**KTC Minutes – 17/10/2024**

**Attendees**

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| --- | --- |
| Liam Seamer – Chairman | Bexleyheath |
| Aaron Seamer - Secretary | Bexleyheath |
| Neil Spencer | Bexleyheath |
| Mick Smith | Double 5 |
| Bryn Matton | Gravesend |
| Andy Pierce | Gravesend |
| Dave Mears | Barham |
| Tim Taylor | Barham |
| Marc Taylor | Ashford |
| Gary Roberts | Erith |
| Rob Fleet | Erith |
| Doug Norris | Bexleyheath |
| Jamie Clarke | Sidcup |
| Nigel Frankling – Treasurer | Erith |
| Dennis Fleet - President | Bexleyheath |

**Item 1**

Minutes from previous meeting agreed.

**Item 2**

Finances are stable. The extra combine trial held on the 6th October was profitable and will help the KTC account remain healthy.

**Item 3**

Cowden August trial, – good trial, thanks to Wickham club. Slight delay with release of results due to Chairman (Liam’s) wedding.

**Item 4**

Long Bottom Woods (Chads Farm) Trial – Good trial, thanks to 55 club. Trial slightly on the hard side, mainly due to the rain, which made going difficult & slippery.

**Item 5**

Extra combine Fax Farm Trial, 6th October – good trial, thanks to Sittingbourne & KTC volunteers that helped organise and set up this extra trial. Good weather and good results. Note: diary clashes with other trials in Kent / South East with this trial highlights the importance of clubs setting and sharing their calendars early each year.

**Item 6 – Crowborough October combine trial** – Good trial, Thanks to Kent & Sussex club.

**Item 7 Future Events**

* **November combine –** Canada Heights, Sidcup club. All ok to proceed, confirmed by JC.
* **December combine –** Crowborough, Gravesend club. All ok to proceed, confirmed by BM
* **January combine –** location TBC, possibly Cobham as Ash is no longer available. Bexleyheath club will organise and confirm.

**Item 8 Trophy Officer –** vacancy remain open and the Kent Combine are still actively seeking a volunteer to assist with this important position on the committee.

**Item 9. 2025 Calendar** – Provisional calendar for 2025 issued for discussion, a suggestion to consider Betchworth Quarry as a possible venue for either February or March which are currently blank months. BM offered to make enquiries to see if suitable car parking space exists on site to allow a Kent combine trial to be held here.

**Item 10**. **Awards Evening** – The KTC awards evening has been booked for Friday 11th April 2025, to present the awards for the 2024 KTC championships results. Location : Three Crutches pub, Old Watling Street, ME2 3UG.Hot Buffet provided. Contributions from KTC member clubs will be requested to fund this social event, which is free to riders, club members and families.

Trophy logo’s need consideration i.e. North Kent / East Kent or Kent ?

**AOB**

* **Severity of Trials –** Discussion took place regarding how to ensure a consistent level of severity / difficulty throughout the year with different clubs setting up combine trials ? To help with this difficult topic it was agreed that:
  + A key aim of the KTC is to encourage and develop trials riders, not to scare them away with very difficult sections.
  + Aim for the class winners to achieve a low score, i.e. maximum scores of <20 points and preferably class winners with single digits results is good.
  + Sections should be set out giving due consideration for the Average Rider, not just to provide hard challenge to the best riders.
* **CoC courses** – JC is hosting CoC course for North Kent on Remembrance Sunday. East Kent date to be confirmed in December.
* **Change of Class** – Any riders that change class on the day should not be eligible for championship points, this seems generally accepted but may need clarification within the KTC rules.
* **Trial Start & Finish Times –** discussion took place regarding finish times for trials because it is sometimes unclear to observers when the trial ends and when they can leave the section ? agreement was reached that:
  + Winter Trials should start at 10am and finish at 3pm
  + Summer Trials should start at 10:30 and finish at 3:30pm
  + Riders that retire early should sign out with the secretary of the meeting to ensure no unnecessary delays are incurred in waiting for last riders to finish.
  + Riders should be started in groups e.g. Red group to section 1, Blue group to section 7.
  + Clubs should hold a briefing before the start of a trial to remind riders of the regulations of the event.