

Some thoughts on jointly-organised events

The background

There is nothing in our Articles of Association to prevent, regulate or guide events run in conjunction with other organisations. As such, it is entirely reasonable that we should work with other motorcycling organisations to provide events that are attractive to as wide a variety of enthusiasts as possible. The guidance given here is intended to be reciprocal in that we must be as willing to provide appropriate reassurances to another organisation as we are in asking for them from potential partners.

Guidelines

To protect the Club, its officers and members we need some guidelines for such events. Events carry two risks that need to be mitigated as far as possible. The first is the risk of financial loss so where a joint event requires up-front expenditure (perhaps to book a camping facility or caterer), the expense should be shared equally between the organisations involved, all of whom should be jointly contracted to meet the cost. Expenses due during or after the event should also be contracted and shared equally, as should any profit from the event. The second risk is that of incurring liability as a result of an error or omission by an officer of any of the organisations involved in running the event. The BMW Club has public liability insurance to cover for negligence of its' officers but this does not cover the officers of other organisations. To protect the Club from the potentially ruinous cost of litigation and liability for loss, injury or damage caused at a jointly-organised event, we can only be involved in events for which each organising body has public liability insurance as least as good as our own, which is currently provided under the terms of our BMF affiliation. Prior to organising a joint event, the partners need to exchange copies of their public liability insurance schedules. These copies should be retained in case a claim is made some time after the event.

Budgeting

Before organising a joint event a budget needs to be produced indicating clearly the expected costs and likely income. Whilst it is clearly impossible to predict the future (inclement weather, global pandemics and the like) the budget should indicate at least a financial break-even as it is unacceptable for members funds to subsidise the enjoyment of non-members.

Shared camping events on unregistered sites.

The Club has exemption certificates for England and Wales allowing us to use facilities such as farmers' fields for which planning consent for camping and caravanning has not been granted. The terms of our exemption certificates are such that non-members cannot attend such events therefore we cannot engage in a joint event at such a venue.

After the event

A final account for the event detailing the costs incurred, income received numbers attending and any information that would help the organisers of subsequent shared events will be sent to the General Secretary for distribution to the National Officers within 30 days of the event closing.

The formal proposal

We will only become involved with jointly-organised events, whether at National or Section level, where the above guidance, which may be updated by the National Committee in the light of experience, is fully complied with.