Minutes - Group S Racing Association Inc Committee Meeting Thursday 10 May 2007

Venue

Travelplan meeting room - 118 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag - meeting opened at 6.10 pm

Attendees

Committee – Brian Weston (President), David Withers (Vice-President), Andre Breit (Treasurer), Paul Sabine (Committee - GSRA Victoria Registrar), Colin Wilson-Brown (Committee - Race Numbers/Championship Pointscore), Paul Newby (Secretary)

Ex-officio – Geoff Williams (Webmaster), John Young (Newsletter Editor), Rick Marks (GSRA Group Sa Registrar)

Invited – Geoff Morse (HSRCA Group S Registrar)

Apologies – Peter Hall (GSRA South Aust Registrar), Manuel Pena (GSRA Queensland Registrar), Bruce Richards (CAMS Historic Commission Group S Portfolio Manager)

Minutes of Meeting of 1 February 2007

Accepted as true record Moved Colin Wilson-Brown, seconded David Withers

Minutes of Extraordinary Meetings of 11 April 2076

Accepted as true record Moved Colin Wilson-Brown, seconded David Withers

Business Arising from Minutes

None - all "business arising" items listed in agenda

Proposal for Group Sh – Brian Weston and Tony Caldersmith

The Chairman welcomed Tony Caldersmith, Chair of the Historic Eligibility Committee to discuss the Historic Commission proposal for "Group Sh".

Following an outline of the proposal by Tony Caldersmith, committee members discussed the proposal and outlined their reservations with the course of action proposed by the Historic Commission.

The committee expressed support for the Historic Commission's efforts in "bringing historic sports cars out of sheds" but expressed grave concerns that such cars should be labelled Group "S" and thus confuse and undermine the long standing eligibility criteria for Group S. The committee expressed concerns about the implications of allowing exceptions to the long established eligibility criteria for Group S and expressed concern over the possible deleterious impact flowing from the removal of a "level playing field" for Group S. The committee noted the difficulty of establishing acceptable eligibility criteria for Group Sh cars, given the wide variance in production sports car rules (or lack of rules) over the period in question.

The Chairman thanked Tony Caldersmith for attending the meeting and for participating in the robust discussion with committee and ex-officio members.

Subsequently the committee agreed that the President would draft a letter for out of session clearance by the committee, to each member of the Historic Commission, outlining the concerns of the GSRA re the proposal.

Sec Note: Subsequently on 2 June at OPS, President GSRA and Chair Historic Commission, Paul Hamilton, discussed the draft GSRA letter. Following discussions, Paul invited the GSRA to write to the Commission proposing that the "Sh" grouping be labelled "Group T". President GSRA advised that the GSRA would support the Commission in the introduction of Group T, including consideration of hosting an associate membership for Group T owners and appointing an associate registrar for Group T, until Group T developed sufficient critical mass.

Group S Tyre Update - Brian Weston and Tony Caldersmith

The Chairman welcomed Tony Caldersmith, Chair of the Historic Eligibility Committee to outline the decision by the Historic Commission regarding Group S tyres.

An updated tyre list for Group S and N is anticipated to take effect on 1st July 2007. The principles behind the development of the new tyre list will be guided by a set of guidelines approved by the Historic Commission. Those guidelines will be published on the GSRA website for the information of members – specifically members should note that "wets" will no longer be included on the Group S and N tyre list.

The GSRA committee requested that the new approved tyre list allow a suitable transition period for those tyres, such as wets, which will no longer be eligible but which members may recently have purchased. Tony Caldersmith noted that a transition period would be considered.

Tony Caldersmith also outlined the situation regarding approved tyres and sizes for Porsche. He noted that a representation had been received to reduce rim and tyre sizes for Porsche but that the submission had not been agreed. He also noted that the temporary approval for 2.7 litre Sc Porsche to use 50 series tyres would expire on 30 June 2007.

Tony Caldersmith also outlined that the likely approval of the Hoosier Speedster 185/65R15 for several Sa cars. He also provided an update regarding the application for a Group Sc logbook for the BMW 3.0 CSL and indicated that the applicant had been invited to submit further documentary information.

The Chairman thanked Tony Caldersmith for attending the meeting.

President's Report - Brian Weston

See attached President's Report – for committee comment and subsequent publishing in S_CAR_GO.

Membership summary – member number 117 issued, plus 3 associate members:

- 2 members resigned Bradley Morse and Cameron Sabine.
- 1 member transferred to associate membership Spencer Martin.
- 5 final notices issued Wes Dayton, Roger Ealand, Howard Fletcher, John Ingham, and Bob Wootton.

Membership for 2007 is therefore 109. The 5 unfinancial members are to be deleted from the GSRA membership and email lists.

The committee decided that the 8 GSRA membership numbers (21, 30, 32, 47, 51, 55, 60 and 71) previously used by lapsed members are to be retired.

(Sec Note: the membership summary has been updated with effect 7 June 2007).

The President's Report was accepted Moved Colin Wilson-Brown, seconded Rick Marks

Treasurer's Report - Andre Breit

The Treasurer outlined the financial situation and sought approval to reimburse Geoff Williams the sum of \$253.00 for the purchase of 250 GSRA Decals.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted Moved Rick Marks, seconded John Young

2007/2008 GSRA Catalina Cup and Goldfields' Cup Update – Colin Wilson-Brown

Points for the MG Racing OPS, VHRR PI and HSRCA EC meetings have been calculated by Colin Wilson-Brown and Phil Baskett. Results will be posted on the website.

Colin Wilson-Brown noted that decisions on the endorsed home and away meetings for 2008 will be required before year end and that a decision would be required as to whether non-GSRA members would be included in the 2008 pointscore.

The committee noted the improved presentation of the pointscore tables and thanked both Colin Wilson-Brown and Phil Baskett for the revised pointscore presentations.

Report on Phillip Island Race Meeting Debrief - Brian Weston

A GSRA letter had been despatched to VHRR with information copy to VHRR Committee member Michael Byrne. Item closed.

Review of HSRCA Eastern Creek Meeting incl 25 Lap Race - Geoff Morse, Rick Marks

HSRCA accommodated the GSRA request to stage an attractive program for those who wished to attend the meeting but race solo. This was appreciated by those who would otherwise have received only two races over the three days.

There was excellent member feedback from participants in the 25 lap race with co-driver. Issues that may need to be addressed before next year's race include:

- Should the 25 lap race be held earlier in the day to avoid sun glare?
- Do members want any changes to rules for 2008 25 lap race?
- Would it have been better if Sa raced with J, K, L and Na on Sunday?

The committee left these matters to be resolved in the lead up to next year's race.

Sub Committee on Group S Program at the FoSC OPGP Meet - Colin Wilson-Brown

Colin Wilson-Brown advised that the Winter FoSC would go ahead although MGCC Sydney had withdrawn as a FoSC backer. Colin advised that the GSRA sub-committee would continue to meet with FoSC although it was unlikely that either Sa or Sc could be separated from Sb unless Group S entries exceeded the track density limit for OPGP. If this occurred the GSRA sub-committee would likely recommend separation by either category or engine capacity.

Group S Driving Standards – Brian Weston

Subsequent to the promulgation of guidance on driving standards by the President GSRA early in 2007, the committee noted that an incident had been referred to the stewards of the meeting.

Group S Eligibility Issues - Brian Weston

The following debrief from Bruce Richards (Historic Commission Group S Portfolio Manager and Technical commissioner) was tabled following his attendance at Eastern Creek.

Some members need to make changes to their cars.

- One engine was directed for a measurement check to ensure eligibility conformity.
- Regular eligibility checks will be a routine feature of race meetings.
- GSRA members are encouraged to seal their engines.
- Members are encouraged to discuss with Bruce Richards matters of interpretation with regard to their marque, rather than ignore the issue and hope it will go away.

The committee expressed support for the continuing program of Group S eligibility checks that Bruce Richards is conducting.

Progress with CAMS Affiliation - Paul Newby

Paul Newby updated the meeting on progress with CAMS affiliation. An amendment of the GSRA Constitution was now not likely required provided a letter from the President GSRA to CAMS supports the application for affiliation.

Sec Note: Letter to CAMS drafted 4 June.

Edition 9 of S_CAR_GO - John Young

Contributions from members for S_CAR_GO are requested to bolster the President's Report. Manuel Pena will provide a report on Historic Warwick.

GSRA Social "Drinks in Marquee" Program and Budget – Brian Weston

The committee discussed a proposal to organise Group S social sessions at race meetings such as conducted at PI. However the committee did not wish to see sessions conflict with other organised social activities (such as the HSRCA Saturday drinks at EC).

The committee agreed in principle that GSRA funding would be considered favourably when the opportunity to conduct a Group S race social occasion arose.

Miscellaneous Reports and Other Business

Geoff Williams presented the GSRA Webmaster report, and advised that any suggestions to "freshen up" the GSRA website would be pursued, including the possible posting of Alex Webster's PI race video as seen from his 1967 Porsche 911S.

The purchase of 500 GSRA Membership Cards for up to \$150.00 including GST, by Geoff Williams was approved. Moved Rick Marks, seconded John Young

Close

The president thanked members for their attendance; thanked David Withers for the use of the Travelplan meeting room and his hospitality; and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Brian Weston President