meetings and that there was good local dialogue between **NY**, **CR** and **RL** on several local issues. **RL** also noted that there were certain specific communications with Go-Ride clubs, with BC Coaches, with BC officials, which **LH** might not receive as he is not involved in those areas. The meeting noted that there was much information posted to the website with details of all aspects of BC activities.

Again there was a good discussion on issues affecting the proposal. **LH** accepted amendments to his proposal to remove any pre-perceptions in the wording: Amended Proposal "That a Commission be established to review and report to National Council 2009, to determine if there is a need for functional change within the existing national structure. Specifically that the Commission be composed of not more than two representatives from each Region. The aim being for the Regions to formulate proposals which pinpoint any longer term needs and wishes." Proposed by **LH**, seconded by **PB**. Vote carried, none against.

11 Election of National Councillors

- It was noted that Regional membership is now 1924, and, following the change in allocations from the 2007 National Council West Midlands is entitled to 7 National Councillors.
- Proposed Councillors – **PB**, **JC**, **LH**, **GH**, **RL**, **DM**, **RS**. – carried on block by vote.

12 Update on various Initiatives

13.1 Introduction of RR League in 2009

CR outlined the intentions from the RRL planned. **CR** noted the aim for there being 10 events in the RRL in 2009, spread throughout the year, comprising a mixture of existing events that have joined the League and new events being promoted for the first time.

13.2 Overview of On-line entry system

CR outlined how this would work in practice, and would benefit organisers while not removing their ability to select the riders for the event as they saw most appropriate from those entering on-line. **DD** asked whether organisers needed to be on email in order to use the system, and whether there remained scope for organiser without email to continue as before. **CR** confirmed that the system was designed to work on-line with the organiser, but that an organiser could choose not to use the on-line system.

13.3 Birmingham Bikeland project

RL and **RS** provided a brief update on progress in the time available at this stage of the meeting.

13.4 Birmingham 2012 BMX Bid

RL and **NY** provided a brief update on progress in the time available at this stage of the meeting.

Next meeting is a committee meeting on Monday 6th October, followed by the pre national council meeting (provisional date of Monday 3rd November) at Land Rover Social Club, Solihull.