

South Australian Motor Racing Officials Assoc. Marshals Mumblings November 2009



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MARSHALS MUMBLINGS November 2009

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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At the last general meeting, the membership voted for me to take over the role of President of the club. Scott Chamings has also put his hand up to take up the role of vice-president. This leaves a position vacant in the committee for anybody who is interested.

Many thanks to those who have braved the extreme conditions the last few weeks and attended to Super Truck and Super Kart/Modern Reg meetings. We know extreme weather can make the events hard going, but they can also be rewarding. However, the more people we have at these events, the easier it is on everyone as it allows people to be able to take a break and recuperate.

With this, recognising that these conditions present a risk we have decided to keep a stock of Electrolyte drink powder and cool pops at the shed. Those that came out recently will testify that they certainly do make a difference. However, you need to make sure that you bring along plenty of water, sunscreen etc to the meetings yourself.

On attendance at meetings, a note that the general meeting next week will be the LAST CHANCE for anybody to pick up a prize from the reward and recognition scheme this year.

Some interesting news arose during the month with the announcement of a plan by the Coorong District council, Motorcycling SA and the Sporting car club to transform the old Mitsubishi test track at Tailern bend into a motorsport facility (see article on page 11). With the possibility of some activities starting as early next year, as a club we may be called upon to provide officials at this facility in the future and so we need to start to promote ourselves in that area – including Adelaide's south and the Murray Bridge area.

With Christmas coming up, we have previously held a Christmas picnic. However, at this time we only have 2 people (Thanks Scott and Jodie) on the social committee – and keeping us fed and watered at Mallala is a task that keeps them pretty busy on its own. If you want this club to have some social functions (such as Picnics, bowling or other days with other clubs etc) or an annual dinner, then these people need our help – they can't do this on their own.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Cont).

Finally, the new 'option' uniform for members is now at a point where we can start to collect orders. As we have to have an initial order of 50 shirts, we are taking orders with payment, and will hold them until we have the 50 (see inside your mailing slip). Once we have an order for 50, these will be sent off for manufacture. When selecting a size, you may want to leave a little room for a few extra layers of clothing underneath for winter...

In the event that we don't get an order for 50 in a reasonable time, you will receive a FULL refund. If you want one, give Peter Tann (or a committee member) your order form with payment.

There is also now a 'corporate' shirt available by direct order from Peter Cirillo. This is a dark blue/black at the bottom, orange at the top with the SAMROA and CAMS logos. Cost for a shirt is \$55 –see Peter Cirillo to order one.

Getting these options to this stage has been a lot of work over a number of years for a number of people. It is important that we get this right. It's hard to remember all those who have contributed – but Peter in particular deserves recognition for his work.

I think that's all the goings on for now...hope to see you at our next general meeting at the Veneto club on the 18th, meeting starting at 8:00. If not, I will see you ALL out at the Supercart Grand Prix on the 6th December...

Andrew.

Cover Photo: For the last time: Truck Racing at Mallala

Photos: Shaun Doecke

Any photo or other contributions are gratefully accepted.



Driven to succeed

ADELAIDE'S Jesse Dixon would love to follow Mark Webber and be the next Australian in Formula One.

Dixon, 17, claimed the Formula BMW Pacific scholarship beating 11 other young drivers from around the world at the two-day assessment in Malaysia. But Dixon's dream still needs an injection of \$200,000 so he can make the grid for next year's Formula BMW Pacific series, at Sepang in March. The test at the Sepang F1 circuit covered driving ability, fitness, sports psychology and attitude.

The scholarship means Dixon, now based at the Gold Coast, will get assistance and professional training in running the 2010 Formula BMW Pacific series in Asia - although he still needs some funding to run the series.

"Jesse's dedication to the sport is just amazing," mum Michelle Dixon said. "He trains six days a week.

"He lives, eats and breathes motorsport. So if I can help make this his career, well, as a mum, that's what I'm going to do." Dixon was only five years old when his father died and his motorsport career is largely due to the support of his mother and brother Jack.

The identical BMWs are open-wheel race cars and are quite hi-tech, including carbon fibre and kevlar, F3 sequential gearboxes and even F1-style tethered wheels.

They have 1.2-litre, four-cylinder BMW engines but run at 9250rpm, have 104kW of power and in the lightweight car give good lap times and a 230km/h top speed.

Dixon, who comes out of karts and, this year, dabbles in Formula Ford, said Webber's success in F1 this year had further inspired him.

Driven to succeed (Cont.)

"To see Mark finally winning gives me plenty of motivation and focus for my future," Dixon said.

"I am just really proud to have been given this opportunity by BMW."

An earlier Australian winner of the BMW scholarship (in 2006) is Western Australian Daniel Ricciardo who has gone on to European racing this year, winning the F3 British Championship, which now puts him very much on F1 teams' radar.

Reproduced from news.com.au



Odd Spot: Did the scooter get upgraded? Will we see Chief flag on 1 wheel? (Again?) These answers and more at the next Superkart/Modern Regularity meet on Dec 6th.... **Photos:** Shaun Doecke

T&CC Report

Well another month has gone by and many of us have had plenty of things to do and for many, it wasn't motorsport related which has caused some grief for the Chief Flags of these events. Several people put their names down to attend events and failed to offer the courtesy of letting the Chief Flag know that you couldn't attend. If you don't know the phone number for the mobile provided for this reason, then look in the front of this newsletter and record it in your phone or somewhere where you can locate it when required. The weather has been unexpectedly warm, but shouldn't be a reason for abandoning your club. A really big thank you goes out to all those that did attend and it is appreciated greatly by the promoters for without you, there would be no motorsport and no winners. I must ask though, if it's this hot for the Clipsal, you will be declining your offer to attend and returning your credentials and guest passes won't you? Don't be biased...!!! Support motorsport at all levels.

The Super Trucks were out and about at the start of the month and there were the usual interesting moves from some of the leading trucks. The Truck races were, as I described last month, "chokingly full" of close racing for the first few laps. Sadly many of the interstate trucks were not setup for the warm conditions and literally "ran out of brakes" by the 6th lap which made it interesting to say the least. Reports from pit crews indicated that the disc rotors were consistently around the 1100 degrees Celsius range, so it's no wonder the friction pads wore out quickly. We didn't have the boxing match but I'm sure there were many "hot heads" in all the garages and it was good to see that many officials took the initiative to bring extra fluids and took advantage of the face masks supplied to reduce the intake of carbon emissions. Hmmm..... The last comment makes me sound a bit like a greenie!!

Special thanks also needs to be given for those who also attended the Friday practice sessions as well.

We also had another Superkart meeting on the 8th and whilst this was another hot day, the racing was good with many of the Regularity cars feeling the heat (see page 9). It must have been the extra load on the engine from the Air Conditioner!! Remember, our last meet for the year: Super Karts and Modern Regularity on December 6th... Note that this is the 45th Australian SuperKart Grand Prix with drivers from all over Australia...

T&CC Report (Cont.)

With reference to the hot weather, you need to be aware of your fluid intake especially if you are in the direct sun. By the time you realise you are dehydrated, it's too late. We now have Gatorade powder (and Icy-pops) available to assist in reducing the effects of fluid loss from sweat and evaporation. The Chief Flag will bring this to your point during the drinks run.

Remember!! If you're not urinating frequently or it is of a light yellow colour (or darker), then you are not drinking enough. And NO, soft drinks don't help because of the high sugar content, only water will.

Finally, the T&CC would like some expression from the membership on what training events should be conducted in 2010. A comms and flags training day is most likely, but let us know if you have something else we should be looking at. We are also compiling a list of names of people for the chief flag/assistant chief flag roles in 2010

The T&CC.



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



November

**Tony Aloï, Trevor Klinger and Ashley Stephenson (21st)
David Castrechini and Rob Thiry (28th)
Lawrie Schmitt (29th)**

December

**Leigh Marchesi (1st), Ray Stephenson (8th), Graham Church (9th)
Ray McGuinness (12th), Bryce Crawford (14th)**

Mod Reg event Report.

Lots of changes to the commodore:

Wider front track giving extra camber, Slotted & drilled front rotors, Front Spoiler

It wasn't any cooler out at Mallala for the 40 entrants in the Mod Reg as the heat wave heat SA. On my 5th lap in practice, my brake pedal was a bit spongy into turn 7, by turn 3, it went straight to the floor and run straight on in a cloud of dust. I returned to the pit paddock via the gate at turn 3 and discovered brake fluid on the driver front wheel. The bleed nipple wasn't nipped up tight enough and leaked under pressure.

I was released 2nd in group B and we slowly made our way around to turn 7 before gunning it to get the green flag at start finish. We meet the last car (EH Holden with a V8) still on his sighting lap at turn 4 weaving left and right not allowing the first car thru until the entry to turn 7 when he gunned it and re passed the first car before turn 1. This really screwed up our time for our first lap. I then Zeroed the second lap and only 3 points on my 3rd lap, then I heard a noise like a chaff cutter. I finished the 1st "heat" in 9th place with only 79 points. The motor still seems to be strong, oil and coolant looking good so hopefully it's only a manifold gasket, worst case it's a blown head. I have a spare manifold gasket home I could have used, however, with the extreme hot weather not being the best conditions to work on a car and so many other cars experience overheating, I put it on the trailer, I headed out to a flag point to help my friends. I felt like I was going to struggle with overheating problems like everyone else anyway.

Out of the 40 starters, there were only 14 that completed the day, mostly over heating problems. We even had a radiator top tank blow off and some cars having stuck thermostats.

The extra camber makes turning in much better and the front rotors work really well (when the calipers have fluid that is).

Darren "don't ask me to work on your brakes" Mattiske

POLITICAL RHETORIC:

It just all depends on how you describe some things...

Judy Wallman, a professional genealogy researcher in southern California, was doing some personal work on her own family tree. She discovered that Congressman Harry Reid's great-great uncle, Remus Reid, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889. Both Judy and Harry Reid share this common ancestor.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows in Montana territory:

On the back of the picture Judy obtained during her research is this inscription:

'Remus Reid, horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889.'



So Judy recently e-mailed Congressman Harry Reid for information about their great-great uncle, Harry Reid.

Believe it or not, Harry Reid's staff sent back the following biographical sketch for her genealogy research:

"Remus Reid was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad.

Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency.

In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honor when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

NOW THAT's how it's done, Folks!

Exciting Motor Sport development opportunity for the former Mitsubishi test track site

The prospect of additional motor sports and training facilities for road users and all sectors of the automotive industry looks set to proceed following a decision announced today by the Coorong District Council and other key parties.

Involving Motorcycling South Australia (MSA) and the Sporting Car Club of South Australia (SCC of SA) with the support of The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) and Motorcycling Australia (MA) the plan when fully implemented would see the former Mitsubishi test site at Tailem Bend transformed into a complex for on and off road motor sport events for both motorcycles and cars.

Other uses for the complex that covers approximately 1680 acres would include driver training, and vehicle testing for motorcycles, cars, heavy vehicles, and machinery.

The site is located on the corner of the Dukes and Mallee Highways approx 100 kilometres from Adelaide and approx 570 kilometres from Melbourne.

Fully developing the facility will require a multi-million dollar investment over several years. The complex will hold motor sport events including motorcycle and car circuit racing, drag racing, drifting, super motard, rallying, motocross, and endurance events.

The next step in the process is a full feasibility study of the project to be part funded by CAMS together with the other parties involved.

Parties involved with the project said today that the Tailem Bend facility would provide an economic stimulus in the area and would include both long term and short-term employment.

‘The proposal would supplement existing facilities in South Australia.

Mitsubishi test track..cont.

Mr. Lyn Punshon a spokesperson for the Sporting Car Club of SA said today: ‘There is a great need for more facilities Australia wide and South Australia can take a position of leadership when the Tailem Bend motorsport facility comes on stream’.

“The Sporting Car Club sees this as a great opportunity to work in with MSA, CAMS, MA and the Coorong District Council to establish a motorsport and driver training facility that can be utilized by all motoring and motorcycle clubs in South Australia.”,

Speaking on behalf of the consortium Mr. Punshon said that while the master planning and feasibility stage would take 18 months to complete; club and, community events as well as driver/rider training activities at the Tailem Bend site could commence as early as the beginning of 2010 with sprint, motorkana, burnout and off road events likely to be the first conducted at the Tailem Bend complex.

An open day will be held at the site in the near future to enable clubs and driver training organizations to view the current facilities and also have input into the vision for the site.

Reproduced in part from CAMS Media release. The full article is available here: <http://www.cams.com.au/en/Media/News/2009/Redevelopment-for-Mitsubishi-test-track-site.aspx>



THE SAMROA SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU !



Do you enjoy the BBQ lunches at the Superkart meetings, BBQs after some events, the Annual Dinner, or crushing the Superkart Club to defeat when they are brave enough to challenge us??

All these activities happen because of the members of the social committee.

Not much time is needed from members of the committee, we meet once a month for an hour or so on a Monday night at the Para Hills Community Club for a drink and to discuss what supplies are needed for the shed and upcoming activities.

Unfortunately due to other commitments, we are currently down to two members on the Committee. We desperately need some assistance to keep the BBQs and Events occurring, so come on and join the committee.

Members partners or family members are also encouraged to join, perhaps this is a good chance to check out this club that the other half runs off to on the weekend!

**Contact Jodie Johnson on 08 8562 3528 or
Scott Chamings on 0417 806 832
to register your interest.**

KWIK STIX Sponsoring SA Officials

Kwik Stix are sponsoring Motor racing officials in South Australia by providing over 2,000 gift vouchers to officials working at events.



People who have been to their restaurants will agree that they provide great food and good service at a good price.

The new meal vouchers are now for "**one main meal**" at all restaurants owned by The New World Lifestyle group. The New World Lifestyle group own several restaurants throughout Adelaide

Note: These vouchers are only for the restaurant specified on the voucher

Adelaide Superkart Club Annual Dinner and Presentation Night

Saturday 12th December 2009 7:00 pm

Glynde Hotel, 492 Payneham Road, Glynde

Tickets: \$40 pp (Drinks extra).

Contact: Ron Goldfinch (8352-8620) or Geoff King (8262-6133) for tickets



SAMROA Merchandise



SAMROA Sew On
Badge - \$6



SAMROA Sticker - \$3
(10cm across)



SAMROA Logo Pin
(Metal) - \$3



SAMROA T-shirt - \$40



SAMROA Cross Flags
(Metal) - \$3



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

Trade Discount at Ray's Outdoors:

SAMROA is now a trade customer at Ray's outdoors, simply quote the Business name (South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association) or number D73564 at the register to get a significant discount. 28 stores nationwide, SA Stores at:

61-69 West terrace ADELAIDE



1 Phillip Highway ELIZABETH
Harbour Town ADELAIDE
AIRPORT

December Newsletter:

December issue will be printed on Thursday Dec. 10th for post on the Friday.

Final deadline for material is Midday Thu 10/12. Earlier is appreciated.

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



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