

Waldrons WMCCL	Committee Meeting	Meeting date: 17/02/2012
Attendees: Dmi, GS, AB, NB, CI, Dme		Apologies: ME, DF, DG, MH, JP, SP, KE (BC)
Meeting purpose: To discuss:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final four rounds of the season • Chip timing and results • AGM 		

Discussion:	Action:
<p>Minutes from last meeting</p> <p>Minutes from 09/12/2011 were agreed.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to purchase enough new jerseys for the all the WM Inter Area teams next season. DMe will look to price alternative suppliers and then the Committee will consider approaching the League sponsors for a contribution towards the cost.</p> <p>Treasurer's report</p> <p>GS confirmed that at the end of the season, expenditure slightly exceeded income by £15, mainly due to the additional costs associated with contributing towards the chip timing from Black Sheep Sports used in the last four rounds.</p> <p>The balance at today is £7,613.69 with all fees paid. There are some minor amounts to come in from BC in levies which will increase the overall balance to approx. £7,700.</p> <p>DMe thanked GS for his support in assisting MSW with the organisation of the National Trophy.</p> <p>Whilst the Committee agreed they would discuss the use of chip timing later on in the agenda, all agreed that this was the way forward to improve the League, particularly in managing results for the growing number of riders. Therefore a discussion took place as to how event organisers could cover the costs of using a company's chip timing service. The Committee will submit a recommendation to the AGM that race entry fees increase by £2 per rider for the Junior categories and above, and by £1 for Youth riders, with the cost for all under 12 riders staying the same.</p> <p>League sponsorship</p> <p>The Committee noted the excellent news, via DG's confirmation email, that Waldrons Solicitors have agreed to remain the League sponsors for the next two seasons and they do not want to exercise their 12 month opt out.</p> <p>Review of rounds 10 - 13</p> <p><i>Round 10 Tackeroo</i></p> <p>The event went well, with the wider start area being an improvement from the earlier in the season. However, there could have been clearer course marking, particularly around the finish area, and more volunteers on the day would have been helpful.</p> <p><i>Round 11 Top Barn Farm</i></p> <p>The event seemed to go ok with a good quality of senior riders present. However,</p>	<p>DMe</p> <p>AB</p>

Discussion:	Action:
<p>more helpers were definitely needed at the signing on as this was covered by Keith Evans from BC and a member of the Committee for a substantial period of time. It was also noted that no cash prizes were awarded for the second time at this venue, which is against the Committee's expectations. AB had received a complaint from one League rider on this point.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to make this expectation clear within the Event Organiser's Pack that will be issued to all organisers for next season.</p> <p><i>Round 12 Aldersley</i></p> <p>The Committee noted a shortage of helpers for the signing on throughout the day, although acknowledged that issues were compounded with the late arrival of the signing on sheets for the U12 and Youth races. The lack of available information for Youth gridding was also understood to have caused some delay at the start of this race too.</p> <p>The Committee have had separate discussions with the Wolverhampton Wheelers Committee with regards to lessons learnt from this round and how any issues encountered can be improved going forward.</p> <p><i>Round 13 Baggeridge</i></p> <p>Those Committee members present at this race agreed it was a good course, considering the weather, although there had been some minor conflict with regular park walkers on the day. The signing on had worked well with a large area set aside for this.</p> <p>GS requested the signing on sheets for Round 13 to complete his paperwork for the season.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to review the use of chip timing for these rounds under a separate agenda item.</p> <p>PA system</p> <p>Whilst JP had previously researched alternative suppliers with a view to the League purchasing a system to assist more League rounds to be given a Cat B status, he had also advised the Committee of an offer of second hand equipment.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that they would prefer to purchase new equipment as an investment for the League. JP to liaise with GS to secure the funds to go ahead and purchase the equipment identified.</p> <p>DMi confirmed that Adrian Elson had noted an interest in becoming the commentator for the majority of League rounds to help support the increase of events to Cat B status. The Committee were happy to take up this offer and suggested that the purchased equipment should be held and maintained by Adrian and he would be responsible for transporting it to each event. DMi to discuss further with Adrian.</p> <p>Black Sheep Sports timing</p> <p>The Committee unanimously agreed (including those not present who had also voiced their opinions) that chip timing was the way forward. It was recognised that the Committee, event organisers and riders were all on a steep learning curve to understand how to get the most from a chip timing results service.</p> <p>Experience of using Black Sheep had, at times, come with several issues and caused</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>DF</p> <p>JP/GS</p> <p>DMi</p>

Discussion:	Action:
<p>a lot of frustration amongst riders keen to see their results on, or very soon after, race day. AB confirmed that both she and DF had experienced several errors with the data Black Sheep had been sending through post-race, e.g. mis-spelling of riders names and/or clubs when the data had been provided previously, obvious errors in lap times – either half the time or double the time of other laps, riders missing, and riders showing as finishing when they clearly hadn't from the time they had raced for. This had caused a lot of additional work that had not been anticipated. Both AB and DF wanted to post a near an accurate result as possible, but both had struggled to obtain the information required from Black Sheep at times. However, it was acknowledged that some riders' frustrations could have been better managed with proactive communication updates on the Forum, or in response to individual queries, to keep the League informed of delays and reasons for errors.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that human error also caused some difficulties in producing an accurate chip timing result; however, it is the Committee's belief that if there is structure, organisation and clarity around roles and responsibilities for using this service, it should improve the speed and accuracy of a result being produced.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that, for the chip timing results service to work effectively and efficiently, the League needs a company to take responsibility for issuing the chips, producing quick and accurate results, handling rider queries in conjunction with the event organiser (not Committee members), allocating league points and updating all League tables.</p> <p>A proposal will be submitted to the AGM to continue with the use of chip timing for all races next season, with a tender being put out to interested companies and an agreement drawn up with the selected provider before the start of the season to clearly define the process, procedures and responsibilities.</p>	<p>AB</p>
<p>Prize winners' trophies and medals</p> <p>GS ran through the available trophies and medals for each category and the Committee agreed to publish the winners on the website prior to the prize presentation evening (apart from those awarded by the Committee to recognise rider improvement) as agreed in last year's AGM.</p>	<p>AB</p>
<p>AGM topics</p> <p><i>League dates for 2012/2013</i></p> <p>The Committee agreed to 12 league rounds for next season, avoiding all national events again, apart from the NT at South Shields. 3 dates had already been agreed, due to limited venue and organiser availability, and all other dates will be agreed at the AGM as previously notified.</p> <p>It was noted that due to the number of interested clubs and teams (including some new organisers); it was likely to mean that each organiser would be able to have one League event only next season.</p> <p>Organisers, and/or, their helpers to be reminded to attend the AGM to ensure League dates can be finalised.</p> <p><i>Event organiser's pack</i></p> <p>AB had drafted a pack which the Committee agreed would be emailed to organisers post the AGM. This would include all information the Committee identified as assisting League events to be of a consistently good standard.</p>	<p>AB</p>

Discussion:	Action:
<p><i>League rules 2012/20123</i></p> <p>The current League rules were reviewed, particularly in light of lessons learnt from this season. The Committee agreed to put forward a proposal to the AGM for all League registrations to be received prior to the start of the season. With the website League registration facility up and running, the Committee believed there was sufficient time for all interested riders to register and this would lead to an easier signing on process and League results service. Non-League riders will still be welcome at every event.</p> <p>With 12 planned rounds for next season the Committee agreed to propose that a rider's best 9 results out of 12 would equal his/her total League points for the season.</p> <p><i>Race times</i></p> <p>All the Committee agreed that the current times and format of races needed to change to accommodate the ever growing success and increased numbers of the League. Ideas put forward from within and outside of the Committee were discussed and, whilst it was acknowledged that any changes were unlikely to suit 100% of riders, it was agreed to put forward what the Committee believe to be the best proposal to the AGM.</p> <p><i>Signing on</i></p> <p>It was agreed that any chip timing service company would need to assist with the handing out of chips to all riders. In addition, signing on sheets would be emailed to event organisers for printing prior to each race and race numbers would be passed from organiser to organiser for each round, to allow the organiser to begin signing on at their convenience.</p> <p>The Committee will submit signing on proposals to register League riders prior to the start of the season and to increase race entry fees to provide sufficient funds for event organisers to cover the cost of chip timing.</p> <p><i>Gridding</i></p> <p>The Committee agreed that gridding should continue based on average League points during the season. It was noted that the start areas for each race vary considerably in size and depth and therefore the Committee will put forward a proposal to the AGM to have a standard sized gridding area with a 10 min count down to starting each race, as per UCI rules.</p> <p><i>Results and use of chip timing</i></p> <p>As per the discussion within the Black Sheep Sports timing agenda item above.</p> <p><i>Results for Snowdons</i></p> <p>GS and NB confirmed that Jacob James had agreed to act as the League's Press Officer for next season; taking photos at each round and forwarding on the top three results from each race and category to Snowdons for immediate publication on the BC website.</p> <p><i>Funding for European trips</i></p> <p>The Committee agreed to fund more trips, across more categories, next season for promising riders who support League events, assuming volunteers were willing to come forward and arrange/attend foreign trips. The Committee thanked Robin Fox for arranging the Super Prestige trip to Belgium on 23 December 2011.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>AB</p> <p>AB</p> <p>AB</p>

Discussion:	Action:
<p><i>BC Cyclo-Cross Development Conference – 10/03/2012</i></p> <p>DF has already confirmed he is attending this date.</p> <p>Committee members next season</p> <p>All those members present at the meeting confirmed they were willing to volunteer as Committee members again. AB to email those absent to check whether they are also willing to volunteer.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p><i>AGM</i></p> <p>The Chairman, Treasurer, League Secretary and League Coordinators will provide reports at the beginning of this year's AGM.</p> <p>The AGM agenda will be published on the website prior to next Sunday.</p> <p><i>Riders' contact details</i></p> <p>AB had received a request to pass on the contact details of all League riders to allow an event promotion to be emailed. The Committee agreed no details should be passed on as riders had given their personal information on the understanding it would be used solely for the League. AB will decline the request.</p> <p><i>Waldrons WMCCL Forum</i></p> <p>The Committee agreed to remind the AGM that the Forum was public and can be viewed by anyone, including our sponsors. A small number of posts had been removed during the season where the Committee felt that comments were personal, rather than constructive, in nature and could potentially damage the relationship with our sponsors, as well as the strong reputation of the League.</p> <p>CI suggested adding a Committee member only discussion forum to the website to make it easier to track conversation threads, rather than having several emails circulating around. The Committee agreed this was a good idea.</p> <p><i>Closing comment from the Chairman</i></p> <p>DMi thanked everyone (present and absent) for their considerable time and effort in volunteering to form the Committee this season.</p> <p>Next Meeting - AGM</p> <p>Sunday 26 February at 12.00pm, Halesowen A & CC club room.</p>	<p>DF</p> <p>AB</p> <p>DMi/GS/AB DF/NB AB</p> <p>AB</p> <p>DF</p>