

# Minutes of the Isle of Man Cycling Association AGM

19th November 2008.

Held at Cronkbourne Sports and Social Club, Tromode, DOUGLAS.

**Present:** Les Millar (Treasurer), Ian Brand (Secretary), Steve Shimmin, Juan watney, Dave Mudie, Jim Cottier, Mickey Cain, Mike Nicholson, Gary Hinds, Chris Hattersley, Donald Cannan, Ged power, Laura Wasley, Jean Slack, Michelle Kewley, Phil Knights, Rob Dooley, John Watterson, Alex Coward, Norman Quayle, Richard Fletcher, Kevin Perry, Tanya Sanderson and Steve Williams.

Ian Brand acted as Chairman in the absence of Rob Long.

## 1. Apologies for absence:

Stu Brew, Mike Doyle, Stephen Cregeen, Rob Long, Peter kennaugh, Jackie Kennaugh, Tony Varley and Brian Johnson.

## 2. Minutes of last meeting held on 21st November 2007 - approved unanimously.

## 3. Matters arising –

Onchan Track – IOM Cycling Association Track fundraising committee) meeting held on 15 October 2008

We discussed both Onchan track (should it become available) and the proposed Braddan track build; the financial position involved with building /renovating and running costs and staffing and the pros and cons for each track.

After a lengthy discussion we concluded that building a track at Braddan or elsewhere in the format currently being proposed would be beyond the CA's ability to finance from corporate/private funding even after the Sports Councils generous offer of a £250k grant. Furthermore, the subsequent administration costs would be unsustainable given the expected limited usage (inclement weather and Winter/Autumn nights).

We felt that a cycling facility available to all ages and abilities is required but should be funded and operated by the Government, preferably with a dedicated Sports Development officer, with the Cycling fraternity supporting its organisation, use and operation.

It was left to Rob Long to feed these views back to Geoff Karran as Executive Chairman of the Sports Council.

## 4. Chairman's Report -

I start with an apology for my absence this evening, but hopefully this brief report will suffice.

Yet again it has been another fantastic season for Manx cycling.

The Island continues to be proportionately over represented on British Cycling's Talent team and Olympic Development squads and it is a clear demonstration of the strength and the excellence that Manx cycling has in the short to medium term. Throughout the year Manx cyclists have hosted a series of remarkable results across the globe and the Island continues to boast British National, European, Commonwealth and World Champions.

Cav's results in the World Madison, the Giro and of course the Tour have confirmed this as the fastest finisher in the professional bunch.

Johnny Bellis must be congratulated on securing a professional contract and for his Olympic selection. Few would have thought that a cycling population of -the Island would be able to boast two representatives at the same Olympic games. Their achievements were rightly acknowledged by the tribute night at the Villa Marina. Manx cycling, of course, is not just about our off-Island elites. It is imperative that we encourage the sport locally.

The Youth Tour has had another successful season and the End to End goes from strength to strength.

This year saw the inaugural James Berry Memorial Sportif followed by a very well attended annual dinner at the Mount Murray. It is hoped that both events will be able to grow in unison as a fitting

reminder of a talent cut tragically short. As ever, Team Scottish Provident and the race nights at the NSC continue to defy expectations in terms of numbers and the talent they uncovered. BMX Club yet again can boast another successful season and its plans for the future as set out by Juan Watley will hopefully provide the impetus for increased club membership and improvements if Manx BMX's on-and off-Island profile. Mountain biking yet again has been able to boast a packed year long calendar.

I had hoped to be able to report that the CA was in a position to progress the possible developments of land at the Strong crossroads into a purpose built track/veledrome. Unfortunately, despite being able to secure agreement in principle from Braddan Commissioners over the use of land and favourable discussions with the Planning Department and Sports Council the position remains that the largest hurdle respect of this project is that of funding. It became apparent that the CA will by itself be able to raise sufficient money to fund the construction and ongoing cost of the project. This also ignores the CA's internal ability to manage the construction and administrative matters necessary.

An approach was made by the Sports Council for governmental assistance in respect of the entirety of the funding and also that any track formed under the umbrella of Department of Tourism & Leisure/Manx Sport and Recreation. We are advised that further capital funding beyond the Sports Council's kind offer of a contribution was not likely to be forthcoming, less so given the current economic climate. It also appears unlikely that the project would be taken on by "Government" in it's wider sense.

This is a clear disappointment given that cycling is unlikely to have such a currency on or off Island for some time. If the track is to be progressed then the CA must seek to continue to engage with Government to ensure that the facility is secured; if that is what the CA and its members wish.

I would pause to record the CA's gratitude to John Bellis for his efforts relating to the track.

As indicated earlier, cycling is currently on a high. Now is the time to ensure that the sport will continue to move forward for the benefit of all cyclists, no matter what their ability or preferred width of tyre. The various strands of cycling need to work together so as the CA's stated purpose of "to co-ordinate and develop all cycle sport within the Isle of Man" may be achieved.

Finally, it remains for me to thank all of those who have given their time and effort to the sport over the last year whether by coaching, marshalling, organising races or otherwise. Without those who volunteer their time and effort the sport would not be able to survive, let alone prove the Island's number 1 export.

## **5. Secretary's report.**

This is the end of my fifth year as Secretary of the Isle of Man Cycling Association.

Generally, there's not much to say regarding the administration of the Association from my point of view as Secretary and the Chairman and Director of Racing reports give the fuller picture.

Meeting statistics for the year.

We had 12 regular monthly meetings. There are 3 representatives per club and 1 representative for the BMX club; representations at these meetings out of a possible 36 for each of the 4 main clubs and 12 for the BMX club were:  
MRC 17 - MVW 24 - EVCC 14 – MMBC 8 – BMX 6 a total of 69 out of a possible 156. That averages out at 5.75 representatives per meeting a drop against last years average of 6.5. There were 6 meetings when there were no MMBC or BMX reps and one when the EVCC had no representatives. It's worth pointing out that meetings were particularly well attended by the MVW.

Can I just remind you that under the CA's constitution ALL reps are supposed to attend each meeting not just any one of the three elected to represent your club. There are meetings when there are important matters to discuss and possibly vote upon that could be better attended. These matters appear on the agenda that is sent to all reps 7 days prior to the meeting and so there is no real excuse to have good cross

club representation especially as any decisions may have a fundamental affect on your club.

Its also imperative that important matters discussed in meetings or decisions made are passed on to your club in a timely fashion. To this end I endeavour to have the minutes distributed within a few days.

## 6. Treasurer's report.

### ISLE OF MAN CYCLING ASSOCIATION A.G.M. TREASURERS REPORT (2007 - 2008)

Copies of the annual accounts were made available indicating the accounts from 31 October 2007 to 31 October 2008

Summary sheet circulated which indicates more simply the years income and expenditure

Balance indicates £33,302.63 against last year £32,837.02.

The balance includes £4,750.00 sports grant still to be expended but excludes £4,000.00 owing from riders for bikes purchased and £2,400.00 unclaimed grant from the Sports Council IRTS.

Significant items of income/expenditure :

Income:

Club subscriptions £350.00 from each club including Mountain Bike and £50 from BMX

"10" League 2008 -£4,935.00

Cash prizes - £550.00

Surplus of £4,385.00

Bikestyle Series £1,345.35

Road Race / TT Entries £3,907.50

Sports Council Grant £7,340.00

Sponsors

Microgaming £15,000.00

Forbes £1,000.00

Manx Telecom £1,000.00

HSBC £1,000.00

## 7. Performance Director Report 2008

Wow what a year! It's been without doubt the most successful and exciting year in Manx and British cycling history well done to Mark Cavendish, Johnny Bellis, Peter Kennaugh, Mark Christian, Chris Whorrell, Tim Kennaugh, Andy Roche, Tom Black etc.

### Sponsorship

After many months of meetings and presentations, three new sponsors were announced, High 5, Dolans and primarily Microgaming, all forming a partnership with Team Isle of Man to take us beyond the Delhi Commonwealth Games in 2010. Throughout the season Microgaming have become extremely involved and interested in being pro-active with ourselves, and have employed Ashgrove Marketing to not only form the link between them, the media and ourselves, but to forge out new initiatives for the future.

## Team Isle of Man

In March 2008 Team Isle of Man were launched at Mount Murray, guests were invited from a range of stakeholders including sponsors, sports council and media, at this launch Microgaming made a short speech and Tim Glover presented the Sports Program from Mount Murray.

## Team IOM Juniors

Under the guidance of Mike our juniors have competed in a full season of Peter Buckley national events and a number of stage races ranging from Tour of Ireland, Tour of Wales, Gorry 3 Day, Suir 3 Day and even a racing trip to Belgium. The objective for the season being to get riders to the standard so they can be picked up by GB and ultimately be selected for the British Cycling Academy based in Italy. With Johnny Bellis now following in Cav's footsteps on the pro scene his place has been taken by Mark Christian on the academy, who now joins Peter Kennaugh and Britain's elite juniors, a fantastic achievement, and one that should make all Manx cyclists very proud. Following behind Mark is Chris Worrell and Timmy Kennaugh who hopefully can add to the Manx representation on the academy this coming season.

## Team IOM Seniors

Although our elite seniors have been a little thin on the ground this year they have held their heads up high on the national and international stage. Graeme Hatcher and Warren Flynn and when available Andy Roche performed well in Manx colours and Team IOM even held the yellow jersey at the FBD RAS albeit with our new American Manx rider Ken Hanson winning the first stage. Over the next two years our senior squad will gain momentum but I have concerns with our continued struggle to find funding and keep our strengths here on the island to act as role models for our new wave of talent coming through.

## Juveniles

Team Scottish Provident still go from strength to strength under the leadership of Dot Tilbury, there continued success is the main lifeline of young cyclists entering our sport. Our National Coach Mike Doyle, ably assisted by various club coaches, is available to use his vast experience and knowledge to identify and guide talent through to junior category, this support, has, without doubt, been invaluable in enabling our riders to reach their current level. Selecting our best Juvenile riders to represent Team Isle of Man in our home National Youth Tour is an extremely important stepping stone in their careers utilising the experience of our management in both preparation and competition.

## The Future

From January 2009 qualifying can commence for the 2010 Commonwealth Games. The standards have been set and work has started in not only setting about structuring our squad but also in the strategic task of management and preparation. Subjects such as funding, preparation events, holding camps, accommodation are being researched in order to ensure the games run as smoothly as possible, bearing in mind that if our strongest team were available we could potentially be ranked number one in the commonwealth and therefore under extreme scrutiny from the eyes of the sporting world.

With all this in mind, 2009 is going to be an extremely important year. With sponsorship from Mount Murray gym work has already commenced and structured team pursuit track sessions at Newport Velodrome will start shortly. Funding to run a full senior team at national level is still not

completely sorted, so I will keep on trying to rectify this issue. Mike and myself have set our goals at trying to qualify a team pursuit team along with individual pursuit and a full complement of riders in all distance track events as well as a full six man road squad, a tall order indeed, but a perfectly achievable one with the abundance of talent available at present.

#### Dinner Awards/ Sportive

This year the awards night was organised in conjunction with the inaugural James Berry Sportive, the idea behind this, was to trial the event with a few to culminating both events in the future. This would have a number of plus points. (1) It would hugely lift the profile of the night and would attract some big names to the cause, very similar to the Braveheart dinner in Scotland. This in turn would raise funds to enable us to support our young riders where deemed necessary. (2) It would provide a hugely popular package to UK cyclists that would yet again increase the profile of Manx cycling and not only give a very memorable night for our sponsors but spread the word to a wider audience. With the extremely good feedback received after the awards night, I hope that we can continue the theme and build on the event for future years and not take a step backwards as is so easy to do.

#### General

During the year I have endeavoured to attend all relevant meetings on behalf of the cycling association and at this crucial period in the build up to the games will continue to do so. I am prepared to stand as performance director for 2009 and wish to thank everybody for all their help throughout the year. In particular Ian Brand, Les Miller, Mike Doyle, Graeme Hatcher, Steve Shimmin and anyone else I may have missed.

This concludes my report

Gary Hinds

#### 8. Election of Association Officers and Executive Committee.

One notice of standing down received from the Chairman – Rob Long

##### Executive Committee.

	2007/8	2008/9 Elected	Proposer	Seconded
President	Ron Killey	Ron Killey	Uncontested	
Chairman	Rob Long	Steve Shimmin	Ian Brand	Gary Hinds
Secretary	Ian Brand		Uncontested	
Treasurer	Les Millar		Uncontested	
Head of Performance	Gary Hinds		Uncontested	
National Performance				
Coach	Mike Doyle		Uncontested	

##### Non Executive Committee

Press officer	Vacant			
Auditor	Mike Howland		Uncontested	
10 League co ordinator	Jim Cottier		Uncontested	
Development Group				
Co-ordinator		Juan Watney	Ian Brand	Gary Hinds
Club representatives				
EVCC	Ian Brand, John Turner and TBA.			
MRC	None advised			
MVW	Brian Johnson, Rob Dooley and Phil Knights. Reserves Steve Williams and John Wolstencroft.			
MMBC	None advised			

BMX Micky Cain.

**New Club Secretaries** advised by their clubs:

MVW Tanya Sanderson

MRC Dave Taylor

**9. Annual Dinner** – Mount Murray 1st November 2008. Proved to be an excellent venue and a very enjoyable if lengthy presentation. See Performance Director's report above.

**10. Club affiliation fees 2008** – waived in committee for 2009.

**11. Constitution amendments** - None.

**12. Any other business of a non contentious nature** –

**10 League** – Manx Telecom are not continuing their sponsorship and Bikestyle are taking over for the next 3 years. Jim Cottier wished to thank Manx Telecom for their 6 years of sponsorship. He will write to MT.

**Investment of surplus funds** – Les to investigate investing funds for a better return.

**Calendar 2009** – Decided to issue free. Advertising donations minimum of £50 and 10 League entry fee to be raised by £2 to cover cost of production.

**Dinner** – Gary Hinds wanted continuity of organisation to ensure success of the event and the associated James Berry Sportiv. Delegated to next committee meeting to discuss organising a committee taking it out of the hands of the clubs (currently organised by rotation).

**13. Date of next monthly meeting** – 3rd December 2008 7.30pm NSC meeting room.