

# MOTORCYCLING WA – TRIAL SPORTING PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2016

PRESENT: Phil Drew, Simon Price, Robin Ferguson, Dick Yates, Peter Stafford



APOLOGIES: Ben Dumitro

VISITORS: Nil

Item #	Item	What is the issue being discussed: Write this down. Discussion points – what was discussed in summary	Action, by whom and when
1.	Meeting Open	7.05pm	
2.	Previous Minutes	Accepted Seconded	Simon Price Robin Ferguson
3.	Business Arising Sporting Panel General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sporting Panel to meet on a bi-monthly basis or based on need. Next meeting suggested for February 2016. Mondays and Wednesdays are best for those present. Date TBC. <b>Update: First Monday of the month every second month starting in February are agreed as meeting dates. Finish time to be set as 8:30pm to ensure expediting of business.</b></li> <li>Correspondence to Sporting Panel. There should be a recognized conduit for correspondence to the Sporting Panel. Needs to be confirmed with MWA what the accepted current practice is. <b>Update: MWA advised that all correspondence would be via email from Rick Gill to the Chairperson.</b></li> </ul>	<p>P Drew to contact MWA to book the meeting room for every second Month in 2016.</p> <p>Note, and closed.</p>
	Review of Event Reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2015 State Championships. P Drew requested an event report from Steve Scragg via email which is not yet forthcoming. <b>Update: Steve Scragg emailed a brief report to P Drew. This is attached as Attachment 1.</b></li> </ul>	Refer to Attachment 1.
	2016 State Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion re the running of the 2016 WA State Titles. Simon Price explained that the Sporting Panel itself could not act as a promoter of an event and hence a club or a separate promoter was needed to apply for the State Title Permit. Update: Peter Hamer did some research in the MoMs and reported to the Chairperson as follows:  <b>4.2.1.2 Promoters must be affiliated to the Relevant Controlling Body:</b></li> </ul>	Need to Confirm with MWA whether or not the

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		<p><b>a) Where a State Controlling Body is the Relevant Controlling Body, Promoters must affiliate with a State Controlling Body,</b></p> <p><b>Thus unless the Sporting Panel is an entity affiliated with MWA (the State Controlling Body) then the SP could not be the Promoter. Thus it falls on the clubs satisfying the requirements of being the Promoter.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The role of the Sporting Panel to be clarified by MWA. <b>Update: Rick Gill responded to an email from P Drew and provided a document entitled: “Induction Intro Panels”. This document provides good basic information regarding the MWA Sporting Panel Role and the Terms of Reference of Sporting Panels. This document has been emailed to all Trial Sporting Panel Members.</b></li> <li>○ P Drew advised that AJS were taking first steps towards the 2016 State Titles, with Grant Morris volunteering at the AJS AGM on 6/12/2015 to act as the State Titles Co-ordinator and to commence getting a working group together. <b>Update: A meeting has been scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 by Grant Morris to kick off the AJS planning for the 2016 WA State Championship.</b></li> <li>○ State Championship Supplementary Regulations. These need to be reviewed by the Sporting Panel in draft format before going to MWA.</li> <li>○ What constitutes the Regulation requirements needs to be clarified by MWA. P Drew to approach Rick Gill to clarify.</li> <li>● Consideration be given to running a “Twin Shock” class at the 2016 WA State Titles. Minimum of 5 rider entry required. <b>Update: Discussion ensued regarding the efficacy of running a “Twin Shock” class. Need to check the State Title regulations to see if there is any definition of this class. Unless this class is defined under the regulations it cannot be a State Title class. Could run as a support class or a “demonstration class” but then the number of participants would likely to be too low to be viable given there would be no State Title Medallion. Could be a static display.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Sporting Panels are affiliated with MWA. P Drew to approach Rick Gill.</p> <p>Note. Document emailed to SP members for review at their leisure.</p> <p>Note</p> <p>AJS MCC to provide to the SP for review.</p> <p>Phil Drew to approach MWA to obtain a copy of the Regulations for Trial State Championships by the next SP meeting.</p> <p>Need to sound out both clubs about the level of interest that there would be in such a class. SP to email both clubs to obtain feedback. P Drew to expedite by next meeting.</p>
	Rider Grading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For previous discussion on this item refer to the previous minutes.</li> <li>● Again there was active discussion on this point by SP Members who were not present at the previous SP meeting. There is strong feeling about this</li> </ul>	Note

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		<p>issue and differing views and complications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested that correspondence be sent out to both clubs to raise discussion on the setting up of a “Grading Panel” which will largely be the Sporting Panel.</li> </ul>	<p>P Drew to send an email to both clubs seeking comment on the need for formalised rider grading, to request feedback by next SP meeting in April.</p>
2018 Nationals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For previous discussion on this item refer to the previous minutes. <b>Update: Consideration should be given to the 2018 National Titles to be run by the Sporting Panel as the Promoter.</b></li> </ul>	<p>This item is now closed. <b>Note.</b></p>
	Rule Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed that a possible submission be put to the Trial Commission that for the Nationals the Youth Grade age be raised from 16 – 21yrs to 16 – 25yrs.</li> <li>Peter Hamer put forward a submission to the Trial Commission last year for the change of the rule of losing 5 points for “touching” a grade marker to “dislodging” a grade marker, however this change request was considered as unsuccessful. Discussion at the meeting was not in support of further pursuing this rule change due to the difficulty of defining the term “dislodging” a marker, but also that when setting sections the setters should place makers so that there is no fine line between touching the marker or staying within the designated “line”. Peter’s Submission to be circulated to SP members for information. <b>Update: P Drew tabled Peter Hamer’s submission and the response. General consensus from the Trial Sporting Panel was that the rule remain unchanged as it adds complication to the Observers decision making.</b></li> <li>Letter from Paul Church. P Drew tabled a letter from Paul Church to MA that requested a reduction in MA Licence fees for Seniors. This request had not been accepted by MA however the Sporting Panel considered that it could support a revised submission emphasising the basic requirement the Rider must also be a licensed MA Official. Draft letter, on behalf of the WA SP, to be prepared for review at the next SP meeting in February. <b>Update: P Drew tabled a draft letter for consideration by the Sporting Panel. Panel members to review and forward comment to P Drew on or before the next meeting. See attachment 2.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Ben Dumitro to prepare a draft submission for review by the Sporting Panel at the next meeting in February. <b>Outstanding. Ben to expedite.</b> Note. P Drew to source and circulate Peter Hamer’s submission on “dislodging a marker”.</p> <p>P Drew to organize support from MWA and to prepare a revised letter submission to MA. Due at February SP meeting. <b>SP Members to provide feedback on draft letter to P Drew on or before the next meeting.</b></p>

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4.	<b>New Business</b>		
	Veterans Classes for State Titles	Need to define the Veterans classes for the 2016 State Titles. Will there be only one blanket class: “over 40’s” or will the MOMs split be applied. Review State Title Regulations for guidance.	Phil Drew to approach MWA to obtain a copy of the Regulations for Trial State Championships by the next SP meeting.
	Allowing Senior Officials to Ride an event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the reduced numbers of Senior Officials such as the Clerk or Course and Steward to administer events, and the fact that these persons may have to give up a ride to do so, P Drew put forward the proposition that one out of the two key senior officials be allowed to ride the event competitively. The Panel considered this idea worthy of further consideration.</li> </ul>	P Drew to prepare a proposal for submission to MWA and submit it to the next SP meeting.
	Riders to do compulsory observing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R Ferguson raised the issue of the dwindling number of Observers available for winter and summer series events, and that consideration should be given across both clubs for compulsory observing by riders as a part of their club membership responsibilities. There may need to be some “reward for effort” system such as gaining points towards the championship.</li> </ul>	R Ferguson to prepare a proposal for discussion at the next SP meeting.
	Officials Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration should be given for officials to be trained in a “Trial event” situation. R Ferguson suggested that MWA be approached to hold an officials training course in conjunction with a trial, so that the specific issues relevant to Trial are addressed. “Official applicants” from both clubs be invited to attend.</li> </ul>	P Drew to email Rick Gill with this suggestion.
	<b>Next Meeting</b>	Monday 4th April 2016 @ 7pm @ MWA Offices	
	<b>Meeting concluded</b>	9.05pm	

## **Attachment 1: Pathfinder Report on 2015 State Titles (As received from S Scragg)**

2015 WA Make Smoking History Trial Championship.  
Sunday 13th September 2015.  
McKay's Farm, Woodendale Road, Toodyay.

44 entries.  
42 competed (2 withdrawals for medical reasons).

10 sections.  
10 observers.  
10 punchers.

4 x A Grade - Winner Neil Price.  
5 x B Grade - Winner Luke Patane.  
6 x C Grade - Winner John Stafford.  
6 x Vets - Winner Dave Thomas.  
12 x Club Class - Winner Adam Knight.  
5 x Junior - Winner Joel Patane.  
4 x Sidecar - Winner Scott Chapman & Wayne Cattach.  
Zero entries in Support Class.

No injuries, no issues.

## Attachment 2: Draft Letter to MA Regarding Reduced Licenced Fees for Seniors

Motorcycling Australia  
PO Box 134  
South Melbourne  
Victoria 3205

(Date)

Dear MA Board,

RE: REDUCED COST COMPETITION LICENCES FOR "SENIORS"

The Trials Sporting Panel from MWA is putting forward here a proposal for reduced cost competition licences for Senior competitors. Whilst this proposal is put forward by the Trial Sporting Panel, it could easily apply to other sporting disciplines.

As there are a limited number of over 60s still competing nationally, this proposal should not impact dramatically on the overall revenue earned by MA from rider licensing nor should it affect other licence holders.

Please also note that many of these "senior" riders do not ride all events and are often the ones who volunteer to give up their rides at events, to fulfil the roles of officials needed under the MA MoMs to run events with a correct duty of care, diligence and safety for participants and spectators alike.

Many seniors have limited resources and are reliant on Government assistance. The cost of a full competition licence may well deter some Seniors from competing or contributing to their sport in their later years.

There are many additional costs to take into account for competitors such as: club fees, entry costs, travelling costs, machinery repairs and maintenance all weighing heavily on the family budget. In the discipline of Trial (Observed Trials/Sporting Trials/Moto Trials) competitors can readily compete and do into their seventies, dropping to lesser grades as their skill and reaction levels are less adept. Trial therefore undoubtedly has more older competing riders than most disciplines and hence costs for some of these members is becoming restrictive.

From a purely business sense for Motorcycling Australia, it will pay to keep these older members riding, as each rider, here in Western Australia, contributes \$10.75 each per ride, to the Local Controlling Body (MWA) to help advance the sport in this state.

The proposal that The Trial Sporting Panel for MWA would like MA to consider is to provide a reduction of 50% in the Competitor Licensing fee for Senior members.

To ensure that this is not an open slather rort and to keep members honest, it is suggested that the following conditions should apply to any request for a "Special Fee" Competition Licence:

1. Competitors applying for a Special Fee Licence must be registered as "Seniors" in the state in which they reside.
2. Competitors applying for a Special Fee Licence must be licensed "Officials" under their state jurisdiction.
3. Competitors applying for a Special Fee Licence must demonstrate via their log books that they have officiated at a least one meeting within their state or instate to further qualify for this discount.

Given the above criteria, it is considered that this concession may make available additional officials to help the sport, given that there is a shortage of officials available across the board. If Seniors can purchase a Competition licence at a considerable discount, then they will make themselves available to officiate whereas they would not take on this role if they have to pay the cost of a full completion licence.

The Trial Sporting Panel of MWA hopes that MA will seriously consider this proposal as a positive way of supporting the sport and encouraging Senior members of the communities in which they live to remain active in their chosen sport.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Kindest Regards

Philip Drew  
Chairperson  
Trial Sporting Panel of MWA.