

**MINUTES AGM  
MID SUSSEX MCC  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (2020-2021 season)**

The Peacock Lodge, Fellbridge, East Grinstead  
On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 at 7.30pm

In attendance,  
Sharon Clements, Lisa Baldock, Chris Lawrance  
Apologies: Karen Conway and Georgina Potter, Paul Warren

In lieu of a Chairman, Lisa opened with a quick report on the year advising it could have been a much better year with more members booking in although we had a lot of visitors, because we carried over membership from 2019 we had members who didn't ride all year.

Sharon then gave the treasurers report and explained that we as we carried over the membership from 2019 before Covid locked us down. We still had things coming out of the account during 2019 in the form of club phone charges, van insurance, van taxes and container storage at Rusper. We were also unfortunate to have the club generator stolen so had to purchase another one at over £1000. We gave the members some great tracks but found that around half the people entered were visitors. We still have funds for the coming year, to give them great tracks. We also took a couple of hits through the year as we didn't want to cancel meetings, but give the members who had booked in the chance to ride. Therefore, we have around £4,000 less in the account at the end of the year.

We then advise those present that as per the Constitution that everyone has to stand down. Sharon explained that the roles of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are 2 year posts and we had to step down this year as we took on an extra year last year due to there being no racing and no AGM in 2019.

Sharon then went on to advise that Karen Conway was prepared to continue on the Committee as our Chief Timing Official and asked if everyone was in agreement. There were no objections and Karen was voted back on the committee.

Sharon then said George Potter was willing to stand as Secretary for a further 2 years. Kelly Roeton raised her concerns that a Club Secretary should really be able to attend each meeting and unfortunately George had only been at 1 meeting. George living in Devon made attending all meetings a bit difficult. Secretary is a pivotal role as it also includes being race day secretary who has to be in attendance and meetings. Luckily, we have been able to re-allocate race secretary for this years meetings. Kelly suggested it might be better if George was a general committee member and to have a secretary who could commit to each meeting. Members in attendance voted with George not continuing as secretary but general committee which could still include the online system with booking in and various other things.

Next role to be voted on was Treasurer, the vote was carried for Sharon to continue for a further 2 years.

Sharon explained that our Chairman stepped down at the beginning of 2021 due to personal reasons and that the current committee had been making/agreeing decisions for the club, the Chairman would usually have a final say and be the spokesperson for the club. The Chairman role would be usually taken on by someone who had been on the committee for a couple of years, but as per our constitution amendments at the last AGM it can be someone everyone feels is good for the job. We had no nominations for this position.

The committee need to actively source people to join the existing committee as we have roles available. Club will advertise for additional people. During the year we have had various race secretaries and now in lieu of a Secretary, we need someone to do this for us going forward.

With Chris Lawrance stepping down we will also need to recruit a new Clerk of the Course. Sharon advised that her role was treasurer, but she stepped up last year to assist with the marshalling again but would rather not be doing it in 2022, so therefore need to recruit someone who can do the marshalling. Someone suggested Dan Baker who stood in for Sharon at Culham, but when asked before he didn't want to do it full time. No other offers. Those then present then voted Lisa to continue as membership secretary.

### **Committee Proposals**

Existing catering van to continue into 2022  
Existing spares van to continue into 2022  
Existing ice cream providers to continue in to 2022

Everyone happy with these to continue.

Calendar for the following year :

Sharon proceeded to list the venues that we have been told we can have next year, being West Meon, Wakes Colne, Foxhills, Culham, Canada Heights, Iden, Shermanbury and Rusper. Chris Lawrance mentioned that he is also in discussions with Wroxton for a date there next year.

Chris has GESTs dates and is getting EKSSCs dates and we will try to not clash with them as much as possible but with 3 clubs wanting to race every other weekend it does sometimes mean there will be clashes. Dates will go up on the website and Facebook as soon as we have them.

Marshalling, Sharon said that it had proved difficult at some meetings where we needed additional marshals and thanked those that had helped. She said that if anyone has a relative who is 16, then bring them along and get them to offer to marshal as we do need extra marshals at the bigger tracks and they get paid for it.

Membership fees will be increased this year as its been a while since our last increase, membership will be increased to £45 for the first member and £15 each additional family member living at the same address. Race entries will also be increased, as this hasn't been increased for at least 4 / 5 years and we will advise on these at a later date as they need to be viable increases. We will still be in line with other local clubs.

Next year we hope to include the 2 dayer fun weekend again including the parents race, its a great weekend and is enjoyed by all.

Lisa advised that Membership will be open from tonight and if anyone wants to join we have membership forms available. Membership will be open to current 2021 members only until later in January and then it will also open up to non members. Therefore, if you want to keep your number you need to get in early, if your rider is moving up then you may have to wait a while if the number you want is already taken by an existing member.

Lisa then advised members to remember that if you become a member and your group is full with members and you don't ride the first three meetings your membership could be reallocated to a rider who does want to join and ride the full championship.

### **Members queries/proposals/suggestions**

#### **Simone Laughton - Media**

Sharon told those present that Simone Laughton put herself forward to be our media official. Since Dave Parker is no longer available to be do this. Members present voted Simone to be in charge of media.

### Dan Johnson - pegging via race result

Dan wanted to know if we can have pegs for race one and your gate for race 2 is the position you finished in race one. Race 3 start gate is your finish position in race 2. This was put to those present who voted this in.

### Kurt Richardson – Shuffle of groups

Final member suggestion was from Kurt Richardson who wanted to shuffled the groups about a little to enable more people (Adults) to ride in the correct group.

His proposal was to run as follows:

85 sw and bw together

Get rid of youth 125/250f class and just have a mx2 class instead

Run a vets/female/ b

And have the adult open / expert

His view was that this could enable more adults but also keep its integrity of a schoolboy club. He proposed that if there was ever the need to split bw and sw then a minute was to be knocked from each race to get through the day.

The main flaw with the suggestion is by getting rid of the 125/250 class means that anyone wanting to move to the 125 couldn't ride at age 13, as it is now, they can, they'd have to wait until 14. Whereas the current age range for 125's is aged 13 – 17. Dropping a minute from each race still wouldn't give us enough extra time to complete the races within time restrictions we have.

There was then a discussion on adults riders who were not very good, being scared of riding with the main adult group and didn't want to put themselves out with that group. A further discussion came about that it would mean the adults would be split into more groups but making younger riders SW / BW 85's ride together with a wider range of abilities and ages by running the groups together on a regular basis, which is exactly what the proposal is for the adults, we discussed that surely the younger riders need this more than the adults.

It was suggested that we revert back to the A&B groups and check riders laptimes to make sure they are in the right group. It was mentioned that with the split of the groups as they are it works for the majority of riders with it being more defined because of the entry age for the VMX. We do also have VMX riders who ride with the faster adult group, as that is their choice. Not all VMX riders want to ride with the Adult riders.

Furthermore, by splitting the adult groups further there's a chance we still may not get full groups and would be running them for fewer riders than expected. Our groups haven't been continuously full through the year with members but we do have more than enough members to fill them, however, the groups have been filled with visitors. Paul Roeton commented that as Sharon had said previously many members who had their membership carried over didn't ride this year. We have been light on SW/BW this year but don't want to further restrict the numbers being allowed to enter (ie 20 per group) by running together.

We then went back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of Kurts suggestion which was as follow:

Another idea would be to have a practice and qualifying session for 15 mins and then only have 2 race format so that the riders still get the same amount of bike time but again it makes everything run smoother and gives a GP style points system.

However, as this was also part of the first suggestion it had to heard as one.

Members voted to keep the groups as they are because of the 125 class at age 13.

Any other business

If there is a problem with the timing/results at any time with the new pegging system in place we would then have to revert back to pegs. This prompted Dean to ask the question of live timing, and why we haven't got it as both GEST and EKSSC do. It would make it easier for the riders to know

which gate they were going to as they can bring up the results. There will be some tracks that this won't be possible at due to poor signal. Rusper would probably be one that the signal would not be good at. Everyone present wanted this so the club will purchase a dongle.

The club needs new blood and people with new ideas. We need to advertise for willing people to step up for their club to help. We need to fill the roles that we have available to help the smooth running of the meetings. A couple of our tracks need work on and those present felt that if we worked on Shermanbury and Rusper we could increase entries with a new track layout. It was explained that at Shermanbury the main jumps have to stay where they are, if the jumps are less than 1 meter high we can move them, we can also change the layout slightly. We had offers from Neil Mitchell, Dean Street, Ricky Fowler and Chris Lawrance to assist with this. There are rules with the council of what we can /can't do. The club will contact the landowner to find out what we can do and when.

Rusper also needs work. However, we have approached the landowner previously and although he said we could update it, it was going to be a large cost to the club as the landowner wanted to supply all the dirt etc at a higher cost than we could get it for.

Dan asked why we run the autos after the adults. Sharon said that at a lot of the meetings we are restricted on time and we can usually run the autos late as they are the quieter bikes. We have tried to accommodate riders by changing the groups previously but we find that the riders get confused with a changed race order and some have missed their races.

There was one year that we had more adult riders and a discussion followed about the time Paul Roeton accidentally over subscribed the adult membership in the vets and to give everyone a chance of riding we had four races for the first few meetings, each rider only rode 3 of the 4 shorter races and overall they rode against all the other riders. It worked as a way of giving the members their ride but was a lot of extra hard work for the timing. At round 4 entries had levelled out to just fill the group for the remainder of the year.

Sharon thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 9.11pm.