



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING
HELD by TELECONFERENCE
on 19 December 2016 STARTING AT 19.30.

PRESENT:

Chris Crossland (“CC”) (Chairman)
John Ward (“JW”)
Mike Wigley (“MW”)
Martin Foley (“MF”)
John Sabine (“JS”)
Chris Boulton (“CB”)
Ged Lennox (“GL”)
Graeme Provan (“GP”)
Peter Lewis (“PL”)

IN ATTENDANCE:

APOLOGIES

Paul Salmons

1. Opening

The Chairman reported that due notice of the meeting had been given and that a quorum was present. Accordingly, the Chairman declared the meeting open.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Consideration of Items for AGM

3.1 Appendix 7.3.1(c)

The wording was approved by the board on the 16th March 2016:

7.3.1(c) “Off-road events have a route consisting of not less than 50% unmetalled or unpaved surface over which cyclists have access rights or permission to ride upon. It must be acceptable to the Events Secretary and be designated Off-Road or Rough Stuff in the title.”

RATIONALE: This amended version now reflects more accurately the prevailing legal situation regarding such events in all parts of the UK.

3.2 Appendix 13.2.4

The wording was approved by the board on the 12th October 2016

13.2.4 "The Randonneur Award Series is for achievement in one season, except where indicated. Whilst a rider may complete the award in subsequent seasons, a rider completing a SR award is thereafter designated a Super Randonneur. All events of 200km or more must be BR, BRM or RM. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted. The Super Randonneur award is available to all riders; only subscribed AUK members are eligible for other Randonneur awards."

Addition of new 13.2.4(ix) *"Randonneur 100,000: within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 100,000 km at randonneur standard."*

RATIONALE: In 2015 a former Events Secretary found a number of badges obtained some years previously to recognise the achievement of completing 100,000 km. in randonneur events. Several members had been awarded these badges free of charge. A search through the records and some detective work allowed us to identify some of those members who had since completed this distance. This award has never been included in our schedule of awards and it requires amendment of the appendices to the regulations in order to implement it.

3.3 Regulation 1.5

JS reported that various attendees at the Reunion had been concerned about a lack of clarity on how the proposed appeal process worked. The latest draft was designed to address those concerns. It was resolved that the current draft be published online with the draft resolutions to enable members to contribute to and discuss the drafting of the final version.

CB noted that there should be a system for recording grievances.

1.5 "The Board of Audax UK will publish and operate a grievance procedure designed to deal fairly with perceived injury, injustice, or wrong that affords reason for resistance or formal expression as a complaint, including the application of these regulations and their appendices."

The existing Regulation 1.5 and its appendices would be deleted in their entirety, and the procedure itself published separately.

RATIONALE: Audax UK recognises that from time to time members, event participants, ride organisers and events staff, and others may have grievances

concerning various matters relating to Audax UK, its activities and the personnel involved. In such cases the following procedures should be used. Audax UK would like to see all such grievances resolved as quickly and as fairly as possible.

The current Complaints procedure is problematic in several respects, including:

1. The reference to "complaints" is unfortunate as it may not cover all instances where a grievance arises.
2. A role for riders' clubs is posited, but not defined, and the purpose of this inclusion is not clear.
3. The range of levels at which a complaint is considered is very limited, leading to a high level and culminating in the final level, the AGM, very quickly.
4. In days when AUK was a small organisation and all major decision-making was at the AGM, attended by knowledgeable and experienced members, a final level of appeal might have made sense in a situation where a case could conceivably have been heard fairly and voted upon there and then. In the current way of doing things with most votes being cast by proxy, it does not make sense.

Revising the current Complaints procedure to produce a Grievance procedure which deals with these problems will allow AUK to produce something that:

1. Allows grievances to be settled as close to point of origin as possible.
2. Removes the role of riders' and organisers' clubs.
3. Takes better account of AUK's organisational structure.
4. Allows members and participants better access to fair resolution of their grievances.

3.4 Regulation 13.1

It was agreed that the proposed wording for Regulation 13.1 be approved as follows:

13.1 "Points: Members shall be awarded points at a rate of 1 point for every 100km in BR, BRM and RM events validated by AUK, plus PBP, Flèches, BRM and RM events validated by ACP or LRM."

3.5 Appendix 9.8.2

It was agreed that the proposed wording for Appendix 9.8.2 (b) be approved as follows:

Insert new Appendix 9.8.2(b) as follows:

9.8.2 (b) "A route may visit a control more than once, but routes consisting of repeated passes over the same circuit will not normally be approved."

and re-number the existing Appendices 9.8.2(b) and 9.8.2(c) to 9.8.2(c) and 9.8.2(d) respectively.

RATIONALE: Randonneur cycling events have traditionally eschewed the use of repeated circuits in order to make up the distance of a brevet. This deprecation is enshrined in the Brevet de Randonneur Mondiaux regulations for the organisation of events. Unfortunately it seems to have fallen out of the AUK regulations some years ago, although it remains as a prohibition in the AUK Organisers handbook. This has rendered it less accessible to the point that an increasing number of members are unaware of its existence and/or doubtful of its validity. This amendment restores the situation to its former position.

4. AOB for AGM

4.1 Annual Report

PL volunteered to produce the annual report by the Board.

Action Points:

Board members who are submitting reports for the AGM to produce these by the 31st December 2016.

Draft reports to be placed into a dropbox folder for review by JS.

Final versions and Board report to be sent to GL by the 5th January.

Full report to be available for distribution with the electronic voting email on the 19th January.

4.2 Director elections

GP, JS, JW and PL all declared their willingness to be nominated for election and/or re-election to their current posts.

It was agreed that nominations would be sought for the executive posts and for two non-executive posts.

Action Points: GP to publicise the vacancies and, in particular, the new post of IT Director.

PS to provide updated wording for the IT Director post.

5. Appeal against Non-validation

A member had appealed the validation secretaries' decision not to validate a long brevet. Although he conceded that he had finished outside the time limit, he argued that the organiser had tolds him that any time lost as a result of problems with ferries would be taken into account in his favour. He adduced several instances of problems with ferries that had caused him to lose time. It was noted that he was one of the riders who had been allowed to set off about half an hour before the official start time, a matter confirmed by a large number of simultaneous Strava tracks and conceded by the organiser.

The Board was aware of similar circumstances involving the conduct of the event that had led to an earlier appeal against non-validation.

Considering the circumstances, JW proposed that where if a rider was still hors delai after making appropriate allowances for mitigating factors, then that rider should not be validated.

It was resolved to adopt that approach as a consistent means of dealing with such appeals against non-validation

On that basis, considering the early start, the time lost, and the time of arrival at the finish, it was agreed that the appeal should be refused.

Action Points: GP and MF to agree a suitable response for the appellant.

6. Closure

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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Chair

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