

**MINUTES OF THE SMCA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ARBORFIELD  
BARRACKS**

**13.03. 2010**

**THOSE PRESENT** Ian Cooper, *Chairman*, Steve Tye, *Secretary*, Sue Tye, *Treasurer*, Chris Helm, *Vice Chairman +Press Officer*, Pam Humphrey, *Bulletin Editor*, Paul Pelling, *British Championship Co-ordinator*, Nicky Maguire *Membership Secretary*, Sue Kemp, Eric Maguire, Lydia Blackman, *Clubmans Championship Co-ordinator*; Ann Reynolds, Roy Humphrey.

**1. APOLOGIES** None

**2. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION**

The Chairman welcomed everyone. He stated that all the championship programme covers and posters had been printed. Sidcup club had been supplied with display boards for their promotional work.

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING.**

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting. Steve stated that the only communication he had received from the ACU was some licence forms. Still he had not received any minutes of the meetings. (Since the meeting the ACU handbook has been distributed. It includes Steve's name as secretary but shows an incorrect e mail address for him.)

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Sue stated that currently memberships had raised £1978.58. One cheque had been returned, refer to drawer but Nicky confirmed that this had been sorted out. The ACU affiliation fee had been paid and also the room hire for the Sultan. Invoices due were the deposit for the dinner dance and the bill for the programme covers and posters for the British Championship.

The community account contained £3219.91.

The savings accounts contained £2989.96

The Cyril Palmer fund which, although it had been held by the SMCA for administrative purposes at Cyril's request, had been kept in a separate account and was never included in the assets of the SMCA, had been sent to Chris Warren for use at the Langrish Grand Prix. The total amount sent was £1179.86p.

The £2500 sponsorship from MAXXIS had not been received and a second invoice was to be sent.

Roy Humphrey suggested a similar invoice be sent to Sonia Goggin at the ACU office for the £1500 registration fees due.

The 2009 dinner dance had made a profit of £312.

## **5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Nicky stated that we had 135 members including 30 drivers, 21 passengers and 84 supporters/family members. There had been a positive response to the reintroduction of the Easter egg hunt and other events,

The question of "what do we get for our money?" had been raised and was discussed again. It was felt we should promote the "one stop shop" concept and have membership forms, licence forms etc. all available. Nicky presented a spread sheet indicating projected incomes using the proposed membership fee changes. Chris Helm requested that we separate the number of adult supporters from children to gain a clearer picture of numbers.

## **6. PRESS OFFICER'S REPORT**

Chris reported that over the winter sidecars had done quite well in TMX. However he was concerned about the coverage of Grand Prix when he and Jan would not be attending. Nothing had been heard from Chris Donnelly since his initial offer. Ann asked whether anyone travelling with one of the riders could be asked to cover. However it was felt that they would be only watching their own crew and not be able to give a general report of the event. Chris had managed to persuade the Van de Sleuys to report on the Dutch Championship round. Ann had done a British GP preview for TSM and Sportmoto and Chris would send a preview to TMX.

## **7. BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP**

Paul reported that there were 30 registered riders for 2010. 29 had entered the first round plus 2 wild card entries. Also the Derks were interested in doing some of the rounds.

Trophies were all sorted out. Rob Oldfield had agreed to be a rider rep and David Keane had been approached to represent passengers. (David has since agreed) Ian noted that 3 of the rounds were combined with other championships thus rendering unusable the programme covers which had cost £140. He suggested that next year we consider just giving money to the organisers instead of covers and programmes. Roy Humphrey suggested that the covers are still sent to the 3 clubs and are given out with the event programme as additional sidecar specific information. MAXXIS have insisted that all crews competing in the championships must display a forward facing MAXXIS sticker. There was a discussion on the official rules concerning stickers. Roy suggested that the secretary should write to the ACU asking them to ratify this. It was suggested that the SMCA compile a scrapbook for the season showing their stickers, banners etc and present it to MAXXIS at the end of the season. Paul stated that the Wrangway round of the championship would be televised.

## **8. 100 CLUB**

Lydia stated that there was £800 in the account from last year plus any other cheques which may have been taken since. Ian offered to work out the best use of the funds available and e mail them to the committee. *This has been done.*

## **9. CLUBMAN'S CHAMPIONSHIP**

Lydia said there were 22 registered riders. There would be no prize fund available as we had received no sponsorship. Following a discussion it was decided that the SMCA would provide trophies for the first three riders overall at each meeting. Steve would contact Roger Brown and organise this.

## **10. SUPPORT TO BRITISH GRAND PRIX**

Ian and Ann had spoken to Chris Warren. He asked that the Grid Girls hold the 15 second boards for the whole event, not just the sidecar races. It would cost £30 each for the red white and blue outfits for the girls and Lydia could have them printed with SMCA logos without extra cost. Ian offered to track down the SMCA banner.

There was a discussion about the timetable for Saturday practice/qualifying. The worst case scenario was with the day starting at 7am with Technical Control and the last practice finishing at 7pm. This was of concern to Chris Warren as Langrish have a 6pm finish deadline. *This is now sorted with a 6pm finish.*

## **11. FUND RAISING SCHEMES**

Nicky and Eric handed out sheets from Chris Parkhouse. He was offering a range of products supplied at generous discounts for the SMCA to sell on. Nicky and Eric did not have the time to manage this and it was agreed that it really needed someone outside the committee to take this on. Ian offered the gain more information from Chris Parkhouse.

## **12. SIDECAR WEEKEND**

Steve Hyde had offered his track at Arncott for a weekend free of charge. There would be a party on the Saturday evening organised by Jen Mitchell and Jo Reynolds to celebrate their birthdays followed by a Sidecar Funday on the Sunday. This would not interfere with South Hants as their proposed date clashes with a British Championship date. Ann offered to contact Claire Foyle to talk about a possible date change of the Frome UMX as this clashes with a meeting at Farleigh Castle. Paul would check the track availability with Steve Hyde. We would need to check availability of toilets, Eric to check the cost of hire. The question of insurance was raised. Nicky offered to check issues of culpability with a friendly lawyer.

*Afternote: Frome UMX is now 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug. Proposed Funday is now 14/15 Aug.*

## **13. SMCA TROPHIES.**

Eric thought that voting on the winners of trophies should be open to all members, not just the committee. He was willing to issue the voting slips and collate the results. There was a suggestion from Roy that only some should be voted on by all and others by the committee as

some had a very specific criteria. Ian spoke about a trophy for the most improved crew; with the rules to be decided at a later date. *This will be confirmed at the next meeting.*

#### **14. TEAM RACE MANAGER**

Roy Humphrey stated that he hoped there would be news in the next 2 weeks following talks with concerned parties but the ACU were probably looking for a management team rather than a single individual.

#### **15. DINNER DANCE 2010**

This has been booked for November 27<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn at Maidenhead. Rooms will be available at £65 including breakfast. 40 rooms have been block booked. The menu has been set at £25 and will include a soup starter, roast as the main course with extra vegetables for each table, a cold dessert, coffee and mints. This venue represents better value overall than the Village Hotel which had increased its prices considerably since last year and was unwilling to negotiate. This was agreed following a vote. Nicky would contact Lucy regarding a price for menus, tickets etc. but also explore other options and work out best value. It was suggested that we have a bigger differential in ticket prices between members and non members. Room decoration was discussed. It was agreed some form of decoration was needed. Most of the gifts go to volunteers and the need to do this was questioned. It was decided to restrict this to special circumstances only. Table decorations were thought to be a good idea generally but only without candles.

Raffle prizes were discussed and it was decided to restrict buying prizes to the first 3 and then seek donations. Nicky would explore the possibility of obtaining a “good” first prize. Sue Kemp suggested John Elliott as a possible guest speaker.

The date for the dinner should be published straight away with the ticket prices to be added later when they had been confirmed.

#### **16. BULLETIN UPDATE**

Pam stated that the cut off date had been 2 weeks ago but she had no contributions to put in it except the AGM minutes. If copy could be increased there could be an issue in the next 3 weeks. 29 members had requested hard copies of the bulletin.

#### **17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS**

12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 1pm. At the Sultan, Waltham Abbey

2<sup>nd</sup> October 1pm at Arborfield

AGM Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December Venue TBA. Nicky Maguire to source a venue.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.55pm.