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To British Cycling Cycle Speedway Clubs

Dear All,

As your club conference is now less than a week away, as chair of the British Cycling, Cycle Speedway Commission I feel that it might be helpful to write to all CS Clubs

Since I've been involved with the Cycle Speedway Commission it has become very obvious that there are serious problems, which are preventing the sport from doing what it needs to do. The number one amongst these is a lack of leadership, which creates a vacuum, and prevents the sport from driving itself forward.

In my view the reason for that is that at every turn there is someone, somewhere, lobbing a metaphorical grenade into the proceedings which then basically creates inertia as we lurch from grenade generated crisis to grenade generated crisis.

For this reason I have tried my very hardest to create opportunity for this situation to be resolved. In doing this I have moved well outside the remit that I have as chairman of the commission, which is simply to take meetings and report back to the National Board on their content.

So in March, I encouraged a situation where the regions were able to send additional representation to a commission meeting and have their say. In response to that meeting, we have then moved on to looking at how would like to address some of the perceived failings of the commission, and then from there to this week's club conference where you have an opportunity to make your feelings known.

I do confess that I do have a personal interest here. I owe my cycling career to Cycle Speedway, and I don't want the sport to fail.

I give you an absolute commitment that I will continue to do my utmost to help you and to present your case to the Board of British Cycling in a positive way. However, the fact remains that the only way anything positive can happen is for you collectively to make the decision to get behind your leadership and give them the mandate to do precisely that and lead.

I have every faith that the majority of people I have met to date in the sport will do the sensible thing, and I sincerely hope that Saturday will lead to a settled and constructive future for the sport.

Finally, I would just like to thank the members of the commission for their ongoing efforts. Personally I have nothing but respect for all of them. They have done their very best for you, in the most difficult of circumstances despite constant sniping and undermining. These people are a credit to your sport and should be recognised as such in my opinion.

Good luck and all the very best.


Graham Elliott
BC Board Member and Chair of BC CS Commission

