

Motocross Committee Meeting minutes  
September 18, 2010

Ken Kloza called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

Role was taken, committee members present were: Brian Hayes, Sandy Moss, Gregg Hollenback, John Stelling, and Dwayne Springer.

Also present was Carol Preston, Scott Cullany, and Ann Springer.

Ken Kloza stated that Ken Doeg has resigned as Associate Motocross Referee and appointed Carol Preston as Associate Motocross Referee until a replacement was found.

There was no old business to discuss.

New business:

Ken Kloza explained that the main reason for this meeting was that the FTR rule in the FTR Rulebook Motocross section, chapter XI, paragraph 4, which reads "Emergency medical service and Ambulance is required on site at all times during event," was placing FTR Motocross in a crisis situation.

He explained that this rule is placing an economic hardship on track owners. Ambulance service is costing the track between fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars at each event. The track receives only twenty dollars per race entry, so that is 75 to 100 race entrees needed to pay for the ambulance. However the track owner also has to consider their land expense, equipment expense, fuel, labor, and more. Last year's average number of race entrees at an FTR MX event was around 130, and between our two MX events this season we are averaging about the same. This is not cost effective for the track owner.

Brian Hayes stated that FTR MX has to increase rider participation, or decrease track owner expense. He also said that FTR MX is seeing a decrease in event participation due to other series competing for MX race revenues. There have been over five new MX series started in the state over the past couple of years.

Carol Preston stated that many of these series are put on by track owners themselves and they do not utilize an on site ambulance, therefore increasing their profits. This is having a negative effect on our series and forcing track owners to reconsider hosting FTR MX events.

Ken Kloza explained that Wally Pixley had threatened to cancel this weekend's race at Bithlo if he was required to take on the expense of an on site ambulance during the race. However due to insurance negotiations between Wally and his insurance company he was required to purchase the FTR insurance binder which requires an on site ambulance and he reconsidered cancelling. However his insurance situation should be settled within the week and he will cancel the scheduled two races at Waldo and the second race at Bithlo if required to have the expense of an on site ambulance for those events.

Ken Kloza also brought to the committee's attention that in addition to these three races being cancelled, Thundercross is reconsidered hosting a second event on October 24<sup>th</sup> if they were again required to have the expense of an on site ambulance, and Carol Blackburn of Motocross of Marion County has said that she will not host the two scheduled events in Reddick if required to have an on site ambulance.

That would cancel six of our remaining nine planned events and leave FTR MX without a scheduled race until January 30, 2011.

Brian Hayes stated that these are the most reputable tracks in Florida and they have been running MX practice and race events for many years without an on site ambulance. During non FTR events, they have

an on site EMT and depend on the response time of local ambulance services. He said that he has talked with Wally (Bithlo) who said that his track insurance does not require an on site ambulance but requires an ambulance response time to the track in less than eight minutes. He also said that this was less time than it takes to assess the situation, package the injured, and remove them from the track.

Ken Kloza agreed and said that when his son was transported from Bithlo last year, he was put into the arriving or relief ambulance and transported, rather than being transported by the on site ambulance.

Carol Preston agreed that it takes approximately eight to ten minutes to assess the situation prior to taking the injured off the track. Then transport time from the incident area to the ambulance could take an additional two to five minutes.

Scott Cullany was given the floor and stated he has been a certified paramedic working for Sarasota County for the past 27 years. He also said that the required average response time for Florida Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is eight minutes in metropolitan areas. Response times are used to build new units and are also used as a basis for property taxes. Sarasota County's average EMS response time is six minutes from the time the call is received till the time the unit arrives at the site. If the response time is greater than eight minutes, the unit must complete a report with the reason for the delay. Most Florida Motocross tracks are located in metropolitan areas and should have an EMS response time under eight minutes.

Carol Preston asked if this was documented statistical data.

Scott Cullany responded that he should be able to find documents regarding Florida standards for EMS required response times. He also stated that based on a track location, we should be able to call the track's local EMS station and obtain an average response time to the track address. Each station should have a local chart showing statistical average response times within their region and that should be in the public records of each county.

Carol Preston asked Scott Cuillany to forward to the MX Committee any written information he could find regarding EMS response time requirements or statistics.

Scott Cullany said he would forward any information to Ken Kloza.

Dwayne Springer expressed his concern that if the ambulance rule was not changed and we were to lose the six events, that may create a snowball effect with the remaining track owners questioning the value of an FTR sanction. He also questioned how many FTR members are motocross only riders and would FTR refund their membership fees if the MX program was to abruptly end.

Carol Preston said we need to develop an acceptable and safe change to the rule for the FTR Executive Committee to consider and approve so that we do not lose any scheduled events this season.

Ken Kloza presented the following rule change to the committee:

From:

“Emergency medical service and Ambulance is required on site at all times during event.”

To:

“An Emergency Medical Technician EMT/ALS Medic is required on site at all times during the event and must have necessary life support equipment. The EMT must carry a device that is able to immediately contact an emergency ALS ambulance if needed. The track owner must provide their own event insurance and follow the ambulance requirements of their policy. Should the track owner's insurance policy not require an on site ambulance during an event, this policy must be received by FTR 10 days prior to the event, and the track must be located where emergency services (under normal circumstances)

can respond to a trackside emergency in less than eight minutes. This is to be determined by county statistical information and the location of emergency services in relation to the track location. This information is to be provided by the track owner or his/her representative. It is the responsibility of the FTR Motocross Chairperson and Referee to determine the reliability of this information. If the promoting track owner purchases the FTR event insurance binder, the scheduled motocross facility must have an ambulance on site at all times during the event,”

Carol Preston made a motion to accept the changes as stated and present these changes for the approval of the FTR Executive Committee.

Sandy Moss seconds the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Second topic of the meeting was the Vibbert and Jones trackside situation.

Ken Kloza stated that today (Saturday September 18, 2010) there was an outburst of disorderly conduct on the track that was worth the comments of the committee. Carol Preston witnessed the situation, and she was asked to explain.

Carol Preston explained that during a practice session Ashley Jones had contact in a turn with another rider (who is unknown), and she lost control - going to the ground. She was uninjured. However her friend Kyle Vibbert found the contact unacceptable and entered the riding area forcing the unknown rider to the ground and he began to fight. The fight was broken up and everyone involved was asked to leave the facility. At that point Ashley Jones deliberately drove her motorcycle over the unknown rider's motorcycle causing damage to the bike and when flagged off the track by a flagger, she spit into the flagger's face.

The unknown rider moved to his vehicle, packed and left the facility.

Ashley Jones and Kyle Vibbert, unhappy with the decision that they must leave, demanded a refund. Kyle, since he never brought his bike on the track, was awarded a refund, but since Ashley was on the track, she was not entitled to a refund. They continued to demand a refund for Ashley, and upon review of their minor release and waiver they provided false information.

Ashley Jones falsely stated her name on the Minor Release as Ashley Vibbert and Kyle Veibert's father; John Vibbert, signed the release as Ashley's father. This was false information on the Minor Release form. Mr. John Vibbert realized what he had done and agreed to leave peacefully.

A short time later, Ashley's father Mr. Jones gained access to the facility because he was wearing the track wrist band. A vender at the track was selling a bike and Mr. Jones said he would like to test the bike, he showed the vender his wrist band and said he paid for practice. The vendor, believing Mr. Jones, let Mr. Jones take the bike to the track. However a flagger from the track noticed Mr. Jones acting suspicious while entering the riding area on the vender's bike and asked his name for verification. After being questioned, Mr. Jones decided to exit the track. While Mr. Jones was preparing to leave the facility, track officials reviewed entrée sign in documents and rider waivers. Mr. Jones' name was not found on any documents. Meaning he did not sign in at the gate, nor did he sign a ride waiver. He was stopped by local law enforcement for trespassing at the track.

It is assumed that Mr. Jones was given the wrist band from his daughter and gained access to the track to try and recoup the \$20.00 lost by his daughter.

Kyle Vibbert and Ashley Jones have been banned from Bilthlo and Waldo MX tracks.

Carol asked, because this was a practice day for an FTR MX event, is this a reflection of FTR and should we take any kind of disciplinary action toward these parties?

John Stelling replied that this is a “catch 22” situation. They deserve to be disciplined, but we do not want to lose any riders. What should we do?

It was decided that this situation should be brought to the attention of the FTR Executive Committee and the EC should decide on any disciplinary action.

Brian Hayes made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Carol Preston Second the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.