

**Minutes - Group S Racing Association Inc  
Committee Meeting  
Friday 22 March 2009**

**Venue**

Travelplan meeting room - 118 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag - at 6.00 pm

**Attendees**

*Committee* – Brian Weston (President), John Young (Vice President), Andre Breit (Treasurer), Paul Newby (Secretary) and Terry Lawlor (Committee)  
*Committee Apologies* – Mike Byrne (Committee - GSRA Victoria Registrar)

*Ex-officio* – Colin Wilson-Brown (Race Numbers Registrar), Kent Brown (Newsletter Editor), Brian Duffy (GSRA Sa Registrar), and Geoff Williams (Webmaster)

*Ex-officio Apologies* - David Withers (Accommodation Registrar), Phil Baskett (Championship Pointscore Manager), Rodney Gibb (GSRA South Aust Registrar) and Manuel Pena (GSRA Queensland Registrar)

*For Information* – Bruce Richards (CAMS Historic Commission Group S Portfolio Manager), Geoff Morse (HSRCA Group Registrar), Greg King and John Caffin (CAMS Group S Eligibility Officials)

Telephone/email input provided by Mike Byrne, Manuel Pena and Bruce Richards

The President welcomed Brian Duffy to the meeting and congratulated him on his ex-officio appointment as GSRA Sa Registrar

***Pre-meeting Discussion/Presentation by Invited Guest***

President GSRA welcomed Bruce Richardson, President HSRCA to the meeting and after introductions, briefly outlined the history, purpose and policies of the GSRA. The President concluded his introduction by noting that Group S was fundamentally about a passion for historic production sports cars and an enthusiasm to race them. Bruce Richardson responded by outlining the history of the HSRCA, issues confronting historic racing, and the relationship between HSRCA and Group S.

Among other issues, the meeting discussed the following areas of mutual interest:

- Group S attendance numbers at race meetings
- Value for money for Group S competitors (a per lap basis)
- Inclusion of "invited" cars in Group S events, especially without prior consultation
- The number of race meetings being conducted
- Group S support of "historic" meetings
- The GSRA pointscore and GSRA "endorsement" of selected meetings
- The "broad church" that is Group S
- Differing attitudes within Group S to the HSRCA 25 lap race
- Perceptions about Group S within the historic community

The discussion concluded with a commitment to work together more closely to ensure that both HSRCA and the GSRA benefited from future interaction

***Minutes of Meeting of 26 March 2009***

Minutes accepted as true record

Moved Andre Breit, seconded Paul Newby

**Business Arising from Minutes**

Matters deferred to agenda

**President's Report – Brian Weston**

Email update dated 23 March; email ARDC update 7 May  
See President's Report of 19 April 2009  
Group S Racing article published CAMS Magazine – Issue 158

Membership reconciliation:

- GSRA 2009 membership total 116 (2 ACT, 4 SA, 7 Qld, 29 Vic, 74 NSW)
- Unfinancial members - 2
- Last membership number 152 issued
- Retired GSRA membership numbers – 36 (retired GSRA membership numbers 29, 30, 32, 33, 37, 43, 46, 47, 51, 61, 66, 68, 70, 71, 73, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 90, 91, 92, 93, 98, 103, 106, 107, 110, 114, 116, 122, 133, 137 and 143)
- Pending – Paul Blackie (Sc), Michael Rose (Sa)
- The committee agreed to accept Bruce Smith's application for membership

President's Report accepted

Moved Paul Newby, seconded Andre Breit

**Treasurer's Report – Andre Breit**

Presentation of Treasurer's statement  
Bank balance 7 May 2009 - \$3,857.17

Treasurer's Report accepted

Moved Paul Newby, seconded John Young

**Debrief on Social Functions**

Cancelled GSRA drinks and nibbles at Phillip Island (due PI storms and weather) which had been deferred to Winton  
Deferred again as Michael Byrne now cannot attend Historic Winton

**Group S Program at 13/14/15 VHRR Classic Phillip Island**

Debrief completed

Letter to Chairman VHRR despatched 31 March 2009

Discussion of GSRA support for VHRR Phillip Island 2010 event - GSRA to advocate a combined Sb/Sc program and agree to a separate Sa program (with invited Lb cars)

**Debrief on Group S Program – 10/11/12 April FoSC Mount Panorama**

Debrief completed - concern about high incident rate especially in non-Group S events

Draft letter to FoSC agreed for despatch

Sec Note - letter posted 26 May 2009

**Debrief on Group S Program – 10/11/12 April Mallalla**

Minimal Group S support in 2009, but Mallalla will remain on the historic racing calendar

Follow on actions: Rodney Gibb and Michael Byrne to advise whether an increasing number of Victorian GSRA members will support the 2010 Mallalla meeting

MG Nat Meet will coincide with Mallalla in 2010 which may boost Group S support

### ***Debrief on Group S 25 Lap Race – 2/3 May HSRCA Eastern Creek***

The committee had for consideration the following analysis

2009 25 Lap Analysis:

- 31 Group S (17 Sc, 11 Sb, 3 Sa) started 25 lap race
- 23 Group S finished
- only 1 interstate Group S competitor
- one M Sports and one Group T included - why the inclusion of M Sports with Group S?

2005 25 Lap Analysis:

- 43 Group S (12 Sc, 24 Sb, 7 Sa) started 25 lap race
- 37 Group S finished
- 7 interstate plus 2 ACT runners

2004 Analysis – the last pre-25 lap Eastern Creek HSRCA event:

- 42 Group S (8 Sc, 25 Sb, 9 Sa) started
- 39 Group S finished

The committee discussed the following:

- Where are the Sb and Sa cars?
- Where are the interstaters?
- Strong Sc support and the very competitive approach taken by Sc
- Whether it is desirable for the event to be dominated by increasing numbers of “gun” co-drivers
- Does the race now cater for older cars that need to be driven more conservatively?
- Some members reluctant to participate because of the forced co-driver requirement
- Some members decline to participate because there is no solo drive option
- The possibility of a three car Group S relay race
- The possibility of a handicap format

The committee discussed the need:

- to refine and enhance the current event
- but to include another concurrent 100 km event for solo drivers
- such that the HSRCA and the GSRA can benefit from increased Group S support for the meeting

The committee also discussed the need to develop refinements to the event that allow the meeting to be included in the annual GSRA pointscore

The committee agreed the appointment of a sub-committee - Terry Lawlor (Sc), Geoff Williams (Sb) and John Young (Sa) - chaired by the president, to recommend a way ahead that would build on the profile of the event and be more inclusive of a wider quorum of Group S competitors.

### ***Upcoming Meeting – 30/31 May Historic Winton***

A GSRA pointscore meet

36 starters plus 1 reserve (10 Sa, 16 Sb, 11Sc)

The handicap race has been deleted because of track density concerns

### ***Upcoming Meeting – 20/21 June ARDC Sports Car Festival - Eastern Creek***

- GSRA advised ARDC that GSRA cannot promote this event in competition with HSRCA OPGP meeting of 26/27 June, but some members may wish to attend
- ARDC require only 15 Group S starters for Group S grid - 4 races; good value for money

***Debrief on possible Group S Programs in Queensland – Brian Weston via Manuel Pena***

Clash between HRCC Historic Queensland at Morgan Park and FoSC at Oran Park has caused the Capricorn Cup program to be cancelled and the GSRA Catalina away pointscore at Morgan Park to be cancelled. Letter to HRCC despatched

Outcome:

- likely Group S grid from Qld members for HRCC Historic Queensland at Morgan Park
- Group S grid from Qld and southerners at Qld State Round on 21/22 August

***Group S Tyre Policy Proposal – Bruce Richards via Brian Weston***

The GSRA has recommended that any “road legal tyre irrespective of whether it has been optimised for rain, damp or dry conditions” provided they meet availability, cost and wear criteria should be approved for the Group S approved tyre.

The GSRA has recommended the inclusion of the D93J on Group S approved tyre list.

Still under consideration by the HEC.

***GSRA Catalina Cup and Goldfields’ Cup Issues – Phil Baskett via Colin Wilson-Brown***

2009 pointscore spreadsheets now on website

***GSRA Preferred Race Number Register Issues – Colin Wilson-Brown***

GSRA Vic and NSW race numbers registers under revision by Colin Wilson-Brown

***Group S Eligibility Issues – Bruce Richards via Brian Weston***

Bruce Richards updated that a number of Group S marques have outstanding eligibility issues and repeated his encouragement for members to seal engines.

Proposal by Peter Lang for GSRA to assume responsibility for eligibility – committee discussed but agreed that current “arms length” CAMS HC system should remain

***GSRA Promotion and Regalia – Brian Weston***

GSRA Decals - purchased

GSRA Caps (\$10)                      100 bought, 57 sold, 43 left

GSRA Tee Shirts (\$15)                100 bought, 17 sold, 83 left

GSRA Polo Shirts (\$25)                40 bought, 30 sold, 10 left

***S\_CAR\_GO – Kent Brown***

Editions 1 and 2 published; Edition 3 imminent but will hold until after Historic Winton

Committee agreed vote of thanks to Kent Brown

***Webmaster Report – Geoff Williams***

Website refreshment complete

Contact list updated; Brian Duffy to be added as Sa Registrar

Gallery update

Request for video clips

Committee agreed vote of thanks to Geoff Williams

**Other Business**

Committee noted that Richard Line had returned to the UK and agreed that his vigorous efforts to promote Group S and especially Group Sa should be acknowledged by the gift of a GSRA tee shirt

Sec Note - posted 25 May 2009

Committee discussed a proposal by David Roberts of the Appendix J Association for various historic entities such as the GSRA to subsidise the attendance of the Bathurst TAFE at HSRCA and FoSC race meetings.

After discussion, the committee agreed that the subsidy would best be raised by a levy on entry fees by the promoter. The matter to be discussed further with Appendix J Association by the president

Sec note: the following duty statement for the GSRA Sa Registrar was proposed for endorsement at the next meeting:

- Advise the GSRA committee on Group Sa issues
- Act as a communications conduit between GSRA Sa owners and the GSRA committee
- Encourage membership of the GSRA by Sa vehicle owners
- Promote Group Sa participation in Group S events
- Encourage prospective Sa enthusiasts to purchase an Sa car
- In association with the president, maintain a listing of GSRA Sa members and their contact details
- Maintain a listing of the whereabouts of Group Sa sports cars that are currently not racing and are in danger of being lost to Group S motor sport

**Close**

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm – vote of thanks to David Withers and Travelplan

Brian Weston  
President

Paul Newby  
Secretary