

## Welland Valley Cycling Club

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Monday 6 July 2020

Held via Zoom

Members present:

Jon Durnin (chairman), Stuart Dawkins, John Welsford, Rob Moore, Kevin Nicholls, Dave Birch, Chris Dainty, Lorna Marlow, Tim Smith, Adrian Killworth, George Barnett and Claire Moore.

- 1) Apologies had been received from Phil Rayner.
- 2) Minutes of the Committee meeting on 16 June 2020 were approved.
- 3) Matters arising
  - 3.1 Stuart will advise on venue, etc, for an AGM in due course. **(Action: Stuart)**
  - 3.2 The proposed meeting with the Club's official coaches can be picked up once current restrictions are removed. **(Action: Jon)**
  - 3.3 Lorna and Kevin have arranged the use of Google forms for Whizz Kids and it is working well.
  - 3.4 Chris updated the Committee that the passage of time and Covid-based restrictions means that the idea of a Young Members Forum would be replaced this year with a targeted questionnaire. **(Action: Chris)**
  - 3.5 Phil was an apology and it is not known whether he has bought the new Club radios yet. **(Action: Phil)**
- 4) Latest Covid-19 updates from BC and CTT
  - 4.1 The Committee noted that further guidance that had been received from British Cycling and from Cycling Time Trials.
  - 4.2 On 6 July CTT had set out guidelines for a return to time trialling which would be possible from 12 July 2020 (an extract of the detail is in the **Appendix**).
  - 4.3 BC had issued guidance on 18 June which would allow the resumption of certain activities. It had released further guidance on 3 July 2020 which pushed back further any likely resumption of Road Racing, but included useful guidelines about the return of BC-sanctioned Club Runs and other activities from 4 July 2020 (an extract of the detail is in the **Appendix**). .
  - 4.4 Jon and Kevin had taken part in a webinar arranged by BC which had been useful.
- 5) Time Trial proposals
  - 5.1 Tim had circulated a paper on the recommended way forward to introduce time trialling in a measured way in line with guidance received from CTT. Tim and the Time Trial Sub-Committee were thanked for such a comprehensive piece of work.
  - 5.2 Jon and Tim had been in touch with CTT about the latter's requirement for a physical signature, CTT continued to insist on this.
  - 5.3 The Committee discussed in detail the proposals and risk assessment, concluding that a test event would be held at Naseby on Tuesday 13 July 2020. The TT Sub-Committee was authorized to make any final changes to the dynamic risk

assessment and procedure which would be needed to make the event run safely and smoothly. It was agreed to limit the numbers in the test event to 20 riders and that all riders would need to electronically register in advance.

5.4 It was agreed that, subject to a successful trial event, a further programme of time trials would be announced, with a maximum of 30 riders in each. Each event would be limited to existing First Claim members only.

5.5 CTT guidelines made it clear that anyone living within an area of Local Lockdown (ie Leicester at present) could not take part.

6) Club Rides

6.1 The latest BC guidelines allowed the introduction of Club Rides, subject to detailed guidance including – inter alia – maximum groups sizes of six riders and social distancing.

6.2 Chris had spoken to the majority of WVCC's experienced ride leaders and, whilst views varied in detail, there was sufficient positive response to conclude that some form of Club Rides could commence from Sunday 12 July 2020.

6.3 It was agreed that communications would be sent out to this effect, emphasising the BC Guidelines, advising members to bring personal protective equipment for their own safety in the event of an incident, and with participants registering in advance to ensure that maximum group sizes were not breached.

6.4 It was agreed that members living in areas of Local Lockdown would not be able to join the Club Rides.

7) Whizz Kids

7.1 BC guidelines would allow Whizz Kids activities to start from 11 July 2020, subject to detailed guidelines. Keven proposed to start with a test event on either 18 or 25 July 2020.

7.2 Participants (and their parents/carers if appropriate) would be required to pre-book and events would be run according to maximum group sizes set out in the guidelines. In practice, this would equate to 5 x Whizz Kids to each 1 x Coach. It was noted that for any Whizz Kids who required an adult to ride with them, the adult would also count as one of the six riders in a group.

7.3 Kevin stated that, at present, he was envisaging running straightforward events, so that he would be able to handle set-up and pull-down himself.

7.4 The Committee thanked Kevin for pulling together a comprehensive proposal,

8) Audax

8.1 Jon had spoken to Mike Vybiral that afternoon regarding the Welland Wonders Audax, currently planned for Saturday 19 September 2020. Mike's intention is that the event will run on that date, subject to the guidelines from Audax UK which are in place at the time.

8.2 It was agreed that Jon will speak further to Mike about this and a decision will be taken by the Committee on how best to support this event at its next meeting.

**(Action: Jon, and Stuart for agenda)**

- 9) Embracing the growth in new cyclists  
9.1 Chris had circulated a paper with ideas on how the Club might take advantage of the surge in interest in cycling during the Covid lockdown.  
9.2 The Committee discussed the ideas and suggested that taster events of some sort might be a useful addition, for example 'come and try it' sessions, skills training and a shorter off-road ride. The Committee approved expenditure up to £100 for marketing materials.  
9.3 Chris will draw up a draft timetable of action for the next Committee meeting. **(Action: Chris)**
- 10) Retro kit  
10.1 Claire and Jon had met with Mike Smith who is happy to design a retro jersey for sale to Club members, to be manufactured by Vanelli. It was agreed that the White ANC-sponsored jersey was the best one to offer, noting that if it is successful further jerseys might be offered in future years.  
10.2 The ANC business became part of FedEx many years ago and is no longer used. Jon has sent an email to FedEx explaining that the retro kit is being produced.  
10.3 The Committee approved the creation of the retro jersey, and thanked Mike Smith and Hans van Nierop for their help.
- 11) Treasurer's report  
11.1 John had circulated the accounts as at 30 June 2020. Whizz Kids balances were £1,298.31. Youth Development balances were £4,097.99 and the Club's general balance was £8,857.87.
- 12) Communication  
12.1 Tim would coordinate suitable communications re the re-start of time trials, Chris re Club Runs, and Jon re the retro jersey. These would be put onto the Club's usual communications channels, including all-Member emails, later in the week. **(Action: Timm, Chris, Jon, Stuart)**  
12.1 It was noted that Lorna has archived some material on the Club website and is looking at a way of setting up a gallery of Members' pictures. **(Action: Lorna)**
- 13) Correspondence  
13.1 Café Ventoux had written regarding the possibility of having a WVCC jersey for the café walls and discounts for members, etc. Rob agreed to speak to the owner of the café for further details on the proposal. **(Action: Rob)**
- 14) Any other business  
14.1 Adrian has spoken to the team of people who are co-ordinating keeping Market Harborough footpaths and bridleways clear and is acting as the Club's liaison for this.  
14.2 Phil had sent a note regarding the changed ownership of Bruntingthorpe proving ground. Jon will make suitable contact to follow that up. **(Action: Jon)**

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm  
Next meeting: Monday 27 July 2020  
Stuart Dawkins 16/07/20

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Dummer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

## **Appendix**

### **CTT CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – 6 July 2020**

This update relates to CTT events in **England** only. It does not relate to events in Wales or Scotland.

Currently, all CTT Type B ‘club’ events are suspended up to and including 12 July 2020 and all Type A ‘open’ events are suspended up to and including 17 July 2020.

Having considered the amended government guidelines and legislation released on 04 July, the Board of Cycling Time Trials is pleased to confirm that as the situation stands at present, it is not proposed to extend that suspension of events further and that competition can resume.

**Accordingly, CTT Type B ‘club’ events can be held from and including Monday 13 July 2020 and all CTT events, to include Type A ‘open’ events, can be held from and including Saturday 18 July 2020.**

When holding an event, whether that be a Type B ‘club’ or Type A ‘open’ event, it is essential that the requirements as set out in the CTT COVID-19 risk assessment are followed. It is also essential that in the case of a ‘local lockdown’ due to an increase in COVID-19 infection in any particular area, that any such local lockdown is respected and adhered to. If any club or organiser is in any doubt as to whether or not an event can proceed, please contact the National Secretary (Legal & Corporate) [nick.sharpe@cyclingtimetrials.org.uk](mailto:nick.sharpe@cyclingtimetrials.org.uk)

The COVID-19 risk assessment and guidance – Putting on a Cycling Time Trials Event under COVID-19 is available on the CTT website:

<https://cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/documents/index/covid-19>

CTT will continue to monitor the position closely. The threat of COVID-19 and the risk of infection does still remain. **If you are not well or showing signs of COVID-19 then please do not attend at any CTT event.**

Please remember that we have had many events cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Also, many of the sport’s volunteers, without whom events cannot take place, are themselves in the vulnerable age categories and so will not be able to help out.

The sport needs volunteers!

If you can, and you enjoy time trialling, please offer your services for an event and help. Unless there are volunteers willing to do so, quite simply we won’t have any events for you to race in.

## British Cycling ‘The Way Forward’ – 18 June 2020

*British Cycling has today announced the next step in its plan to resume all sanctioned cycling activities in England, with coaching and group activity beginning to return from today. The national governing body has also announced that planning is underway to resume certain competitive events – such as time trials and downhill mountain biking – at the next stage of the process.*

The current suspension of sanctioned club and coaching activity was due to lift on 4 July, however with the support of new guidance published today on safe delivery, certain activities are now permitted to return with immediate effect.

Further details in the [\*\*British Cycling: The Way Forward\*\*](#) update include that:

- Club activities and coaching sessions can resume today, providing they are delivered in line with Government guidance on group sizes and social distancing.
- The suspension of recreation programmes – such as HSBC UK Breeze and Guided Rides – will remain in place until 4 July, to enable Breeze Champions and Ride Leaders to access new training materials on safely leading group rides at the end of this month.
- While it is still not yet possible to reintroduce racing, the organisation, with its seven Discipline Commissions, is currently working on plans to reintroduce certain racing formats at the next stage of the process.
- Today’s announcement moves us to Stage 3 of a six-stage plan, with Stage 6 being a return of all sanctioned activity.

British Cycling’s Cycling Delivery Director, Dani Every, said:

“Today’s announcement is an important next step in our plan to safely reintroduce activities, and I want to thank all of the riders, clubs, coaches and other stakeholders for their patience as we have developed our planning over recent weeks.

“We know that many will have concerns about how and when to resume activities, and through today’s update we want to empower people and equip them with the necessary tools to deliver their activities with confidence. We will continue to develop this as the wider landscape evolves, and I’d encourage anybody with questions to get in contact with our team for further support.

“The nationwide enthusiasm for cycling we have seen develop over recent months should give us cause for optimism and excitement, and we are keen to ensure that our incredibly popular recreation programmes are able to provide invaluable support to riders as they continue their personal journeys.”

As announced in our previous update on 27 May, the suspension on regional racing and non-competitive events (such as sportives) is currently due to run until 1 August 2020, and then to 1 September 2020 for international and national level races. These suspensions are being reviewed on a fortnightly basis. We will give four weeks’ notice of any extension or curtailment of the suspension of regional-level racing and non-competitive events. We will give six weeks’ notice of any extension or curtailment of the suspension of international and national level races. British Cycling is also updating its [\*\*guidance to support operators of cycling facilities\*\*](#) today.

Today’s announcement will be followed by a series of webinars aimed at supporting clubs, groups and coaches with the new guidance.

Every continues:

“I am pleased to say that our plans to reintroduce certain racing disciplines are now being developed with the support of our Discipline Commissions, to establish how we can safely deliver events while complying with Government guidance.

“I know that this is something our riders, teams and officials are keen to hear more about and we will be announcing further details on this next month.”

The Great Britain Cycling Team will be resuming group activity but following different protocols to clubs as they follow the Government's Return to Elite Training Stage 2 guidance, which allows training to resume in 'clusters' or small groups. They have permission within this guidance to train closer to each other than the general social distancing rules permit. As part of this process, a return to group road riding will begin for the Great Britain Cycling Team squads from this week. Riders will be completing any group training within their cluster to ensure that should a COVID-19 case be discovered the minimum number of riders and staff will be required to isolate for a 14 day period, and the track and trace process to identify contacts within training sessions and group rides can be completed.

British Cycling remains in close contact with colleagues at Scottish Cycling and Welsh Cycling regarding the current differences in guidance on sport, social distancing and gatherings across England, Scotland and Wales – and how this will impact upon the return to activities.

## British Cycling update re racing – 3 July 2020

British Cycling can today give an update on our work to enable people to return to the sport of cycling, and in particular the blanket suspensions of regional and national-level racing, which are currently due to run until August 1 and September 1 respectively.

On June 18, we lifted the suspension on club and group activity in England with the publication of the first iteration of The Way Forward, our guide aimed at empowering the people at the grassroots of our sport to resume activities. Our clubs have taken this opportunity to begin responsibly organising activity in small groups, and this weekend sees the return of our led ride programmes, HSBC UK Breeze and Guided Rides, which are a vital gateway to cycling for thousands of people every year.

### Regional racing

Currently, regional-level racing is suspended until August 1, and we committed ourselves to giving four weeks' notice of any extension or curtailment.

At this stage, we do not believe there is a case to extend the suspension of regional-level racing beyond August 1, because there are certain formats in a number of disciplines of our sport which may be in a position to return sooner than others – provided they can comply with the relevant government guidelines in place at that point. This is still expected to include restrictions on group size, hygiene controls and social distancing, format of the activity and any additional measures such as restrictions on travel.

The disciplines and formats we believe could make the earliest return include BMX, cycle speedway, track, circuit racing, road time trials, cyclo-cross, and cross-country and gravity mountain biking. British Cycling staff are currently working with the respective discipline commissions and colleagues at Scottish Cycling and Welsh Cycling to produce a framework including guidelines and tools for the safe return of each discipline.

We are keenly aware that road racing is the passion of a great number of our members. While we were able to reintroduce small club rides on June 18, we believe there are particular challenges when it comes to reintroducing this discipline as well as other mass-start events on the public highway, including Sportive.

These challenges include the impact on the communities whose roads we use, field sizes and the support required from emergency services. Therefore, it is likely that when mass start road events do return, they will do so first on closed circuits.

Of course, all of this planning and all of this work depends on the relevant restrictions put in place by the government authorities in England, Scotland and Wales. We will continue to work closely with event organisers, our cycle sport commissions and other volunteers, as well as colleagues in Scottish Cycling and Welsh Cycling, to be in the best position to react quickly to support and enable activity, as the restrictions change. This includes ensuring we are able to react to any localised restrictions, such as those recently introduced in Leicester.

However, we wanted you to know that while not all disciplines and formats will return at the same time and in the same way, we are working hard with colleagues in government and across sport to help organised cycling return as soon as is practical. Our aim is to be flexible and responsive as conditions change to support our sport which is, like many others, largely volunteer delivered.

### **National Series and National Championships**

Racing at national series and national championships level is currently suspended until September 1. Following consultation with teams and event organisers, we do not believe it is possible to this year hold national series and national championships in disciplines which take place in the spring and summer months. This means we will not see national series or championships in road, mountain biking, BMX and cycle speedway. The exceptions to this are some national youth and junior events which, with school sport expected to return in September, could still take place on rearranged dates. In addition, we remain hopeful that national series and championship racing could take place in cyclo-cross and track later this year and in early 2021.

This news will come as a disappointment to many – a feeling which everyone at British Cycling shares – but particularly to those who hoped to compete for the jerseys which are awarded to our national champions and worn with pride in races around the world.

British Cycling Integrity and Compliance Director, Rod Findlay, said:

“After several months of exploring alternatives and discussions with the relevant authorities, today we have made the difficult decision to formally cancel all national series and national championship events in the disciplines of road, cross country, down hill and 4X mountain biking, BMX and cycle speedway. This is not a decision we ever wanted to make however in the interests of providing clarity and certainty to our teams, riders and event organisers we believe it is the correct one. I’m pleased to say that the organisers who were to host events in 2020, will retain them for 2021.

“Our team is now working hard to lay the groundwork for resuming regional-level activity, and we remain hopeful that we will see some competitive racing next month. Plans for our winter programme are progressing well and though the past three months have been frustrating for all of us, I want to thank everybody involved in our sport for their patience and understanding in challenging circumstances. We can also now look forward to our national championships returning with strength in 2021.”

Following advice from British Cycling, the UCI have confirmed that current national champions will be permitted to continue to wear their national champions jersey until the next edition of the relevant event.

Later this month, we plan to publish an update to The Way Forward with further detail on the return of organised cycling, including information to help event organisers, and we will continue to add to our series of webinars aimed at supporting all those involved in delivering our sport. In addition, we will communicate further on points and categories for this year.

In the meantime, we are grateful for the continued support of our members, the volunteers on whom our sport depends, and everyone who loves cycling.