



# AUSTRALIAN OFF ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting held via Teleconference  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Present: Marilyn Emmins (Chair), Daniel Rogers (Deputy Chairman), Laurence Svenson (CAMS Board Member), Sue Zettl, Zane Murray, Andrew Wylie, Fred Severin, Brett Price, Morris Williams (Technical Commissioner) Lawrie Schmitt (CAMS Manager – Motorsport Operations), Jos Roder (CAMS Executive Officer/Minute Secretary)

Visitors: None

Apologies: None

Meeting start: 1900 EST

## **1. OPENING**

The Chair, Mrs Marilyn Emmins opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

No pecuniary and/or potential conflicts of interest were declared by Commissioners.

## **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **2.1 Approval of the previous minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2011 were accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. The minutes had previously been approved via email.

*CARRIED*

### **2.2 Confirmation of decisions made between meetings**

The Commission noted the following decisions made between meetings;

#### **B11-022 2011 Australian Off Road Championship Sporting and Technical Regulations**

Release of the 2011 AORC Sporting Regulations.

#### **B11-034 2011 Off Road Standing Regulations**

Update noise regulations and clarify road closures and officials identification.

## **3. REPORTS**

### **3.1 Board Member's Report**

The FIA recently held a meeting in regards to potentially running some form of Asia Pacific style Off Road Series and the Commission will investigate this as more details are released.

### **3.2 State Delegate Reports**

#### **3.2.1 WA Report**

Two rounds of the State Championship have been held and the rounds have been well represented by competitors.

#### **3.2.2 SA/NT Report**

The South Australian Off Road season started early this year with Round 1 of the S.A. Off Road Championship and Round 1 of the SAORRA Multi Club Series held on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

This event had a good entry of 41 vehicles with some competitors travelling from WA and NT.

The first round of the NT titles was held on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011 with 12 entries.

The Dennis Zaglas Memorial Long Course was held at the Mt Ooraminna Off Road Track in the Northern Territory on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011 with 13 entries.

Unfortunately two events were cancelled, one at Sedan in SA and the other the ASORRC Brekky Bash in NT. Both events were cancelled due to the wet conditions.

### **3.2.3 Victorian Report**

One state round has been conducted. The Victorian Off Road Panel meeting was to be held on the 11th May.

### **3.2.4 Tasmanian Report**

One state round was conducted with a second round to be conducted at the end of May.

### **3.2.5 NSW Report**

One State Round has been conducted. The NSW Off road Panel again considered the recommendation from AORCom for their state round to be part of the AORC however the Panel declined this option.

### **3.2.6 Qld Report**

Two events have been run in the Queensland Championship. A QLD Off Road panel meeting was also to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May.

## **3.3 CAMS Technical Commissioner's report**

Mr Williams discussed fuel testing as well as informing the Commission of new equipment that has been recently purchased for noise testing.

## **3.4 ORRInc Report**

No current Organiser has come forward to join ORRInc and represent the Organisers at this stage. No competitor has come forward to represent competitors on ORRInc at this stage.

ORRInc will continue to seek a representative of both groups in the hope that a broad cross section of the sport is represented to help the future direction of the sport and give both groups a voice.

The AORC website is now officially online and is a great resource for information regarding the Australia Off Road Championship.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **4.1 Aussie Off Road Karts**

The Chair, Mrs Emmins wished to note that some technical information had been sent to CAMS as was information indicating the transfer of intellectual property to the Crawfords.

CAMS Technical department will work with AORCom and the Crawfords to officially document and specify the vehicles so the matter can be finalised and the vehicles officially approved.

### **4.2 Noise Regulations for 2011**

The Chair, Mrs Emmins presented a document that had been drafted in conjunction with CAMS as a competitor release concerning noise regulations to which the Commission approved.

The release will be forthcoming to the Off Road public.

### **4.3 Polaris Style Vehicles**

Following examination AORCom will consider if additional requirements relating to the safety cage structure should be adopted, in particular it is felt that a door bar regulation may be required in Schedule J to accommodate this style of vehicle.

The Commission extensively discussed the philosophical view of where these cars should fit in the sport as Production 4WD may not be the most appropriate class and that a new 'ATV' class is something to consider moving forward.

The Commission requested some photos be provided of a modified Polaris vehicle that has been log booked, so the Commission may view how and where the roll cage modifications are being attached to the chassis/frame of the vehicles before further determination is made surrounding safety cage regulation direction.

Commissioners will endeavour to provide photos from any such vehicle attending the next event they are attending.

## **5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **5.1 GR9 - 'W' configuration reinforcement of main roll bar and window reinforcement.**

The Commission were presented with details of a competitor's vehicle that had been imported with an alternative reinforcement configuration to the main hoop and also front window reinforcement area that did not comply with current GR9 requirements. The Commission determined that the design was deemed to be an acceptable alternative and deem the vehicle eligible if an engineer signed off on both areas of the safety cage.

*Secretary's Note: Subsequent to the meeting the Commission confirmed that the W configuration in the main hoop would be accepted as alternate configuration requiring certification of an engineer. GR9 will be amended to reflect the alternative designs. The Commission further agreed that the proposed window bar configuration would be added to GR9 Article 3.3, Front window bracing options. This window bar configuration will therefore be permitted without the need for engineering certification. A Bulletin will be issued to amend GR9 accordingly.*

### **5.2 TORC - ASCDC Minutes**

At its recent meeting, the Australian Sport and Club Development Commission (ASCDC) discussed the matter of the Trike and Odyssey Racing Club (TORC) located in Victoria and how it should be governed. The ASCDC determined that AORCom should be deciding how the club fits into Off Road and confirm if it should oversee this club and the vehicles.

The Commission felt that it was up to the CAMS Technical Department to determine if the regulations the club has in place are acceptable to CAMS.

*Secretaries Note: The CAMS Board may be required to provide further direction in respect of the governance of this particular club and vehicle type.*

### **5.3 Fuel Sampling**

The Commission was asked to clarify some elements of fuel testing so Commissioners had a clearer idea of why fuel testing was currently taking place and what was actually being tested in the fuel.

Discussion took place around what was a 'safe method' of providing a fuel sample as written in Schedule G.

Technical Commissioner Mr Williams noted that in his experience many competitors were not aware of how to provide a fuel sample or how to provide a sample safely.

The Commission noted that there was many different fuel method sampling devices available that competitors can employ on the market that are approved by the FIA that competitors may use to allow a safe method of fuel sampling.

Mr Svenson also described to the Commission an automotive industry method for depressurising the fuel system to provide a safe sample and the Commission approved that the method was an acceptable method for providing a fuel sample.

#### **5.4 GR10 Window Glass**

Mr Severin presented a recommendation in relation to mobile window glass for rear windows altering the Off Road General Requirements, Article 10.

The recommendation wished to clarify that it should only be necessary for the driver and navigator's window to be mobile, as some vehicles had four doors and currently the requirement required all windows in doors be mobile. This change will simplify the requirement and simplify the modification process for competitors.

The Commission RESOLVED to APPROVE the clarification to GR10 and a Bulletin will be issued to this effect.

#### **5.5 Balaclavas**

Currently Balaclavas have been a matter of confusion for some in the Off Road community and this was clarified for the Commission in respect of Schedule D of the CAMS manual which outlines the requirements for Balaclavas in relation to Helmet levels. Further to this, SFI brand Balaclavas can be worn if a driver is wearing a Level A helmet as specified in the Schedule.

#### **5.6 2011 National Awards**

Marilyn Emmins has put forward a recommendation that the 2011 Australian Off Road Championship National Awards be incorporated into the Presentation at the final round of the championship – at Goondiwindi.

The commission RESOLVED to APPROVE the 2011 National Awards take place at the last round of the Australian Off Road Championship at Goondiwindi in QLD on 16<sup>th</sup> October and will work with Organisers as required to ensure a successful awards ceremony.

## **5.7 2012 Australian Off Road Championship Calendar**

The 2012 AORC Calendar should be put into planning now so there is more time to work through any issues and allows better preparation and organisation for next year's season.

The Commission all agreed time is important to ensure the 2012 AORC comes together very early, incorporating ORRInc and organiser agreements, enabling stronger marketing opportunities for stakeholders.

The Chair, Mrs Emmins will send out an information piece to Commissioners specifying how the Expression of Interest process will work for organisers for 2012 which will become an open tender for events.

## **5.8 Standardised Transponder Timing System in Australia**

Mr Price raised the issue of potential interest in a standardised transponder timing system throughout Australia and the issues surrounding this being viable.

The Commission felt this was worth investigating and Mr Price would provide a full recommendation on the matter to the Commission.

## **5.9 Fire Extinguisher Service Life included in Schedule H**

Mrs Zettl provided a recommendation in relation to Fire Extinguishers lifespan requirements and that service/lifespan requirements are not referred to in Schedule H.

Mr Roder at CAMS informed the Commission that work was currently being undertaken on Schedule H that will address concerns in relation to maintenance and life spans.

The recommendation has been noted by CAMS Technical department and will form further notice in regards to having the Schedule updated.

The Commission will be informed by CAMS administration when changes on the Schedule are introduced.

## **5.10 Passenger Vehicle rides at Promotional Days**

Mr Severin raised an item for discussion in relation to clarification of liability for competitors taking passengers for rides. CAMS will approach OAMPS to clarify this matter for the Commission and report back with the findings.

### **5.11 Plumbed In Fire Extinguishers**

Mr Severin has received a recommendation from the S.A Off Road Panel in relation to Fire Extinguishers. They are recommending that point (ii) be deleted on the grounds that any further fire extinguishing system employed over and above the requirement should be allowed regardless of compliance to a standard.

AORCom considered the CAMS Technical department input and ultimately deemed that any additional fire extinguisher capability on top of the minimum requirement should not be restricted.

AORCom RESOLVED TO APPROVE that Article 4 (ii) be removed from Schedule H and a bulletin will be issued to reflect the decision.

### **5.12 Publication of Penalties**

Mr Rogers expressed that the decision of any Penalties handed out at Off Road events should be made public and the Series Steward should publish these decisions on the event notice board so there is no confusion or potential for misleading information disseminated.

Commissioners will report this information back to their State Panels so event Stewards are informed of this requirement.

### **5.13 AORC Sporting Regulations Addition**

Mr Rogers has requested an additional point in Article 4 of the AORC Sporting Regulations be inserted to further clarify Prologue vs Shootout.

Mr Rogers will provide the Commission/CAMS with wording to be approved via email.

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## **6. CLOSE**

### **6.1 Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled as a Teleconference for Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August.

The meeting closed at 21:50 AEDST.

*I have sighted these minutes and declare they are a true and accurate record of the meeting:*

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Marilyn Emmins

Chairman