

## London Cyclo Cross Association 2019 AGM

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019. 19:30

Evans Cycles; Camino Park, James Watt Way, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 9TZ

Proposed AGENDA

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Robert Kingsland.

### **2. Minutes of last AGM March 2018**

2018 minutes were circulated via the website.

### **3. Matters Arising** (If not on the agenda)

### **4. Officers' Reports**

Verbal reports will be given by the LCCA Officers where appropriate.

### **5. Election of Committee Officers and Committee Members**

The Committee would like to thank Bill Wright and Andy Seltzer for their respective work with the timing system and Sussex League. Both will be standing down this year.

It is proposed that the Sussex League rankings are carried out by the new Committee.

### **List of proposed nominations 2018/19 Officers**

- **Chair** – Stuart McGhee  
*The Chair takes an overview and a co-ordinating role of the LCCA as well as chairing the AGM and other meetings.*
- **Secretary** – Richard Hemsley  
*The Secretary is our official point of contact with British Cycling and all other bodies or people outside of the LCCA. The Secretary co-ordinates with Officers of the LCCA regarding queries and communications received. The Secretary also communicates to the Committee any decisions to be made and voted upon.*
- **Treasurer** – Jon Goodge  
*The Treasurer counts the money and ensures that levies and the like are paid.*
- **Calendar Co-Ordinator** – Stuart McGhee and Richard Hemsley  
*To communicate with all organisers and work with them to finalise a calendar and then send to BC in May.*
- **Gridding & Ranking Co-Ordinator** – Chris Clague  
*To collate and provide a grid for all races to be used by the Commissaires. To collate and make public the position of riders in each race category based on points scored.*
- **East Kent League Co-Ordinator**- Robert Kingsland  
*To co-ordinate the calendar for EKCX events and represent the League and to decide who qualifies to score points in the League.*
- **Results & Timing System Officer** – Chris Clague  
*To manage and run the timing system team. Liaises with administrators of the entry system to be used.*

- **Technical Officers** – Richard Hemsley & Stuart McGhee  
*To appoint Commissaires to events and liaise with organisers about course design and best practice.*
- **Women's Officer** – Caroline Reuter  
*To offer a women's perspective and to take an interest in the women's/all races.*
- **Publicity Officers** – Glen Whittington & Stuart McGhee  
*To run the website, interact on social media and to liaise with interested parties regarding publicity and sponsorship.*
- **Members Reps** – In previous years we have always had rider representation on the Committee to give back from events etc. However, most riders are now doing this via social media, or direct contact through the website. Are members therefore still needed?

## **6. Proposals**

6.1 – Identify and contract a professional medical services company to provide medical/first aid cover at all L & SE league events.

*British Cycling's new medical guidelines come into force next month, and for next season we will need to ensure we comply with these. To achieve a better consistency of service, and hopefully obtain a better price, it is proposed that one provider is used for all L & SE events and organisers are obliged to use this service.*

FOR VOTE

6.2 – Raise the entry fee by £1 on all senior, junior, women and veteran entries at L & SE events.

*The additional medical services stated in 6.1 will be an additional cost for organisers. By raising the entry fee by £1, complying with new guidelines becomes close to cost neutral for organisers.*

FOR VOTE

6.3 – Source a new supplier for race entries and league affiliations.

*Rider HQ has many issues that are causing an increase in the time spent sorting out problems with entries, gridding, ranking and results. Our current provider, whilst having served us well for the past years, does no longer seem fit for purpose.*

FOR VOTE

6.4 – All promoting clubs to provide volunteers to set up and operate the timing results system.

*Currently this service is provided by a small central group who cover multiple events throughout the season. Organisers are then charged a fee for providing the service through the L & SE League levy.*

*NOTE – If we agree to have clubs operating the system, an additional proposal will be needed to amend the L & SE League levy.*

FOR VOTE

6.5 – LCCA to pay travel expenses for all trainee Commissaires.

*Trainees currently do not claim expenses. To ensure future trainees are not put off the role due to costs, they can claim travel costs from the LCCA. This is in line with the SE region and trainee road Commissaires.*

FOR VOTE

## **7. Items for Discussion**

The following points have been raised by Committee Members for discussion. A vote can be held on any items where needed following discussion.

### **From Stuart McGhee**

- Planks for under 12 riders only max 15 high? To encourage developments towards Youth Racing, East Kent to have an A and B line as they run an under 12 race only.
- Junior Men to race with Vet40. Start at the same time. Share half grid. Promote more competition and getting used to busy starts. Not ideal to see Junior fields of less than 10 riders, so will make more of a race for them over 40 minutes.
- New process to advertise that course open for practice (Green flag)
- Add new VET 60 men and women overall category.
- Should we adopt an under 23 category for L & SE League to give an achievable goal for new seniors out of the junior ranks.
- New process to stop a race as per BC guidelines.

### **From Caroline Retuer**

- Team Championships

One of them came to me on our way back from the Team Champs today. The race was fantastic, especially the sand barn with music, but I was thinking that this Team Champs is actually a Men's Team Champs where women are allowed to take part and join a team of men, but don't really count in the end. Or they can have their own champs in they are all in the same club, but we have never seen more than 3-4 teams.

I think we need to be realistic about the women's field and admit that, at the moment, we do not have a decent field of women to have a club team champs. Today we had 35 women in total for both races, but only 3 teams, so the current format does not work very well for women.

However, I thought we could be more inclusive if we slightly changed the rules. We could keep the same race format (2 races: one for clubs, one for mixed clubs), but each team would need to have a least 1 woman and her points would count in the team's total whatever her result. This would 1) make women feel more valued, not just an add-on to a team of 3 men 2) encourage clubs to promote cyclocross to their female riders and send more women/girls to the League in general. Chris could crunch the numbers, but I think this year has been pretty bad again in terms of numbers of women who raced regularly in our League.

This change could also be used for the Youth group. There was only 1 girl on the podium and she did not count towards the points of her team. All the other girls are down at the bottom of the result table. For kids, we could maybe also consider the possibility of allowing clubs and mixed teams together in the same champs to allow everybody to race, not just kids with enough riders in their club.

- Financial burden of organising races that clubs are facing?  
I was wondering if the League could build a guarantee fund that could be used to cover the losses or cover repairs/damages to the grounds.

Since we introduced cheaper pre-entries, organising clubs have seen their income shrink as very few people enter on day. If the weather is bad there is a high chance the organising club will end up in deficit (as we have seen at Leeds Castle, and before in Badlands). Our round of Crystal Palace was very well attended, and the weather was sunny, but despite this we closed with a surplus of only £150. Luckily, we did not have to pay for damages to the grounds. We will, of

course, think of other ways of raising money than just registration fees. For example, asking for parking fee, offering more catering, etc. but obviously that adds to the organisation and to the number of people required on the day.

We should try and see if we could recruit more clubs to organise races and share the burden. That would be a big help. Not only that, but we should encourage people to help even if their club is not organising. I think that in general we should request more help from League members. We could have a system where riders would need to volunteer at least once during the season in order to be included in the final result. That is what Herne Hill Velodrome is doing for their Track League. If riders do not give anything back, their results do not count in the final ranking.

- Increasing the participation of women  
I have heard that transport is one reason why people prefer the Central League to ours. It seems the Central League is better accessible by public transport than our League, especially from London. Since it is difficult to find good venues that are accessible by public transport we could maybe encourage shared car transport. I wonder if we could develop a system, on our Facebook page or somewhere else, where we could put people in contact with each other. If it comes from the League, it might not be as awkward than if it comes from a single person. Publicity is another way of recruiting more women. We need to reach out to clubs, and do this long before the start of the new season.
- Implement a new system to reward children of their participation, so everybody gets a little something not just the fastest 3 kids.  
First, I would suggest increasing the number of podium places to 5, even if 4th and 5th only get a certificate and no prizes. This would maybe allow for more different faces on the podium every week. Then, we could have a kind of bingo card with 12 spaces for the 12 races in the League. Each week, all participants could get a sticker to stick onto their card. Then at the end of the season, all the kids who raced in more than 10 races, for example, could get a little reward. It would not need to be much and we could maybe look for sponsors for this. This way, we would be also encouraging the slower kids to take part.

#### **From Chris Clague**

- The league paying comms instead of the organisers?  
Costs recovered through levies but at least gives consistency and is one less thing for people to get hassled about on the day. Personally, I hate chasing busy organisers for cash at the end of an event.

#### **From Robert Kingsland**

- Review of prize list  
A more structured prize list in greater depth would set the bar for the rest of the country to follow.

### **8. Any other Business**