



NSW Rally Panel

Saturday 15th June 2013
Held at Blacktown RSL

MINUTES

1. Attendees

Present

Colin Fletcher (chair) (CF), Laurie Cunningham (LC), Jon Thompson (JT), Mike Cherry (MC), Matthew Martin (MM), Darren Mowett (DM), Michael Harding (MH).

CAMS Personnel

Nil

Observers/Visitors:

Nil

2. Opening / Welcome

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10:10 am.

3. Apologies

Lui MacLennan (LM), Luke Anderson (LA), Chris Giddins (CG), Adrian Dudok (AD), Ray Baker (RB).

4. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Panel Meeting held by Teleconference, Tuesday May 14, 2013 have been confirmed and received as a true and accurate record of meeting by the Panel.

Moved: JT Seconded: CM

5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- CF reported that the letter received from John Buckley re: Tarmac Event Safety had been tabled with the NSW State Executive (NSWSE). The NSWSE were happy with the letter of support from the Rally Panel and have forwarded the submission to ARCom.
- CF reported – no progress had been made re: the supply of display clocks – investigations are continuing.

- Simplification of Control procedures – the issue was raised with regards to the regulations allowing Co-drivers to stay in their car at Time Controls and the effect that items such as Head and Neck restraints have on Co-drivers having to get ready to start a stage. After much discussion of the possible alternatives, it was generally agreed that no changes be made at this stage pending the purchase of new display type clocks.
- CF gave an update on the new Rally Registration. He met with the NSW Roads & Maritime Service on Tuesday the 28th of May. The Technical Manual is now ready to be declared as a final document, The RMS is now in the process of finalising their documentation process. Number plate format and colour has been decided. The Conditions of Use will have some restrictions but allow use in line with expectations for a rally car. There is an expectation that the system will be finalised and launched before the end of 2014.

6. Decisions made by Email.

Nil.

7. Correspondence.

Nil.

8. Reports

ARCom – None tabled.

State Executive – The letter from John Buckley re Tarmac Rally Safety was tabled at the last SE meeting. The SE supported the letter submission to ARCom and it was noted that the SE was happy with the RP's letter of support.

The SE also complimented the work and effort that the RP has put in to date and has offered its ongoing support.

9. General Business

Safety

- No further progress had been made on the acquisition of display clocks, which would also have a positive impact on control procedures.
- Discussion took place regarding the possible introduction of Head and Neck restraints, it was generally accepted that the current regulations were quite adequate and no further action was necessary on the part of the Panel. However, the Panel will continue to seek amendment of control procedures so that competitors are not required to exit the car at controls which will make it far easier for competitors to use a Head and Neck restraint.
- Personal Protection – The matter of driving suits arose and after much discussion, it was generally accepted that the current regulations were quite adequate and that no further action was necessary by the Panel
- Emergency Communications – CF presented the meeting with an update on the RallySafe System for emergency situations. The initial cost to competitors is \$175 for the wiring harness and antenna and a further \$100 per car rental for the in car unit, plus freight of the unit. It is envisaged that this fee would decrease with greater usage as the freight fees would be amortised across a greater number of units. The greater economy of scale may also allow RallySafe to reduce rental fees per unit. The only real cost to Organisers would

be to supply a suitable computer system which will allow the system to accurately track competitors and receive immediate electronic feedback in the event of an incident, and monitoring that system. The RallySafe system will show if the car has suddenly stopped; is inverted or even facing the wrong direction. The system also provides for the organisers to communicate if a stage has been stopped or blocked as well as car to car communication in the event of an incident. Crews can also activate the emergency button to advise organisers that they require assistance. There are a number of other features that the system offers which would be of a benefit to Organisers – gated timing is one of these.

- CF raised the issue of Stage Security, in particular, the need to prevent access to Special Stages by members of the general public via the stage start & flying finish controls. After much discussion as to how best to achieve this is, it is highly recommended that a “chicane” of either star pickets & netting or “RMS” style barrier boards and signs be utilised.

As a result of these discussions, it was:

Moved MM Seconded CM

That any event run at State Level or below in NSW with any Special Stage run at 1 minute starting intervals, other than a Super Special Stage of less than 3 (three) Kilometres, must have the RallySafe system for every Competitor. The Supplementary Regulations for these events must also make it mandatory for every competitor to use RallySafe during the entire event. – CARRIED.

Moved CF Seconded MM

From January 1 2014, all NSW Rally State Championship Events must have available the RallySafe system available to those competitors that wish to use it. – CARRIED.

Marketing

- CF has organised an appraisal of the current status of marketing and gave a detailed update on marketing.
- CAMS have been approached to establish an updated and better co-ordinated website with the domain name of “RallyNSW.com.au” which would be more relevant to our current and potential customers. Investigations are underway to source a grant from NSW Sport and to help fund this project.
- It was generally resolved that a public forum was not a desirable feature of the NSW Rally website and that the site should remain “information only”. However, it was resolved that a private members forum would be desirable for Panel Members only and that this feature could be used as an alternative to teleconferences. MH to investigate.
- MM raised the issue of the direction that advertising should take and that in the past it had been in the wrong direction, it should be aimed at getting people interested via Motorkhana’s & Khanacross’s. Facebook and other similar avenues are ideal for attracting young people to the sport. This would also apply to attracting officials.
- Discussion then took place re the value of having a RP thread on the BMSC site. It was resolved that this could be beneficial as it could be used to convey information to a broad spectrum of rally enthusiasts and alert them to happenings on the RP website. It was decided that only the Panel Secretary should place posts in order to have just one point of contact.

- It was recognised that registrations and entries in the NSW Clubman Series has eroded to a point where the series cannot sustain itself. The Panel discussed various options for a new “entry level” rally series to replace the Clubman series. Discussions involved the rebranding (name change); change of format to make it more user-friendly; and having these events run separately to the NSWRC to clearly make a distinction between the events and winners.

Subsequently, it was Moved DM Seconded LC

That for 2014 a Development Rally Series will be run separate to the NSW State Rally Championship. The NSW Clubman Series will now be known as the Development Rally Series. The Series will be for Normally Aspirated Vehicles only and that they can be 2 Wheel Drive or All Wheel Drive and that Front Wheel Drive, Rear Wheel Drive and All Wheel will be recognised separately. – CARRIED.

- At this point, MH offered to sponsor the series via his business “TechWorkz” in Canberra. The sponsorship deal will provide funding for the promotion and marketing of the Development Series with no other financial commitment to organisers or competitors. Such commitment will involve printing & supplying series stickers and online promotion via social media and websites of the series. The Panel resolved to accept this generous offer and acknowledged that this course is more likely to assist in the building of the series than token amounts of prize money.

2014 Pointscores

- After much discussion and dissecting of the current NSW Rally Series Pointscores it was Moved MM Seconded JT that:

For the pointscore for the 2014 NSW Rally Championship:

Points will be awarded for 1st to 10th positions for registered competitors in each of the categories of 2WD and 4WD on the basis of 10 points to 1 point.

Points will be awarded for 1st to 10th positions for registered competitors in the category of Outright on the basis of 10 points to 1 point.

Each of these categories, that is Outright, 2WD and 4WD will be recognised at each event.

Points scored in each category will be added to the points scored Outright to determine the NSW Rally Champions. – CARRIED.

For the pointscore for the 2014 NSW Development Rally Series:

Points will be awarded for 1st to 10th positions for registered competitors in each of the categories of FWD, RWD and 4WD (normally aspirated) on the basis of 10 points to 1 point.

Points will be awarded for 1st to 10th positions for registered competitors in the category of Outright on the basis of 10 points to 1 point.

Each of these categories, that is Outright, FWD, RWD and 4WD (normally aspirated) will be recognised at each event.

Points scored in each category will be added to the points scored Outright to determine the NSW Development Rally Series Winners. – CARRIED.

Past Events

- Bega – Was won by the NSW crew of Chris Giddins and Damien Grahame in their Mitsubishi EVO 6. There were 80 entries received with 12 from NSW, 33 from VIC, 16 from the ACT, 17 Classics and 2 non series.

Upcoming Events

- The next event on the calendar is the Kuhmo Rally of the Bay on June 29. The organisers advise that everything is ready for the event.
- CF advised that date changes need to be advised to the Stewards Panel so that they can arrange their volunteers accordingly.
- CF advised that a proposal on Targeted Scrutineering has not been completed as the Rally Vehicle Scheme (RVS) has some requirements that will assist in this process.

10. Action Points

Item	Responsibilities	Timeline
Targeted scrutiny	Panel members to review and discuss at the next meeting	Ongoing
2014 Competition & Organising Conditions	All panel members to review and prepare proposals	July Panel Meeting
Excel Series	MM to seek EOI for 2014 series	July Panel Meeting Drafted
2014 Series Registration form	CF to review in light of “7 days” clause	July Panel Meeting
Source new display clocks	MC to explore options	July Panel Meeting
Competitor Database	CF to explore with NSW Office	Ongoing
Newsletter	JT to advise on practicality and content	Ongoing

11. Close and Next Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 4:30pm.

Next Meeting: ... Teleconference – Tuesday 16th July – 7:30pm

12. Distribution to

State Executive, ARCom, NSW Stewards Panel, Ben Pretty

13. List of Attendees

Col Fletcher	5/5
Laurie Cunningham	4/5 ¹
Jon Thomson	4/5 ³
Adrian Dudok	1/5 ^{4,1}
Tom Anderson	3/5 ⁶
Ray Baker	0/5 ³
Lui MacLennan	0/5 ⁶
Matthew Martin	3/3
Mike Cherry	3/3
Darren Mowett	3/3
Michael Harding	2/3 ³
Chris Giddins	1/3 ³
Luke Anderson	0/1 ⁴

Legend

1. Absent due to officiating
2. Absent due to club commitment
3. Absent due to work commitment
4. Absent due to urgent commitment
5. Absent due to competition
6. Absent due to personal leave
7. Absent due to National meeting
8. Absent due to illness