



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
on 6 July 2022 STARTING AT 09.00.

PRESENT:

Chris Crossland (**CC**) (Chairman)
Graeme Provan (**GP**)
Caroline Fenton (**CF**)
Daniel Smith (**DS**)
John Ward (**JW**)
Ian Hennessey (**IH**)

IN ATTENDANCE:

APOLOGIES

Nigel Armstrong (**NA**)
Andy Yates (**AY**)
Kevin Lake (**KL**)

1. Opening

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

AGM - 12 February 2022

Board Meeting - 6 April 2022

Approved

4. Matters arising from minutes of previous meetings

4.1 Russian and Belarusian riders

CC reported he had communicated with the LEL organiser about the ban.

It was noted that no formal announcement had been made.

There was also a need for clarity on the extent of the ban. Having made reference to the original request from the Ukrainian association to ACP, it was agreed the ban should apply to all riders who were Russian or Belarussian nationals resident in Russia and Belarus.

It was recognised that, given the travel and currency restrictions, applying the ban may be more of a statement than an active policy but it was generally agreed that it was an important statement.

It was agreed that should LEL make an overall loss, AUK would contribute to LEL an amount equal to any refunds it had actually paid to banned riders.

4.2 Director Appointments

It was agreed a smaller group comprising Chair/General Secretary and at least one other director could proceed with the proposed interviews and appointments.

ACTION POINT: GP to arrange as quickly as possible.

4.3 April Action Points

The Organisers' Handbook was now on Aukweb

No progress had been made on a new kit supplier. IH suggested it was a task for the new Communications Director.

GP and DS to liaise with the Awards Secretary

IH had introduced KL to the calendar event delegates and the meetings were now taking place.

There remains no sign of the 2019 Easter Arrow brevet cards and certificates. It has to be presumed that they were lost in the post. CC has updated the entrants.

The draft Disciplinary Procedure is now on the forum for comment.

CF has published discount codes for membership.

4.4 Board Meeting Format

CF felt 3 months was a long gap between meetings. She felt monthly meetings in the evening would be better with further ad hoc meetings as necessary. In-person meetings could take place at the Annual Reunion, which would have the further benefit of encouraging Directors to attend.

CC felt a meeting at the Annual Reunion might require an extra day's attendance.

CC was generally in favour of in-person meetings. Quarterly in-person meetings combined with more frequent teleconferenced or zoom meetings in the intervals between them had proved to be a good model. However, he could see a benefit if a member was able to attend an in-person meeting virtually when, for example, unwell, or for other reasons. Hybrid meetings were not ideal but may allow wider participation.

ACTION POINT: GP to book October meeting as in-person meeting and to check potential for hybrid attendance.

5. Business

5.1 Arrivee

Ged Lennox had requested an increase in the fees paid to him and to the editor. Ged had now published 20 issues. He was happy to continue for as long as AUK wanted.

It was agreed that the fees could be increased to £3k and £1k respectively.

IH wondered if it was appropriate to offer an online edition in substitution for the print edition. CF reported members often complained if their print edition was delayed. She also noted

it was harder to calculate circulation for advertising sales where there was a mix of online and print.

It was agreed to defer any decisions on the future of Arrivee and, more particularly, advertising to the new Communications Director.

5.2 Payment Process for Permanent Events

As JW was not present, it was not possible to discuss this in detail.

ACTION POINT: teleconference to be arranged between JW, KL and appropriate others as soon as possible.

5.3 Brevet Card Layout

CF reported there was an opportunity, with the development of the new IT system, to alter the card layout to match the new system. The size could also be altered to match the ACP cards.

The new system would generate the event entry form from audax.uk so it was better to make changes as that took place rather than later.

ACTION POINT: CF and Dave Allison to liaise with Oliver Iles and circulate notes for comment.

5.4 Management Accounts.

NA had supplied up to date management accounts which were carefully considered by the Board.

NA was working on budgets with various cost assumptions including a part-time administrative assistant on c.£25k pa.

CC stated, with membership at 8250 and heading to 10,000, it was time to look at how this might work in practice. Part-time working would need to be arranged in such a way that the number of days in the week when the resource was available was maximised.

DS noted there were a number of delegate tasks that would lend themselves to being undertaken by a paid member of staff.

ACTION POINT: NA to add more detail to budget proposals.

5.5 IT Report

KL had been unable to make the meeting.

ACTION POINT: GP to request report from KL.

IH reported that meetings had taken place involving organisers and members of the IT group. KL had produced an initial model for them to review. IH recognised anything new would be difficult to integrate but reported that the work to date was promising.

IH noted there was no column for type of event (ie BRM etc) on the website event calendar. CF explained it was possible to filter types of events. IH asked if this facility could be more prominent.

CF demonstrated the latest version of the new Organiser page.

6. Reports

6.1 Chair

CC had not produced a written report.

CC reported a dispute over event distance and time limits rules between the LEL organiser and CC in his role as LRM representative.

As the Randonneur Mondiaux Representative in the UK, it was his duty under the terms of the LRM Constitution to ensure responsible supervision of all LRM activities in the UK.

Neither he nor AUK would be debating the matter in the court of public opinion.

6.2 General Secretary

GP reported he had reviewed and updated the COVID rules on the website.

He reminded the Board that any resolutions for the AGM should be considered at the October Board meeting.

He also reminded the Board that any increase in subscription fees needed to be put to the membership at the AGM either for approval or ratification.

It was agreed that GP could proceed with appointing the online voting provider that offered the best value.

6.3 Finance Director

The meeting carefully considered the accounts and forecasts provided by NA.

6.4 Calendar Events Secretary

DS enquired about the Stripe rollout. CF reported two organisers were using it and one further organiser was in process. The system was working well so far but was not being rolled out generally as yet.

6.5 Permanent Events Secretary

N/A

6.6 Events Services

DS raised the possibility of producing grey brevet cards for non-standard distances. IH believed they would not be an issue.

ACTION POINT: IH to discuss grey brevet cards with JW.

CC asked about the consequences for organisers who refused to follow the rules on event fees. There was a general feeling that this should be dealt with via the AUK disciplinary procedure rather than the Courts.

6.7 Membership

CF reported that, membership numbers were 1000 higher than at the same time last year.

CF was authorised to commission and purchase new frame stickers in two colours.

CF further reported there had been some confusion around non-members entering events and being asked to register. In a small number of cases, entrants had not realised it was a free process. Steps had been taken to clarify the process.

Most of the feedback had been positive with non-members grateful not to have to re-enter their details on every entry.

Non-members had a very limited dashboard screen with no ride history displayed.

CF had set up a store, using Stripe, for an organiser who wanted to sell food in advance of their event. It had gone well and could be developed for other uses.

CF enquired about AUK banners for events and about thank you certificates. These were further action points for the new Communications Director.

6.8 Communications

N/A

7. Meeting Dates

Board Meeting 5 October 2022
Board Meeting 18 January 2023
AGM 11 February 2023

8. Any other business

None

9. Closure

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 15.30

.....
Chair

..... 2022