

**Minutes - Group S Racing Association Inc  
Committee Meeting  
Friday 9 April 2010**

**Venue**

Travelplan meeting room – 118 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag at 5.30 pm

**Attendees**

*Committee* – Brian Weston (President), John Young (Vice President), John Lenne (Secretary), Robin Marshall (Treasurer) and Terry Lawlor (Committee)

*Committee Apologies* – Peter Jackson (Committee - GSRA Victoria Registrar)

*Ex-officio* – Geoff Williams (Webmaster) and Brian Duffy (GSRA Sa Registrar)

*Ex-officio Apologies* - Colin Wilson-Brown (Race Numbers Registrar), Kent Brown (Newsletter Editor), Phil Baskett (Championship Pointscore Manager), Troy Ryan (GSRA South Aust Registrar) and Manuel Pena (GSRA Queensland Registrar)

*Member in attendance* – Andre Breit

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

*Telephone/email input* – Colin Wilson-Brown, Manuel Pena and Peter Jackson

**Opening**

Welcome to John Lenne  
Apologies from David Nichols, President FoSC

**Minutes of Committee Meeting of 18 January 2010**

Accepted as true record of the meeting  
Moved Terry Lawlor, seconded Robin Marshall

**Business Arising from Minutes**

Matters deferred to agenda

Noted that the President had resubmitted a revision of an earlier GSRA letter to the VHRR recommending the use of three digit race numbers  
Outcome – proposal not accepted by VHRR

**President's Report – Brian Weston**

Tabled:

- President Report (1 April) published in S\_CAR\_GO Edition 1 of 2010
- Email updates dated 25 January, 12 February, 15 March, 26 March and 6 April

Action completed

The 'Guide to Group S and the Group S Racing Association' has been developed, distributed to new members and is posted on GSRA website.

President's Report accepted  
Moved Terry Lawlor, seconded Robin Marshall

### **2010 Membership Reconciliation at 7 April – Brian Weston**

GSRA 2010 membership analysis:

- Total financial members 138 - 4 ACT, 4 SA, 10 Qld, 33 Vic and 87 NSW
- Latest GSRA member number issued – 182 (Bassett)
- less the GSRA 2010 membership total of 138 means the total number of retired GSRA membership numbers stands at 44

Retired GSRA membership numbers: 4, 16, 21, 29, 30, 32, 33, 37, 43, 47, 51, 54, 60, 61, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 84, 90, 91, 92, 93, 98, 103, 107, 110, 114, 116, 122, 124, 133, 142, 143 and 146

Note – the committee agreed that the efforts of Brian Duffy, Colin Wilson-Brown and Terry Lawlor as agreed at the last meeting, had assisted the recruitment of new members from the Sa, Sb and Sc categories respectively.

Conclusion – the committee concluded that the support from members was most encouraging but noted that recruitment promotion and effort needed to be ongoing.

Discussion – the committee discussed the GSRA membership administrative process and decided to make greater use of bank transfers to lessen the administrative load on the committee.

Action - Treasurer and Secretary to arrange a handover of the GSRA membership administrative process from the President.

### **Treasurer's Report – Robin Marshall**

Handover/takeover from Andre Breit complete

Presentation of Treasurer's Member Information Statement for 9 April 2010:

Cashbook balance - \$5,823

Balance bank statement (\$7,526) less unpresented cheques (\$1,703) equals balance of \$5,823

Reimbursement of expenses:

Peter Jackson for Phillip Island function - \$319.86 (\$216.10 liquor and \$103.76 snacks)

Brian Weston for 2009 Goldfields' trophies - \$546.45

Treasurer's Report accepted

Moved Terry Lawlor, seconded John Young

### **Review - Proposal by Peter Lang**

The committee reviewed its earlier decision not to conduct a ballot of members as requested by Peter Lang. The committee carefully noted the guidance provided in the GSRA Constitution:

- Purpose - Clause 4 - The purpose of the association shall be to represent the interests of the owners and drivers of Group S cars in the course of participation in historic sports car motor sport.
- Powers of Committee - Clause 18 (2) – In exercising its powers the committee is to be guided by the will of association members and where appropriate, is to conduct ballots of members to assess sentiment of the membership. Clause 18 (3) – In arriving at a decision, the committee is to be guided by the will of association members and where possible, is to seek outcomes that also accommodate the minority.

The GSRA Committee noted the discretion it was allowed under Clause 18 (2) of the GSRA Constitution.

The committee noted the extensive soundings of the membership it had conducted in deciding whether a ballot should be conducted.

On that basis the committee agreed that its actions were in accordance with the discretion allowed by the GSRA Constitution

Moved Terry Lawlor, seconded John Young

***Debrief – 20/21 Mar VHRR Phillip Island – Brian Weston***

The committee debriefed the VHRR Phillip Island meeting noting that this was the first PI meeting which featured two Group S grids - the product of a joint VHRR/GSRA initiative. The committee agreed the race program for Sa/Sb was most satisfactory and noted that there was a preference for Sc to revert from one 12 lap race on Sunday to two 6 lap races

The committee agreed the unfortunate inclusion of an inappropriate Group T car in Sa/Sb which had already been the subject of correspondence with the VHRR.

The committee agreed a further letter to VHRR was warranted thanking VHRR for an excellent Group S program and suggestion some changes regarding fast accelerating cars at the rear of the grid and improving the driver disciplinary process

***Debrief – 2/3/4 Apr FoSC Mount Panorama – Brian Weston***

The committee discussed the FoSC Mount Panorama meeting but deferred a full debriefing until a meeting with the President FoSC could be arranged

There were some outstanding questions regarding invited cars, rolling starts and the pointscore status of future Mount Panorama meetings

***Status of 1 May HSRCA Eastern Creek Program – Brian Duffy***

The committee had recommended a Group S race program to the HSRCA involving one Sa/Sb enduro of 20 laps (no co-driver), and one Sc enduro of 25 laps with mandatory co-driver change, plus Sc and Sa/Sb sprint races for GSRA pointscore.

The Sa/Sb response so far numbers 30 Sa/Sb cars but the Sc response has fallen short of the 25 cars Sc drivers indicated would attend.

The President and HSRCA Group S Registrar are in the process of discussing options with the HSRCA

***Status of 29/30 May ARDC Eastern Creek Program – Brian Weston***

Entries for the ARDC SCC now number 13 (3 Sa, 5 Sb, 5 Sc) with prospects of more to come over the next seven weeks

The President is discussing the format of the Group S program with ARDC

***Status of 29/30 May Historic Winton Program – Brian Weston***

There are 20 Group S entries to date (3 Sa, 10 Sb, 7 Sc). Historic Winton has been advised to substitute a scratch race for the Group S handicap race

### **Status of 29/30 July HRCC Morgan Park – Manuel Pena**

Manuel Pena advises that the intention of the HRCC is to follow a similar format to previous years, with two races each on Saturday and Sunday plus qualifying. Practice will be available on Friday for a minimal cost.

Group S will have dedicated races as usual and the new layout will be used provided the track is finished to allow sufficient curing time, however there have been minor delays due to the excessive rain experienced early in the year.

Being the 100 year anniversary of Alfa Romeo, the marque will be the focus - there will be a combined (S & N) Alfa only race on Sunday.

### **6/7 Nov Sandown 2010 – Brian Weston**

In 2009 there were 75 Group S entries (a full grid of 42 for Group Sc/Sb and Sa raced with J/K/L)

The committee agreed that the President approach Noel Robson, VP VHRR, regarding two grids for Group S in 2010

### **Group T Cars as Invited Cars**

GSRA Policy regarding Invited Cars has been as follows:

The GSRA seeks to liaise with promoters over the issue of “invited cars”. Some promoters recognise that Group S is such a valuable customer that they will not include an invited car in Group S grids without first gaining approval from the GSRA.

GSRA guidelines for invited cars are firstly, that no Group S car be excluded; secondly the invited car be visually representative of a production sports car; thirdly the modifications on the invited car be broadly within the spirit of Group S rules; and fourthly that the invited car race on approved Group S tyres and rims. Typical of such cars are the McNamara BMW 3.0 CSL and the ex-Dodds “Toolbox” bug-eye Sprite. The GSRA is opposed to the inclusion of “marque sports type” cars or cars with “slick tyres” in Group S grids.

Decision - with specific regard to Group T cars the committee agreed the following:

Group T cars may have a racing history in improved production sports up to 31 December 1981. This era is beyond the era for Group S and Group T allows cars to be lightened, with flaired bodywork, bored/stroked engines, improved suspension, race-quality brakes and superior tyres (wider and/or slick).

The Group T car not only looks different to a Group S car, but has a power and handling advantage over the relatively under-braked and under-gripped Group S car.

These cars do not conform to the level playing of the 50's, 60's and 70's that is Group S and should not be 'invited cars' in Group S fields.

### **Group S Eligibility Issues**

The committee noted that the Austin Healey community was seeking approval from the PBHEC to use 205 size tyres

The committee agreed to develop a submission to the PBHEC – on the basis of long standing precedent – to declare battery location for all Group S cars “free”

### ***Group S Driver Standards Issues***

Noting that several matters appear unresolved following the Phillip Island VHRR meeting, the committee agreed to including some commentary in the VHRR PI debrief letter, on the desirable need for the driver disciplinary system to resolve all matters prior to the end of a race meeting

The committee agreed to approach HSRCA with a view to seeking a close monitoring of all Group S races at the coming HSRCA Eastern Creek meeting

### ***S\_CAR\_GO***

Edition 1 had been published.

### ***GSRA End of Season NSW Function – Terry Lawlor***

The committee agreed that the Epping function was most successful, with thanks to Terry Lawlor and his assistants. The committee noted the need to include appropriate guests to the function (President HSRCA was an invited guest) and to agree to provide for some further trophies in 2010.

### ***GSRA End of Season VIC Function Phillip Island***

The committee agreed that the Phillip Island marquee function was most successful, with thanks to Peter Jackson and his assistants. The committee noted the need to provide for some further engraved glasses in 2010 (and more red wine for the ladies)

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

GSRA Polo Shirts - nil left GSRA Caps - 16 left; GSRA Tee Shirts - 46 left

The committee agreed the President's action in donating four GSRA tee shirts to the flag marshals and fire crew at Mount Panorama

### ***Report - Webmaster***

The Webmaster provided a summary of website activity and developments.

### ***Other Business***

The President discussed possible future ex-officio delegations for GSRA liaison with race promoters

### ***Close***

The meeting was closed at 8.00 pm – with thanks to David Withers for making Travelplan available.

Brian Weston  
President