

**MINUTES AGENDA
MID SUSSEX MCC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (2016 season)**

The Peacock Lodge, Lingfield
On 8th December 2016 at 7.30pm

In attendance, Chris Lawrance, Sharon Clements, Tony Clements, Ben Hobden, Karen Conway.

Chris welcomed the everyone for taking time to come to the AGM and made apologies for Sandy Evans, Riona and Colin Woodman who were not in attendance.

Chris opened with The Chairmans report stating we'd had another increase in membership this year and regularly had almost full line ups and not just the adults group but also in the younger schoolboy groups. On many occasions over 200 riders attended which included a number of adult visitors riding with the club all year. The club appreciates everyone's loyalty to the club and hopes to see them all into 2017.

The Treasurers report followed, Chris read on behalf of Sandie that we have had another great year and we have a healthy bank balance which can be put back into the club and tracks we use.

Chris requested the existing committee to stand down as per the Clubs Constitution.

Chris then invited the members to vote on the 2016 committee that wished to remain in their current position for the following year:

Chris Lawrence - Vice Chairman/Assistant Clerk of the Course.
Sandie Evans – Treasurer,
Karen Conway – Membership Secretary,
Ben Hobden – Chief Steward,
Sharon Clements – Chief Marshal,
Tony Clements - General Committee/Assistant Steward.

The vote was unanimous and the committee took up their positions on the committee table.
Treasurer position: (Please note: as per Mid Sussex Constitution, this position is elected for 2 years and will not be available for re-election until the AGM in 2018).

Prior to the AGM, Paul Roeton applied for the position of Chairman, the members were invited to vote for Paul. This again was unanimous and Paul joined the committee at the table. (Note : as per Mid Sussex Constitution, this position is also elected for 2 years and will not be available for re-election until the AGM in 2018).

It was then put to the members that with Riona Woodman standing down that the position of Club Secretary was available and if anyone wanted to apply please come forward, or if anyone was interested in learning more to let the committee know. No-one did. (Note : as per Mid Sussex Constitution, this position is elected for 2 years and once the position has been filled it will not be available for re-election until the AGM in 2018).

Also prior to the AGM, Mark Whittle applied to be Chief Starter this was put to the members who voted Mark on, Mark was unable to attend and therefore was not invited to join the committee at the table.

The members were then reminded that Colin Woodman was standing down as Clerk of the Course and asked if anyone was interested in coming forward to fill this position. No-one came forward.

Chris advised members the race fees will be the same for the 2017 season, all members agreed.

Members were advised that Mid Sussex are planning to run opposite GEST this year to give riders the benefit of doing more meetings and this will also benefit both clubs by having more riders attending each meeting. Mid Sussex are currently planning on running at Culham, Canada Heights, Mildenhall, Rusper and Shermanbury in 2017.

Chris then put it to those present that at 2 day events both days will be championship rounds, this will be the case at Culham. However, the meeting in August will still be a 2 day fun weekend. Members expressed that with Culham being so far away that a lot of members may not want to travel that far, but will feel they have to because it's 2 Championship rounds. Paul explained the dropping of rounds rule and said they could be the 2 rounds you drop if you don't attend anyway. Someone asked what if your bike breaks on the first day, the 2nd day will be wasted in the championship. The committee said it was the same as practicing on a Saturday and racing Sunday you stand the same chance of your bike breaking and not being able to race on the Sunday.

Mark Akers suggested instead of having 2 day championship meeting couldn't we have a qualifying system and qualify on the Saturday for Sunday's racing, it was stated that this would not be possible as some people may only do the Sunday and this would mean they wouldn't be able to qualify. This would also not be possible as we wouldn't run this way of entry at any other meeting and it should be the same across all meetings. It was mentioned that as this date clashed with GEST's meeting at Canada Heights was more local a lot of riders might attend that and not go all the way up to Culham.

Paul said this meeting was booked so long ago prior to any other clubs 2017 dates being put out and now that this clashes with GEST at Canada Heights, Paul will contact the track owner to see if there was another date we could run there.

A member asked why are we running with GEST, the committee explained again that as we are both in the same area there is only one lot of riders and it works best for riders as they are able to ride at both clubs on an almost alternative weekly basis. It's also good for both clubs as more riders can attend if we don't clash with dates.

Members asked if tracks like Shermanbury and Rusper are being revamped for 2017, the committee confirmed they are looking into it and hope to have something in place for next season.

Karen advised that membership for existing members (who attended 2 or more rounds) will be open within the next few days and forms will be on the website / Facebook to download, this will close on the 8th January 2017. Anyone who took membership out last year but didn't attend more than 2 rounds will be treated as a new member in 2017 as there was no loyalty to the club, whereas we had a number of visiting riders who were loyal to the club and rode almost every meeting in the adult groups, these riders will be invited to apply now as many wanted membership last year but had to ride as visitors.

After the 8th January membership will be open for new membership applications and anyone who attended less than 2 rounds in 2016. Membership will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

Karen explained that some youth riders need to go up due to their age and it appears they will have to go into the Adult A group as their race times correspond with that of the A group. The rest of the committee to look at times to confirm with Karen.

It was then put to the members that assistance is required in the timing van and if there anyone wanted to offer their assistance. No offers of help came forward.

Mark Whittles agenda item had 2 options, 1st was to have all rounds to count instead of dropping the two worse meetings that we currently do, and the 2nd option may be to drop the worst seven individual races. With our current way of doing it, if you have two good races and one bad, you would potentially drop this bad round at the end of year, therefore losing the 2 good results, but if we were to change to all rounds to count you would keep all scores including the 2 good scores you achieved. However, the 2nd option would mean if we dropped the worse 7 individual scores you could still keep the 2 good race results from this day and drop the one bad race result as one of your 7.

Someone asked why 7 races, they were advised this is how East Kent do it and it seems to work, it was just a suggestion of 7, however if we were to run it this way we would discuss how many rounds.

It was put to the members present which option they preferred, it was very close vote but the vote was to keep it as it currently is by dropping 2 rounds.

Rob Capps items, Rob wanted to know which tracks we were running at for 2017, Rob confirmed we had already answered that earlier in the evening, he asked if we have Wildtrax on the calendar yet. The committee said not as yet, but it will be looked into.

Rob's next item was the Compass Cup, why didn't we have top 5 riders picked to ride for the club, they have been loyal all year and it should be the top 5. It was explained that it is the job of the Team Manager to pick the right team for the club and with the 50% entry criteria he was able to choose riders that maybe hadn't finished in the top 5 but who had better results in the meetings they had attended. It was explained that because of the other clubs possibly not being able to provide their top 5 they needed another criteria to be able to get a team together, or we possibly wouldn't be able to run. It was suggested that maybe it could be done on an average results basis on your results over the year to get the riders with the best average results.

Claire Ongly said being picked wasn't about being in the top 5 it's about being committed to the club and if you had been injured earlier in the season but would have normally got better results than someone who was in the top 5 it would be better for the team to have this rider included in the team. It was brought up that if someone finished in the top 5 of the championship then they had been committed to the club.

It was agreed that we would get the regs out earlier so people knew the entry criteria. The committee to discuss.

Claire Ongly suggested that if we needed 5 riders could it not be top 4 and one wild card which would include someone who had been injured / unable to attend all meetings.

Mick Jenner asked if we could have the Compass Cup at a track other than Mildenhall as Mid Sussex we are on the back foot straight away as 3 Compass Cup clubs ride there regularly and have an advantage straight away. The committee to discuss.

Someone said they thought it was meant to be our club run it one year and another club the next and so on. The committee said we are more than happy to keep hosting it and inviting the clubs to wherever the meeting is run. Maybe at different tracks around the country to be fairer to other clubs as well, the committee to discuss.

Rob's next item was why members are not allowed to arrive before 4pm. It was explained that this is due to the committee being busy setting up the track, taping up, roping out, putting signage out. Rob said that even after 4pm the tracks are still being prepared with diggers etc, so does that mean at 4pm the diggers stop as children will go on the track. The Committee said as he well knows from being on the committee previously this isn't possible. Children are not allowed on the track whilst machinery is

working and parents should take responsibility and make sure their children know not to go on the track.

Rob then asked about the people who repeatedly arrive early, the committee advised him that these people have been told previously the arrival time and to not arrive early, but as we are busy trackside we don't always see them arrive. The committee will lock gates at venues where the gates can be locked and at tracks that the committee don't have as much track to prepare to do, as at Culham, Mildenhall and Canada Heights the arrival time will be earlier and posted to facebook and the website as has been done in the past.

Claire Ongley mentioned the track team and that she wants to see Martyn Padget on the track team and thinks the track team should include a rider as they are aware of how a track changes through the day and can set up accordingly. Neil Mitchell is a rider and currently on the track team. This will be discussed at a committee meeting to see what jobs are available as the current team are still wanting to work in 2017.

A member asked if we can make sure updates are put onto the website well in advance as they are not on Facebook and miss out on some items, it was agreed that the website will be updated as soon as possible of any necessary updates.

It was asked why we don't have a photographer at each meeting, the committee said previously it was a member who took photos and uploaded to facebook, but we could look into advertising for a member to take this on for next year.

Claire asked if John Ongly could not be told off for jumping the fence to help kids who had fallen, he was advised if he wants to go on track for the day he can sign on for a pickup jacket, but would have to be out on track when required. John to decide what he wants to do.

AOB

No-one had anything to ask.