



Meeting Minutes
2019 AMA Congress Meeting

Sporting Commission

Saturday, December 7, 2019
Hilton Columbus Downtown

Meeting Agenda

1. Opening of Meeting

- a. Comments by the AMA Director of Racing – Kevin Crowther
- b. Comments by the Track Racing Manager – Ken Sailant

Ken: The sporting commission is related to anything in the rulebook. This commission encompasses all disciplines. It is important to the entire racing department. It is this group's responsibility to review rules that come out of other commissions and give a final say before the board hears it.

Chris DaRonco is installed into the Sporting Commission as chairperson due to Jim Viverito's health concerns. No objections taken on this from the group.

Chris makes opening statement after introductions: her vision and thought process is that we have rules and regulations that need to be re-evaluated and worked on. With her experience in running events a lot of her focus is making it safer for the future of our sport, the young folks. Sometimes it's about saving children from the overzealous parents they have.

2. Take attendance

Present:

Kevin Bailey
Christine DaRonco

Absent With Notice:

Jerry Fouts
Dave Picket
James Viverito

Absent Without Notice:

Wayne Sody
Gerhard Ward

Observing:

John Davis – D36
Delvene Reber
Lucas Reber
Burt Sumner
Bill Milburn
Chris Halverson
Dave Joiner
Dan Vrana

3. Proposal Items

- a. None submitted for the 2019 review

4. Agenda Items

- a. SP-A1219-1 Upper Body Protection

5. Open Discussion on Items Forwarded from Other Commissions

First item: FT proposal FT-1219-13 regarding results formatting and submission, this is submitted to the group since a complete ruling on how to report results is going to affect all racing disciplines. Within the proposal Burt wanted email and full address input with it in addition to required name, birthdate, AMA number, and class finish. There was a concern over privacy laws when this was brought to the group. Secure communications between the AMA and organizers is key to avoid legal issues of privacy. Do we need to have this as a part of the rulebook after all? ***A working group is established as follows: Lucas and Delvene Reber, Bill Milburn, Kevin Bailey, Dave Joiner. Ocean-Breeze Kudla to sit in as expert. A draft for reporting is due on March 11, 2020.***

Second item: Flat Track Proposal Item FT-1219-28 Proof of Age for All Classes; this is brought before sporting because of requirements on proof of age being a concern. The original rule currently requests that kids “may” be asked for proof of age without any current definition of what that document is. The goal is to beef up what already exists and clarify which documents are acceptable or not. Organizers and managers have had to deal with racers participating in classes they do not belong in. ***Sporting commission will work as a group on a proposal draft: March 11, 2020 is when draft is due.***

Sporting Commission opens discussion for proposed Medical and Safety Commission Agenda: SP-A1219-1 Upper Body Protection: Delvene reviews what was discussed with the Specialized Sport Commission group; in summary there were concerns over fit when worn with leathers, when children grow out of the safety equipment, condition of gear, etc. As the group formulates a response to Medical and Safety it is important to include all disciplines including Specialty Sport. The group must also recognize that it is a rider’s responsibility to ensure proper fit and quality of safety gear. ***Sporting Commission will work as group and establish recommendations with each other. Initial draft of guidelines for Medical and Safety Commission is due January 31, 2020. Draft of recommendations for Medical and Safety Commission is due February 13, 2020.***

6. Closing of Meeting



American Motorcyclist Association Agenda Item for Discussion

Sporting Commission Agenda Item

Agenda: SP-A1219-1 Upper Body Protection

Item

Presented for discussion and feedback by the Medical and Safety Commission

The Medical/Safety Commission has been researching and working on a proposal for upper body protection. As you know, All racing disciplines with the exception of trials place the rider at risk for injuries to the sternum, ribs and thoracic spine. The underlying soft tissues such as the lungs and heart are also placed at risk. Because of the physical maturity and structural development of Youth athletes under the age of 14, they are at risk for commotio cordis, which occurs after a direct blow to the sternum. This may lead to sudden cardiac death. Protection from roost related to rocks may also allow better concentration of the rider and potentially allow safer racing. Also, modern chest/back protectors are well ventilated to reduce heat load to the rider.

Based on this data, the Medical Safety Commission is going to be moving forward a proposal that will make upper body protection mandatory for youth riders under the age of 14 competing in any speed related racing disciplines. When looking at the landscape of the current racing disciplines, the only racing discipline that we see not fitting into a "speed event" would be Trials.

Because this type of rule would impact multiple racing disciplines, we are seeking input and feedback from all of the racing commissions with regards to how or what impact a mandatory rule for upper body protection could have on specific disciplines of racing. Below is what we have determined is the best proposal to try and implement for 2021, with the intent of reviewing the deployment of a new rule and if it might warrant "mandatory for all racers" status in the future.

Please review the proposal and submit a written response to the Medical Safety Commission no later than March 6, 2020. This response should include bullet points of support, concerns, or any recommendations of what modifications you believe would better suit your specific type of racing.

Proposed Change

E. Competition Apparel

1. Protective pants made of leather or other durable material and long sleeve jerseys must be worn.
2. When a riding jersey or other apparel is used for rider identification, it is recommended that an 8-inch high number be on the back, and the number be of contrasting colors. ***When a back protector is worn outside of the jersey, the number should be placed on the back protector.***
3. Boots must be worn in all meets. They must be at least 8 inches high with any combination of laces, buckles, or zippers, or be specially designed and constructed for foot and leg protection.
4. ***A chest and back protector must be worn for all competitors under the age of 14 (at the date of competition). The protector may be worn under or over the jersey. It must cover the sternum anterior ribs, posterior ribs, and spine from T1 to T 12. For road racing a back protector must be worn under their leathers unless integrated into the design of the leathers .***
5. It is recommended that riders use the available protective equipment (i.e. gloves, neck brace, and knee protectors) to help protect against the possibility of injury.
6. All riders must utilize a shatterproof face shield or shatterproof goggles.
7. Wearing of Helmets: It is mandatory for all participants taking part in practice and competition wear a full face helmet. The helmet must be properly fastened, be of good fit, and be in good condition. The helmet must have a chin strap retention system.

Submission

Medical/Safety Commission



American Motorcyclist Association SPORTING COMMISSION

AMA Competition Commissions are volunteer bodies that consider, disseminate, amend, interpret, and assist in the enforcement of both technical and operational rules for amateur and pro-am competition events sanctioned by the AMA.

Composition of Commission – November 2019

Kevin Bailey
Dennisville, NJ

Bill Bromley
Pipersville, PA

Robert Coy
Richmond, NH

Christine DaRonco
Pewaukee, WI

Jerry Fessler
Jonestown, PA

Jerry Fouts
Oakdale, CA

William Haas
Exeter, RI

Charlie Kline
Hebron, OH

Dave Picket
Pioneer, CA

Wayne Sody
White Marsh, MD

James Viverito
Chicago, IL

Gerhard Ward
Mendota, IL