

SIDECAR MOTOCROSS ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 17th JANUARY 2010

HELD AT

THE SULTAN, WALTHAM ABBEY

Present: Les Batten, Steve & Sue Tye, Eddie Herd, Chris Helm
Ian Cooper, Ann Reynolds, Eric Maguire, Paul Pelling, Sue Kemp
Pam & Roy Humphrey, Lydia Blackman

Apologies: Garry Patey, Martin Guilford

Start: 14.00

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them all for coming.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – read and agreed.
2. **Matters Arising** – none

Proposed: Chris Helm

Seconded: Pam Humphrey

3. **Chairman's Report (Les Batten)**

As this is my last report I would like to say thank you to the committee for the hard work in 2009 and indeed for the all years that I have been chairman of the SMCA. I would also like to thank Martin Guilford for being vice chairman during my tenancy, although Martin never had to take my place we did speak on many occasions on SMCA issues and his help was always appreciated.

As has been stated many times both the main and clubman's championships went really well in 2009 and look set to continue that way for 2010. However having now lost the input from Martin and Robert my fear is that the "100 Club" will die which will be a blow to most of the main championship organisers who benefited from the £400 per meeting input from the 100 club.

The decline in the SMCA membership has to be the prime concern for whoever takes on the role of chairman this year, a few years back I personally sent mailshots to around 100 previous members and anyone else I could think of at that time who was connected with sidecarcross. To be honest I think it may have resulted in about two members joining but certainly was not a success, that's for sure. Face to face contact has to be the way to increase membership and one of my reasons for standing down included the fact that I no longer know many of our present day competitors.

2010 sees the return of a GP to the UK and I hope that the Association takes an active part in the event. At the ACU committee meeting in November I was asked how the Langrish club could obtain the balance left in the Cyril Palmer fund but as yet nobody has contacted me any

further. Also at that ACU meeting it was suggested that a representative from the SMCA attends some MX committees to update on the championships and general position of sidecarcross. I think this could be a good opening for sidecars but only if the person is prepared to speak up, has a reasonable knowledge of ACU affairs and is willing to commit to these midweek and day long meetings.

New faces at the Associations helm may well see it through these lean times and I will be passing over my yearly subscription in the hope that the hard work started by the founder members continues to help British sidecarcross in the right direction.

Although I am stepping down from the committee I am fully prepared to help in any way that I can and am always willing to have a chat or give advice if it could be helpful in any way.

Finally thank you for the support over the years and I wish success to the SMCA for the future.

Best wishes, Les Batten

Report Proposed by Les Batten, Seconded by Chris Helm and carried

4. **Secretary's Report (Steve Tye)**

It had been a very quiet year as far as correspondence is concerned as although the ACU had acknowledged Steve was the secretary of the SMCA they seemed unable to add his name to their circulation lists; consequently nothing had been received. Steve had responded to other letters and requests as they were received and everything was in order.

Report proposed by Steve Tye, seconded by Sue Kemp and carried.

5. **Treasurer's Report (Sue Tye)**

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT AS AT 31.12.2009

RECEIPTS	2009	2008
	£	£
Membership 2008		1223.00
Membership 2009	1023.00	392.00
Membership 2010	98.00	
Awards Evening 2008		4698.00
Awards Evening 2009	5793.71	
Championship sponsorship 2008		3000.00
Championship sponsorships 2009	3500.00	2000.00
Bank Interest	00.74	27.20
TOTAL	<u>10415.45</u>	<u>11340.20</u>
PAYMENTS	2009	2008
	£	£
Web site		52.70
Bulletins	475.00	462.00

Sporting motorcyclist	348.00	54.00
ACU Affiliation	20.00	
Administration expenses	160.00	126.00
Trophies and engraving SMCA awards	1050.00	
Championship trophies 2008		594.12
British Championship	3949.10	1165.46
Clubman's Championship	1962.50	
Awards Evening 2007		70.00
Awards Evening 2008		<u>3980.30</u>
Awards Evening 2009	<u>5820.21</u>	
TOTAL	<u>13504.81</u>	<u>6504.58</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(3089.81)	4835.62

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2009

	2009	2008
	£	£
Business Premium Account	00.75	00.75
Business saver account	1509.35	1508.44
Community Account	2600.60	5485.87
Petty Cash	<u>19.28</u>	<u>24.28</u>
TOTAL	<u>4129.98</u>	<u>7219.34</u>
Accumulated fund at year start	7219.34	2383.72
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>(3089.36)</u>	<u>4835.62</u>
Accumulated Fund at year end	<u>4219.98</u>	<u>7219.34</u>

Sue pointed out that the British Championship registration fees had been included under sponsorship for the balance sheet. She also stated that the SMCA had an operating loss for last year. Sue thanked Lucy Butcher for her recording of the awards evening accounts which had made Sue's job much easier

Report proposed by Sue Tye, seconded by Sue Kemp and carried

6. Press Officer's Report (Chris Helm)

2009 was one of the busiest years for us in recent times and there were some great successes plus a few things that didn't go so well and are now a concern.

Looking at the positives first the Maxxis British championship was a great success with 7 rounds despite the final round having to be rescheduled. The money from Maxxis plus the 100 club and the money from the registrations meant that all rounds were financially sound and the top 10 riders got a bonus at the end of the year. The Hadrian Marine clubmans championship was also a success with good entries throughout the year

On the negative side we have the ever decreasing number of members which I believe was the lowest ever and as a knock on effect the lack of volunteers. I asked for assistance with the 2010 GPs in the last bulletin and received a round zero responses. Also requests for material to go in TMX generated very little.

I acted as recorder for the British championships and made sure that reports & results were put on the Euromotosport website thanks to RB and also the results were posted on sidecarcross.com. I also supplied the results to TMX and Jan & I covered the last round for them at Lyng.

Jan & I covered all the GPs for TMX and tried to supply RB with results and reports for the web. As I said at the last committee meeting I will not be attempting to cover those that we don't attend in 2010. Although nobody volunteered to help I have found someone who says he will be going to all the GPs and he is happy to help out – fingers crossed.

As reported last year I have been trying to keep the John Davey pages up to date but the fact that Gerald Connelly has moved and completely lost the ability to answer emails the process has ground to a halt from my perspective. Gerald has been beavering away on his own and updated a lot of the recent records up to 2008. Unfortunately what he is done is riddled with mistakes so now we have the original mistakes created by John compounded with Gerald's. Towards the end of the year I helped out by making the final changes to the 2010 championship rules and sent them to the ACU office as I believed they were urgently required for despatch to the printers. To date as far as I am aware they have not been issued to the riders and the closing date for registrations is only 2 weeks away. With Canada Heights being the first round at the end of March I'm sure that we don't want loads of late entries caused by late paperwork from the office. (PS I have just heard from Nadine that they were posted out on Monday 11th but the closing date is still 30th)

At Jauer I was asked by Chris Warren to help with the GP in April. Having said I would and asked him to let me know what help he wanted I have heard nothing. Also a request from Rien Willems at the end of November to CW for info about the meeting still remains unanswered apart from a statement that the website was being updated. Should we be concerned? Lastly I have been involved with RB & RH trying to sort out how to improve the smcagb website.

Chris

Report proposed by Chris Helm, Seconded by Ann Reynolds and carried

7. **Membership Secretary's Report (Garry Patey)**

Garry sent his apologies for his non attendance and also said he would be standing down due to personal reasons. A vote of thanks was recorded for his efforts over the past years.

8. **Bulletin Editor's Report (Pam Humphrey)**

Pam reported that 4 issues had been compiled but as usual it was extremely hard work to get contributions for them. Once the new membership forms had been issued and received then it would be possible to determine how many hard copies of the bulletin would need to be sent out and how many could be sent by e mail. A vote of thanks went to Pam for her efforts in what is always a difficult job.

Report proposed by Pam Humphrey seconded by Eddie Herd

9. **Membership fees for 2011**

A proposal had been made by the committee that family memberships should be discontinued and that membership fees should be competitors £20 and non competitors £10 per annum with membership free for those under 14.

Proposed by Roy Humphrey seconded Eddie Herd and carried unanimously

10. **Timing of the AGM and the Closure of the Financial Year**

The treasurer explained that the closure of the financial year on December 31st, so close to the date of the AGM caused many problems in drawing up the statement of account, preparing the balance sheet and arranging for the accounts to be audited. Mr. Mackay, the auditor had suggested that a minimum gap of 90 days is customary in business between the closure of the financial year and the AGM. To put this in context, the SMCA generally allows between 10 and 20 days, this year it was 17. Sue proposed that the accounting year be moved to start at September 1st with the accounts closing on August 31st. This is a time of the year when the accounts are not as active as the majority of transactions for the SMCA occur between mid September and April. This should help to ensure that all transactions are completed before the accounts are prepared and give sufficient time for thorough scrutiny by Mr. Mackay when the accounts are reviewed. It is purely an administrative move and will make no difference to the running of the association.

Proposed Sue Tye Seconded by Chris Helm and carried

As a consequence of the change in the accounting year it became possible to review the timing of the AGM. It was felt it would be helpful to bring the AGM forward to the first Sunday in December so that it fell before the start of the calendar year when the new membership begins. Thus if there are any changes proposed they can be implemented promptly.

Proposed Eric Maguire Seconded Ann Reynolds and carried

Election of Officers

Because Les was standing down it was suggested that he continued to hold the chair during the election of the new chairman as the current vice chairman, Martin Guilford was not present. As Martin was not standing again a new vice chairman was also proposed. A vote of thanks was recorded to Martin for all his work.

Position	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Ian Cooper	Steve Tye	Sue Tye
Vice Chairman	Chris Helm	Ann Reynolds	Paul Pelling
Secretary	Steve Tye	Ian Cooper	Lydia Blackman
Treasurer	Sue Tye	Eddie Herd	Sue Kemp
Membership Secretary	Nicky Maguire	Ian Cooper	Sue Tye
Press Officer	Chris Helm	Steve Tye	Sue Kemp
Bulletin Editor	Pam Humphrey	Ian Cooper	Sue Kemp

General Committee Members:

Eric Maguire, Sue Kemp, Roy Humphrey, Ann Reynolds,

Proposed by Steve Tye, Seconded by Sue Tye and carried

Paul Pelling and Lydia Blackman are co-ordinators of the British and Clubman's Championships respectively and thus are automatically members of the committee.

Date for next AGM: December 2010. Venue: TBA

There being no further business the meeting closed at 15.50