

**South Australian Motor Racing Officials Assoc.
Marshals Mumblings
April 2010**



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Official Newsletter of the
South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association Inc.

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The Editor welcomes contributions from any person interested in motor sport. Therefore, views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association or any of its members.

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The South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association (SAMROA) Inc. is a volunteer organisation affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) Ltd.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Clipsal 500 has been run won for another year, and by the sounds of things it all went well.

I wish to clarify a point made in my last report regarding 'some writing' that had come to my attention. This writing concerned a grievance with the club and was written on one of the walls at a flag point at Mallala (and has since been removed). My note last month raised some eyebrows in other organizations, and shows why we must all take great care in making any comment that is in the public eye – somebody can get the wrong end of the stick very easily.

My concern in the last report is that writing such as this does not achieve anything – but a letter to one of the committees will. If people are still concerned with an issue, then there are grievance procedures available through the CAMS members protection policy, and David Vaughan (who is Member protection Information Officer and generally helpful) is also available to mediate as well.

As President, I need to focus more on developing the club and working with the members. We are all getting older (and sometimes wiser), and we do find that there are more pressures on us from outside that take us away from the track. This is an issue facing many clubs, not just ours. Building our base of active members means more people out at events giving the T&CC more flexibility to place people in other roles.

To do this, I want to stand down as newsletter editor and OHS&W representative which means that we are now looking for people who are interested in taking on these roles. The newsletter editor needs access to a computer and internet along with some computer skills (particularly word processing) and a desire to be creative..The OHS&W representative is an elected position, and needs somebody who is out at race meetings reasonably regularly with a desire to become part of the T&CC. While some background in OH&S is desirable, it is not essential. If you are interested, let me know and we can go in to the roles in more detail.

We are also trying to make the meetings more interesting and relevant, one way is to try and make the 'business' part of the meetings more efficient, so we are trialing putting a summary of the minute's from the last general meeting in to the newsletter. . Let us know what you think.

Andrew.

T&CC Report

So... who would have thunk it..?? Me as the chairperson of the committee....!! Well, I hope I can fulfil the expectation you have of this role. So first order of business is to ask each and every SAMROA member past or present to think about where the club has been, and where it is going. What has changed for the good or bad? Are there things that we should be doing, but we aren't, or are there some things we are doing that is, not right...?

Now I know this is a subjective question as everyone has differing opinions, but as the chair of the training and competition side of the club, I want to know how YOU feel about what the Training and Competition Committee does. It may have no effect on things or it may be a major milestone for the club and some of your comments might be directed towards the management committee, but I'm glad to be your voice if you so desire. My preferred mode of contact is via email so that way I don't forget or misconstrue your intent, but discussing this in person or on the phone should be a compliment to your words. And that's enough about that.....!!!

Adelaide's 4 day motorsport carnival has been and gone for 2010 with many interesting things happening over that time. Some of us had similar jobs to last year but others had quite significant roles. Members like Peter Cirillo being Chief Track, Steve Croci now Chief Flag and Bronwen Williamson and myself on the Seniors Officials radio channel in Race Control talking to new Sector Tango's (trainees) like Rod Mountifield and Paul Hart. These are just a few but others also had differing roles and congratulation's go out to all of you for a job well done. No motorsport event happens without us volunteers, especially local club events.

The T&CC has for some time attempted to consider who, within the active membership, are good candidates for role changes and /or advancement to a more senior role. Well, soon we will be placing members into new roles, which for many of you, may have never tried before. This could be running Form Up, Starter, Recovery or in Race Control on the Comms. Why..??

T&CC Report (Cont.)

We have recognised that the “regular” people who do these roles don’t mind the support they provide, but also need a chance to try something else or simply go back to flagging. It’s beneficial for the club to have a highly and multi skilled membership and it is a beneficial facet of motorsport if a trackside official has a clearer understanding of what happens in these roles. All this helps to create a more cohesive team. Did I say that “T” word..?? YES I DID...!!

We are one big team, and we need to be as cohesive as possible given the environment we work in. Part of this cohesiveness stems from having an understanding of what other team members are doing. So job rotation and multi-skilling are what we intend implementing throughout 2010 and beyond. Don’t agree with it..?? Then tell me why..?? I do understand though, that some members do not wish to do anything else except wave a flag and/or you have serious objections to being placed anywhere else except at a flag point, then you need to make it known.

Add that info to your placing preferences on the database next time you’re there and also add your license classification and level along with any endorsements etc. It all helps when were deciding on flag point placements and roles.

In November 2009, many of you would have realised your Senior First Aid Certificate had expired. The T&CC is aware of this and is in the process of reviewing the training required to ensure that the most recent methods and knowledge is delivered. Costs are yet to be determined and more information will follow. Most likely it will be a one day course to cover all areas of general 1st Aid techniques, covering everything from dressing an open wound to managing full cardiac arrest and many things in between. This course is partly tailored to suit motorsport drivers who require injury management but also aids us when trackside injuries occur.

A big thankyou needs to go to Scott Chamings for organising some framed certificates of appreciation for the V8 teams that have provided items for the incentive scheme at this year’s, annual dinner. His trip down pit lane saw him meeting some the well known names like Dick Johnson and others. Don’t forget that as part of your club you too can help by finding supporters. Contact our promotions officer with details.

T&CC Report (Cont.)

We saw the very interesting “Easter Historics” at Mallala.. Friday was the usual Private Practice day but Saturday and Sunday saw many of the “old girls” get out on the track. Many new officials attended and it was the perfect weekend of motorsport to get introduced to it. A few members also camped overnight so don’t forget, you can camp on most 2 day events from the Friday night, so please consider the fun we can have around a campfire..!! :-)

We have embarked on our mission for this year, to make new flags.... Using a material known as “420Denier” we intend to make up 1 full set according to the FIA Pantone colour set, for trial soon. This material is a high opacity, nylon weave with a slight sheen on one side. So keep a look out for the new set and let us know what you think.

You’ve all no doubt heard of the “most improved official” and other awards. If you see a SAMROA member do something you think is outstanding, let us know. We’re always on the lookout for prospective recipients and you might be the one.

So we hope you had a good Easter and don’t forget there are events coming up which have great races and good vehicles and we need you to be there too. So if you can,.... Put your name on the Database or in the Red book next time you’re at the General meeting.

Andrew and the T&CC.

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From the meetings...

At the last general meeting, it was discussed how to make these meetings more effective (and interesting). One suggestion was to try and keep the business section of the meeting as brief as possible (while still remaining effective).

The following are highlights from the last general meeting held on 17th March. Next General meeting is on Wednesday 21st April at 8:00:

Business arising from last meeting:

Superkart Lifting Bars – Supercart club will make up a set for us to use – will be kept in the shed.

Information on the CAMS Hot weather policy can be found on their Web Site.

Information on the New Licences is starting to appear on the CAMS Site.

We managed 7 or 8 names from the Clipsal Promotion – probably 2 or 3 are genuinely interested. A big thanks to Tony Aloï, Greg Smith and Sean Fisher for manning the display.

\$5,000 has been transferred from club general account in to a term deposit

OHS&W

Concern has been raised regarding some of the trackside equipment at Mallala (Brooms getting pretty old), it is important to remember to wear gloves when trackside. This has been raised with Mallala, and new brooms were there for the Superkart meeting on 11th April.

T&CC

Adam Litchfield has stood down from T&CC, he may remain on the committee (depending on work commitments). Andrew Leitch has stepped up in to the Chairperson's role.

Andrew reminded members that we need names to be put on Database and Red Book – easier to put names in now and then remove if need be. T&CC will supply list of Chief Flags /Assistants ASAP and will also look at putting interested members in different positions in the future IF NUMBERS PERMIT. Basically if members are interested in trying something new then start volunteering your time so we build the numbers and ultimately build our skill levels.

Cover Photo: Graham Jarrett and Mark Blyfield come together during the recent Easter Historic race meeting. **Photo:** Darren Siddell.

From the meetings...(Cont.)

CAMS REPORT (Provided by Peter Tann)

Graham Fountain, CEO has resigned. Board will advertise for replacement

Adelaide office will remain but manager (Aaron Yeak) based in WA

Superkarts Australia is now the governing body for Superkarts

CAMS portal is slowly becoming reality

SPIKE system trialed at Clipsal – will be used live at Melb GP

MRP REPORT (Provided by Darren Mattiske)

No meeting – but from last month – There is a growing concern on a lack of trained officials available for race meetings. Something needs to be done to encourage junior officials to “step up” and start learning new roles.

PROMOTIONS (Provided by Darren Mattiske)

Darren introduced Geoff Vaughan who came along as a Visitor – Geoff was was a spectator marshal at this year's Clipsal 500 and is interested in some meetings at Mallala.

Darren also reported that the trailer has developed a problem blowing indicator fuses on his car, will need to monitor and if it persists the trailer will need rewiring. (several people are able to rewire if it is necessary)

SCC of SA (Provided by Bronwen Williamson)

SCCSA are also concerned about where the next generation of motorsport officials will come from. It is recognised that organisations such as SAMROA process the skills and training to fill the “voids” to areas such as Hillclimbs and Drift etc. Much discussion about how we (as a club) can provide the training to our members so they can progress to these types of positions.

General Business

Alternate Uniforms – At this time we have 24 confirmed orders – the process is dragging on and members (at the meeting) have serious concerns on how it's progressing. There have been rumours of all states going to a national dress code for trackside officials but as yet they are just rumours. Orange / White is still our preferred colours but maybe we now go Orange pants / full white shirt. Andrew Leitch moved that a notice be put in the next Newsletter that it will be the last chance to get orders in for 1 more month. Steve Clift seconded Andrew and all members at the meeting voted in favour. A decision will be made after the deadline has expired.

From the meetings...(Cont.)

Veneto Club – Although the club has ensured us that they will still be open Wed Nights for our meetings, it is felt that alternate premises still need to be investigated. It has been asked that we move the General Meetings to Bi-monthly and maybe the starting times changed to 7:30. Most members at the meeting still prefer the 8.00 start but were open to the Bi-Monthly meetings – but information would have to more freely available. The General committee will work on the suggestions but until then, a notice of Venue will be confirmed in future editions of our Newsletter.

Leading on from the discussion of possible Bi-Monthly General meetings, some members made mention that the SAMROA Newsletter has become a bit stale and boring recently. It is felt that it is in need of an update helping with the flow of information out to our members. It was decided that the Committee would take a look at what can be done with the future editions.

Community Lottery – Sold 10 books at the Clipsal 500 sign-on mornings – plenty of Books still available.

From Trackside: HQ Race Report Mallala 27th Feb 2010

It was clear after qualifying that although Nicolo and Schultz had not fronted for the first round, Mason would not have it all on his own. Bruce Heinrich back at Mallala after a long break in a basically untried HQ was a mere 0.24 seconds behind. Another half a second back was Chairman Boulter followed by “Danny” Jenkins, Muscles Bobridge and Big Gav in Crouch’s car. Dashing Darryl thought that we would all be packed up and on our way home in time for him to M.C. a 40th birthday party at 8.00pm. Welcome to Scott Goding who is now just big enough to see over the dash, he is our first rookie for 2010.

The first race was a cracker, with Mace and Hindick fighting tooth and nail. Brucie, as he is affectionately known, led briefly but succumbed to a late braking / lock up passing move in the Northern. Boulter managed to break clear of Porteous, Jenkins and the fast finishing Couprie. Bobridge had to pull out all stops for a Hard Charger vote and 9th place, after starting in pit lane. bHe did say that it was fun.

1st Mason, 2nd Heinrich, 3rd Boulter

Race two, with the reverse six start, was as usual sure to be interesting. Couprie and Jenkins led them away, but by lap two it was Boulter in the lead from Heinrich with Mason battling to get through. Heinrich quickly hauled Boulter in and opened up a bit of a gap. On the final lap Mason closed on Boulter but with the prospect of a rare second place the Chairman made his car as wide as possible

HQ Race Report Mallala 27th Feb 2010 (Cont)

to keep the 2009 State champion behind. Jenkins led home Porteous, Bobridge and Couprie. Sarah Mitchell in the ex Matt Davison car got the better of Munn, Pratt and Goding Jnr.

1st Heinrich, 2nd Boulter, 3rd Mason.

The final race, over 8 laps, and again under lights would decide the top point scorer for Round one. A determined Mason led the field through for the first lap but a more determined Heinrich squeezed through on lap two. These two put on an impressive display of clean and close racing while behind Boulter watched, secretly hoping, I would suspect, that they would take each other off. Jenkins held off Porteous who was followed by Bobridge and Couprie. Sarah and young Scott had a great time further back.

1st Heinrich, 2nd Mason, 3rd Boulter

The meeting points were in the order as above and the next question is “will Brucie be back for another round in Boulter’s spare car”. A good time was had by all, however Mace was heard to say something about “hunting in packs”

We are a little sad to hear that Jason Gasket has sold his car, but pleased with the prospect that it may be on the track for the next round. The ex Matt Stronach HQ, placed on the market recently, has also found a new home. New owner Andrew Hall aims to contest round two also. What about the Central Towing outfit? A big contender for the Best Presented everything!

Bathurst...February 2010

South Australian HQ competitors, Gav Porteous, Tony Bobridge, Trevor Davey and Matt Boulter travelled to Bathurst to contest the annual HQ outing at Mt Panorama. A strong field of 53 cars arrived to do battle. They all survived. To read more go to the HQ section of the SCC web site.

Article by Graham Boulter.

MPD

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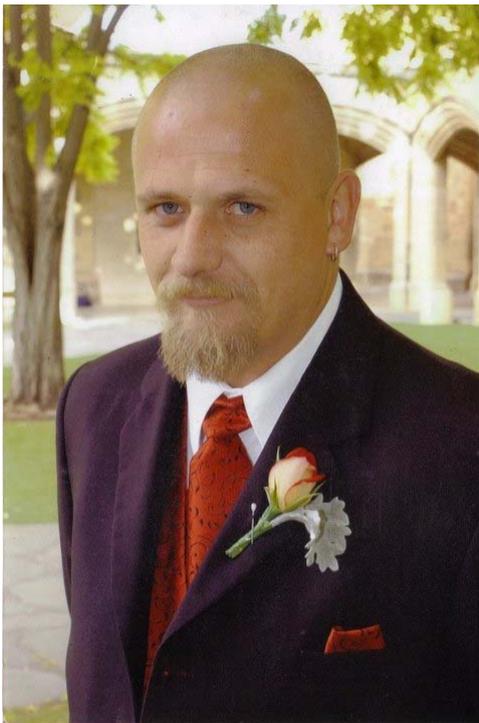
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Vale – Paul Johnson

Paul Johnson passed away on March 6th (aged 33) as the result of injuries sustained in a small car fire. Paul joined us in May 2008 and was elected a member of the General committee in that year before moving to work in Mt Gambier. He leaves behind his Partner Sonya and her son Matthew.



Members that will be celebrating Birthdays in the coming month Happy Birthday!!



April

Robert Holloway (18th), Rob Drysdale (23rd)

May

Scott Chamings (5th), Andre Wilson (16th), David Micallef (19th)

-----HELP WANTED-----

The Mitsubishi GSR/Evo club are running a 3-event Supersprint series this year, and they have approached us for assistance to provide people with flag experience who are able to man 3 flag points at their events.

Upcoming dates are Sunday 25th July and Monday 4th October. Anybody who can help is asked to contact Tristan Catford on 0400 820 745 or info@gsr-evo-club.net

Food & drink provided... any help is very much appreciated.

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Australian Central Credit Union Community lottery

SAMROA is participating in the Australian Central credit union community lottery this year, with 1,000 tickets (100 books).

The concept of the lottery is that the Australian Central credit union and sponsors will provide tickets, prizes and run the lottery while community organisations sell the tickets and (after banking) receive 100% of the ticket monies received. This is a great opportunity to raise some funds to help finance additional training and updated equipment.

You can assist either by helping sell tickets or by buying tickets in the lottery (\$2 each, lots of great prizes). Please see Peter Tann for a book (or more) of tickets.

We still have about 25 books to sell... so get cracking...

Upcoming 2010 events

Date	Event	Location
1-2 May	SA Circuit Racing Champ Rnd 2	Mallala
23 May	6 Hour Mod Reg	Mallala
29-30 May	Shannons Nationals	Mallala
4-6 June	Bigpond 300	Barbagallo
5 June	HQ Enduro	Mallala
18-20 June	SKYCITY Triple Crown	Hidden Valley
20 June	Superkart/Mod Reg	Mallala

More names needed for 1-2 May !!

Social Committee

Welcome to Darren Martin, who has volunteered to help myself and Scott on the Social Committee this year. More people are always welcome, as well as ideas for the year!!

We have been busy finding a venue for our Annual Dinner and are open to suggestions from other members as to where they would like to go. So far, we have looked at many different venues and will be either holding the Dinner at Najjar's Café in North Adelaide or possibly even holding a Gourmet BBQ under a pavilion at Mallala!! If you have any other idea's, please let us know so that we can have a look at it.

We have also organised to attend the Shooting Range in Adelaide for a social night out and the details are as follows:

Date: Friday, 11 June 2010

Time: TBA

Address: Marksmans Indoor Firing Range, 163 Franklin St, Adelaide

Cost: \$80pp (dinner will be supplied)



If you are interested, please let us know ASAP so that we can then book and confirm the time. Or if you have any other ideas, let us know!!

See you all soon!

Jodie Johnson – ph 0457 174 788

SAMROA Merchandise



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(10cm across)



SAMROA Logo Pin
(Metal) - \$3



SAMROA T-shirt - \$40



SAMROA Cross Flags
(Metal) - \$3



SAMROA 30th year
badges...\$10 each

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AIRPORT

MayNewsletter:

May issue will be printed on Thursday May 13th for post on the Friday.
Final deadline for material is **9:00AM Thu 13/5**. Earlier is appreciated.

Thanks to Peter Tann for his assistance in printing the newsletter each month.



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