

MINUTES OF THE AUK BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE RINGWOOD HALL HOTEL,  
BRIMINGTON ON JAN 2007

Meeting started at 09:00

Present: DKB, PC, JW, GG, SG, KH, FC, SS, PP, RT, PM, IH, GM, RP.

Also in attendance: D Duffield, Lucy McTaggart, Melita Luxton, Peter & Marjorie South, Sonya Crawford, Rob Hilderley.

Apology for absence: NH

LEL 2009. At Melita's request, the schedule was re-arranged to consider the organisation of this event first. She and PP each gave a short presentation outlining their proposals of how it should be run, with Melita hoping to increase the field to up to 500, and Pam preferring to keep the numbers more manageable, with a higher minimum speed. A short discussion followed; the minimum speed is prescribed in LRM regulations, and the suggestion of a SR qualification was vetoed as being too problematic to check. Peter South on the helpers' behalf requested good communication from the manager. Both candidates then left the room for a board vote, which awarded it on a majority to Melita. DKB conveyed the decision to them, and ML, PS, MS & SC left the meeting. RP to confirm the appointment in writing.

ACTION: RP

Minutes of committee meeting 27th Sep 2006. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Matters arising. RT has circulated prospective new regs. IH preferred a reduction in the number of regulations and SS wanted clarification of AUK's purpose as a calendaring and validating body.

LEL has been covered above

PayPal will be covered below

Accident reports. RP summarised the results of the accident report analysis, collated so that data is available to back up hunches. In the 2005 season, from 519 events there were 49 incidents reported, of which 34 resulted in minor injuries and a further 12 required a hospital visit. In the following year, out of 610 events, there were 35 minor injuries, 17 more serious ones and a single fatality after the rider had abandoned. The general impression was that longer events were less affected, although he was unwilling to put forward a reason for that bias.

Correspondence. RP gave a résumé of correspondence received in the wake of a S. Kent off-road event, when the organiser had complained about an obstreperous rider on the event. On being given a chance to reply, the rider counter complained, and then having been mildly rebuked for his conduct, wanted to complain about RP. Although the complaints procedure was detailed to him, nothing further had been received, and it was hoped the matter was now ended.

RP had also received a complaint that an organiser was trying to impose a blanket on members of Another Cycling Forum. This had now been resolved as PC had arranged an acceptable way forward, and the organiser had handed over his events to a fellow club member and was co-operating fully on the hand-over.

Following the transfer of the Mileater admin from Noel Simpson to Rob Hilderley, Judith Swallow complained that her claim had been disallowed. Her claim for Calendar 2005 was submitted in December 2006, by which time all the championship details had been finalised (in the handover process, her name had been omitted) In the ensuing discussion, it was agreed that Louise Rogers' name should stand, with Judith given an "Hon Mention" as having a greater mileage. Future Handbooks should also specify a cut-off date of 30th April for claims.

ACTION: SS

George Hanna, seconded by Judith Swallow, filed a complaint that some Permanent Brevets had been submitted late for validation. RT opined the rules had been fudged in previous years, and there was general agreement this pattern had emerged over the past several years. PC advised it was

impossible to be too rigid and JW explained that as both riders and Perm Orgs often retained cards to batch them up, it was impossible to attribute blame for the delay. Although prompt return of cards was seen as unenforceable, it was mooted that persistently unpunctual orgs would be prohibited in future. For the moment, JW's proposal there should be no Perm updates between 31st Aug and 1st Nov was accepted.

Club status for awards. This award was originally for BCF clubs – a situation now seen as unpoliceable. In addition, there was some difficulty with different members detailing their club in different ways. It was noted the onus was on the clubs themselves to claim correctness.

50% rule for individual awards. SS explained the confusing wording had been a result of an attempt to appear uncompetitive. It was suggested the guidelines should indicate to which trophies this rule applied and they should be interpreted strictly.

Officers' Reports. GG advised membership details were now all on-line. KH was worried that insurance was given too much prominence and suggested a digest for Arrivée and Cycling Plus. PP requested more space for riders' details on the on-line entry form. FC mentioned that Simon Ward had ceased contact and requested someone to back him (FC) up in case of need. DKB volunteered to speak to a friend to get him to contact FC to this end.

ACTION: DKB

Electronic Event Entries. FC also advised that a test electronic event entry had been successfully carried out, but queried whether this new modus operandi was worthwhile. The ensuing discussion revealed that PayPal would generate appropriate acknowledgements and confirmations for riders and organisers respectively, but the orgs would have to supply accessible info and, of course, maintain a PayPal account. It was mentioned that not all orgs were on-line and still fewer maintained such an account.

Honoraria. In an extended discussion, it became apparent that AUK has no rational or logical policy on this subject, with some board members receiving one, and others not. Equally, workloads were dissimilar. The upshot was a proposal from JW that each director should receive an honorarium. The amount would be in one of three bands, dependant on workload (RT to investigate) and be payable to the director or nominated delegate. All beneficiaries could opt to forgo this payment. This proposal, seconded by RT, was accepted on a show of hands.

ACTION: RT

Subscriptions & Insurance. RT is happy with the current level of subscriptions. At the moment, though, "temporary" members are subsidising permanent members, as all riders are insured. It was agreed to keep the current system for the moment, but raise the temporary rate to £2.00 in 2008.

President d'Honneur. SS nominated Bernard Mawson as President d'Honneur, which was carried on a show of hands. DKB proposed PC as VP, which, again, was approved nem con. These appointments were to be ratified by the membership at the AGM. At the subsequent Awards Presentation, Derek Slann will announce the nominations and winners, with the trophies being presented by David Duffield.

Events Secretariat. SS outlined her plans, which were to be presented also to the AGM. As the job had grown during PC's tenure, she proposed that it should be regionalised, with the regional secretaries checking the on-line pro-formas. Lucy McTaggart has volunteered to cover Scotland and Northern England; Graham Mills' patch is Wales and the West Midlands; IH will oversee South Western England, and Andy Uttley will look after South East England. The remainder will be handled by SS herself, who will also transfer data from orgs who are not on-line. All orgs will be encouraged to seek help as necessary and will be able to register 2008 and 2009 vents from March 2007. Events will appear on the website only once they have been passed by the regional secretaries, and details will be passed automatically to PP for Brevet card production. There will be a map on the website and a link to ViaMichelin for orgs' use. It was mentioned that a previously run event should not automatically be assumed to remain good. The Calendar is compiled in November,

but details of forthcoming events do not need to be totally complete at that stage.

2008 AGM. This is scheduled for the first weekend in 2008 in Hoddesdon. PP reported that despite a hard core of regular attenders, numbers were gradually dropping off, with older members increasingly not attending. She suggested Center Parcs as a potential venue in 2009 to encourage family participation, and would make an announcement about that at the AGM. She is due to attend a conference in February, where Center Parcs will also be represented, and will report back at the next board meeting. Part of the reason for the low attendance this time (2007) is a clash with the CTT Awards Night. GM suggested an event should be organised on the Sunday as an additional attraction.

ACTION: PP.

AOB Rocco Richardson has received a cheque for £100.00 from the family of the late Frank Mumford without any covering letter, and it was agreed that they should be asked whether they had any particular purpose in mind for this gift.

GG volunteered to receive Sustrans newsletters

PP asked for volunteers to model the new PBP jerseys at the Dinner. A request for a Thermody top for test purposes and subsequent report in Arrivée was refused, as a delegate already owned one and volunteered to write such a report.

DKB queried whether the Club's accounts were audited. RT replied that there was no legal necessity to do so, but that a suitably qualified work colleague did check them.

RP requested that Melita Luxton give an update report of Simon Doughty's condition to the AGM.

Next Meeting. Comfort Inn, Station Street, Birmingham on Friday 16th March 2007 at 10:00 for 10:30.

The meeting closed at 13:29.