



**South Australian  
Motor Racing Officials Association  
Newsletter  
April 2020**

**A Motorsport Australia affiliated Organisation**



**Website:** [www.samroa.org.au](http://www.samroa.org.au)

**Next General Meeting:**

**Due to COVID-19 meetings are suspended until further notice.  
Please keep an eye on your emails, social media and the newsletters for updates.**



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**Cover Photo:** Members of SAMROA and the Circuit Excel Club at Kart Mania– Photo courtesy of Deb Squires

*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.*

# MARSHALS MUMBLINGS

April 2020

Official Newsletter of the

South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association Inc.

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<b>Secretary</b>		
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The South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association (SAMROA) Inc. is a volunteer organisation affiliated with Motorsport Australia Ltd.

## President's Report

### *Welcome to the March/April Newsletter*

**Hi Everyone,**

Well, some trying times are here with some more to come, I'm sure. This virus has certainly taken hold with no end in sight as yet. With all the hotels and meeting places all but closed, clubs like ours and others, are finding it hard to have a Committee Meetings and General Bi-Monthly Meetings. The April Committee Meeting will be trialled via FreeconferenceCall.com to see how we go. We still need to keep the day to day running of the club going to be sure all incoming and outgoing business is taken care of. AT THIS POINT IN TIME we DO NOT anticipate in having a General Meeting until further notice.

Janelle has been working hard behind the scenes trying to bring the database up to date and is doing a great job. The main reason for this is that we had to be sure that some of those people showing up as a non-member on the database, were in fact members. The reason behind this is that the Committee agreed to have some trackside bags made up for members. We have had 50 made to start with which will be distributed once a criterion has been formed. Photos of the bag are attached further into the newsletter.

All members would have received their new membership renewal pack in the post over the last few weeks containing a membership form, membership card and some business cards for you to hand out if anyone who enquires. I know it's early to be bringing up membership at the moment but when the newsletter goes out bi-monthly we need to try and keep on top of things. Memberships are due at the end of the financial year, 30/6/2020. With the times we have ahead the best and safest way to make payment would be via mail and eftpos. All details are on the membership form.

On the 15/2/2020, the T&CC Committee made their way to Mallala for the annual shed clean up. The shed looks great guys and on behalf of the Committee we thank you for your efforts. When and if we do get back out to Mallala this year, could we all do our bit in trying to keep the shed as clean as it is. If we see something out of place, can we put it where it belongs? Also, Chris Hutchinson took upon himself to dispose of the all the empty cans in the shed. By doing this, the club received \$80.00 to help top up the bank account. Thank you for moving forward with this Chris.

A great day with Circuit Excel at Kart Mania for karts and catch up. I was joined by Matt Avery and Deb Squires. Matt and I teamed up as team SAMROA to take on the Circuit Excel drivers. Matt started on poll and held position for a few laps, he got to the end of his first session and we were in fourth. I finished my 1st session and we were in 5th. We dropped the ball a little here but fought our way back to fourth overall at the end of the race. Looking at the timing sheet at the end we finished 1 lap down from finishing 3rd overall. Got to be happy with that considering the company we were in. Well done Matt and thanks for joining in. Thanks also to Deb for being official photographer. Unfortunately, this was held the same weekend as the F1GP in Melbourne; I guess if this was on another weekend, we would have had a few more people along. Some photos of the day can be found further into the newsletter.

I wish to remind everyone about the nominations for the committees coming up in August and then October. I know it's early but if we can all have a think about if you would like a spot on the committee, please start letting your fellow members know so they can nominate you. At the start of this year it was a good AGM with plenty of nominations and voting. This is the way that AGMs should be occurring with the membership voting in who they wish to run their club. Please remember that this is your club and it needs fresh blood on these committees every couple of years or so. This will only happen if the Government gives the all clear of course.

As I mentioned earlier, there will be NO General Meeting until further notice. On behalf of the Committee, I wish you and your family all the best in these trying times and please stay safe.

All for now.

***Written by Steve Lewis – SAMROA President.***

## Local Events Calendar

*Due to COVID-19 all events are either cancelled or postponed. Keep an eye out on social media, SAMROA emails and newsletters for updates.*

*Also check out what is happening across the state in all forms of Motorsport via the Motorsport Australia Events Calendar: <https://motorsport.org.au/events/championships/state/sa-nt> (this site is not validated for accuracy by SAMROA)*



SAMROA member Shaun Halliday is a franchisee of Mister Minit which specialises in repairs, engravings, cutting services plus much more! Shaun has offered a 20% discount for SAMROA members upon presenting their membership card. His kiosk is located at the Unley Shopping Centre. Come on down and support each other.



*Happy birthday to our members who have already celebrated milestones in March or will be celebrating milestones in April or May.*

### **March**

Shaun Croci – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Thomas Harris-Howson – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Deb Squires – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Janelle Orrock – 21<sup>st</sup>

### **April**

Bruce Heinrich – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Dieter Von-Zieden – 11<sup>th</sup>  
David Mori – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Matthew Johnson – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Jared Steven – 25<sup>th</sup>

### **May**

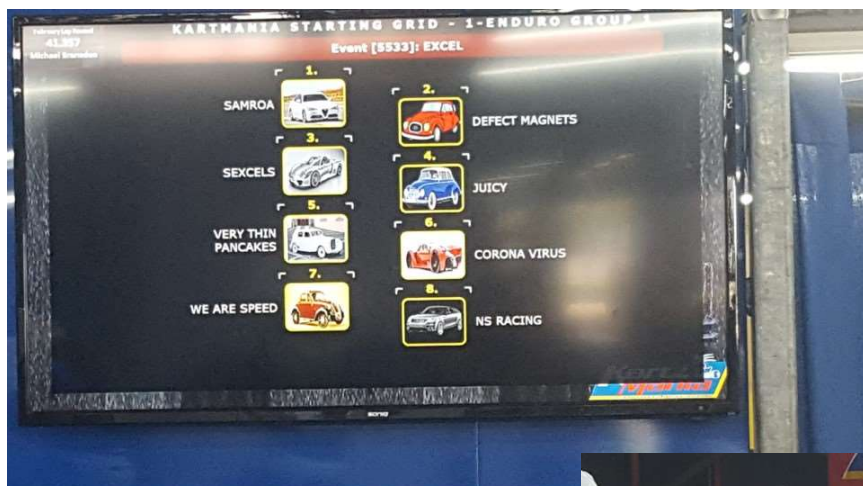
Scott Chamings – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Kristen Bailey – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Paul Karamanov – 25<sup>th</sup>



## Social Go-karting and lunch invitation photos



The Circuit Excel Association of SA kindly invited SAMROA members to join their drivers and crew for a day of socialising, eating and fun go-karting competition. Here are some photos from the day, with further explanation in The President's Report.



*Starting grid positions.*



*Matt Avery, starting in pole position.*



*Steve Lewis getting strapped in.*

## T&CC Report – Kim Wilson

Hello and welcome to the March/April T&CC newsletter article, well the year is certainly being a challenge for everyone, especially motorsport with events being postponed.

A few items from the T&CC the fire-training day that was being planned is currently postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. A positive note is the new trackside assessment form worked well at the one event we have managed to have so far this year, so keep a look out for them once we manage to get back trackside.

Last Thursday night the T&CC had their first “on-line” meeting using the Zoom platform, the meeting went very well and we will be looking at having more meetings using this platform moving forward. The committee are looking at the possibility of some on-line training during this little hiatus we are having, so keep your eyes open for more information in the coming weeks.

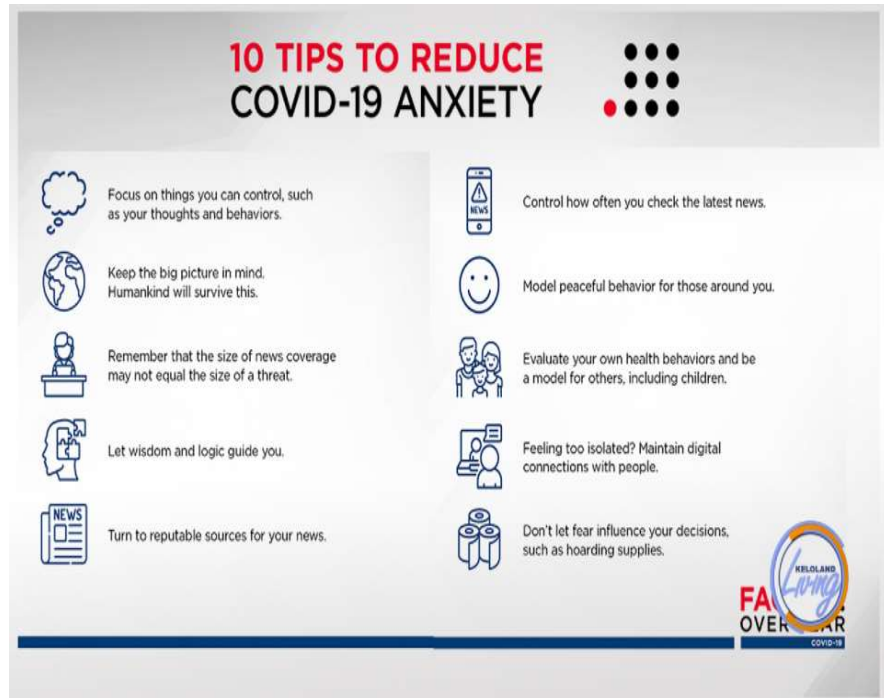
See you all trackside as soon as we can get back there.

**Kim Wilson**  
**T&CC Member**

## WH&S Report – Deborah Squires

At the moment we are going through challenging times which has put a halt to motorsports for the time being. I'm confident that we have all heard enough about the current Coronavirus outbreak and we don't need to be lectured on it. We have a new normal for now and we need to heed all directives, guidelines and measures put in place by our government and Motorsports Australia. In time we will be back trackside enjoying what we love to do.

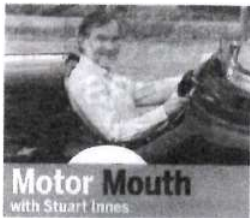
Below are some helpful hints and tips to get through this trying time.



Stay safe, stay well and stay enthused! We will be back.

**Written by Deb Squires - T&CC + WHS**





Advertiser  
SRS 29 May

It is the closest you can get to the motor racing action without being in the car. And it's a way to support and be involved in your favourite sport. Dozens of such people will be there today and tomorrow, for example, at Mallala Motor Sport Park thriving on the track action.

Motor racing officials – the men and women volunteers who wave the flags, sweep the track and do a list of other vital tasks – allow motor racing to go ahead: good for the competitors and good for the fans.

SAMROA – the South Australian Motor Racing Officials Association – as with many volunteer groups, is looking for more members so motor racing can continue smoothly and efficiently.

SAMROA started in the late 1970s as a means of having a cohesive group of people, properly trained and organised to cater for the demand of motor race meetings.

At present, it has 73 active members who attend motor race meetings as their time permits.

Andrew Leitch, 46, chairman of SAMROA's training and competition committee, has been a member for nine years.

"I was always interested in motorsport as a spectator. So I jumped the fence and got involved," he says.

Mr Leitch now is a senior official, including chief communicator at the Clipsal 500. Away from racetracks, by weekday he is a venue technician.

Race officials wave the flags at critical points around a circuit to advise drivers, they attend to drivers and do initial firefighting if necessary in a crash until the expert medical team and fire truck arrive. They sweep the track surface clean after an incident. They communicate to race control about their sector of the track and help recover stranded vehicles from the race circuit.

Novice officials are mentored and trained to do the jobs under a CAMS national officials program.

As they qualify, they get CAMS licences which allows them to be officials at any motor race meeting in Australia, including the Formula One Grand Prix. They must get there and be accommodated at their own expense but SA-trained officials are in demand.

Mr Leitch says the job remains very much a volunteering role. Officials have to provide their appropriate clothing, get themselves to and from the track and give their time.

"They can be long days with fatigue. But we get fed and watered through the day," he says.

Mr Leitch says SAMROA membership is \$30 a year. The group has a monthly meeting and social activities through the year, culminating in being given rides on hot laps in racing cars at Mallala as a "thankyou" from race drivers.

SAMROA's website - [www.samroa.org.au](http://www.samroa.org.au) - gives information and contact details.

Men and women are involved from 16 years old. Some retired members plan trips interstate so they can include several V8 Supercar race meetings.

"The majority of us would like to be competitors but the cost rules them out," Mr Leitch says.

"This is the next-best thing. We get in for free and have a front-row seat."

22 The Advertiser carsguide.com.au

## Port Wakefield Circuit

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
[Jump to navigation](#)[Jump to search](#)

Port Wakefield Circuit	
<b>Location</b>	Phillips Street, Port Wakefield, South Australia
<b>Coordinates</b>	<span><span><span><span><span>34°10′59″S</span> <span>138°10′55″E</span></span></span><span><span>﻿</span> / <span>﻿</span></span><span><span>Coordinates: <span><span><span>34°10′59″S</span> <span>138°10′55″E</span></span></span></span></span></span></span>
<b>Opened</b>	1953
<b>Closed</b>	1961
<b>Major events</b>	Australian Grand Prix Australian Drivers' Championship
<b>Length</b>	2.092 km (1.300 mi)
<b>Turns</b>	6

**Port Wakefield Circuit** was a motor racing circuit located approximately 1 kilometre (0.62 miles) east of the town of **Port Wakefield** in **South Australia**. It was the first purpose built motor racing facility built in Australia after World War II, and only the second in Australian history. The circuit was created out of necessity in 1953 when two years prior the South Australian state government banned motor racing on public roads, a ban that would stay in place until 1985 when it was rescinded to create the **Adelaide Street Circuit** for use in the **Australian Grand Prix** which had become a round of the **Formula One World Championship**.<sup>[1]</sup>

Port Wakefield was a small circuit for its time, in an era of three to four mile circuits, the limitations imposed created a circuit of just 1.3 miles (2.092 kilometres). In 1955<sup>[2]</sup> the circuit played host to the Australian Grand Prix where **Jack Brabham** won his first AGP. Brabham's win in his **Cooper T40 Bristol** was also the first AGP won by a rear-engined car.

When it came to be South Australia's turn to again host the AGP in 1961, the Port Wakefield Circuit was declared inadequate and the 3.38 km (2.1 mi) **Mallala Race Circuit** was created. With part of Port Wakefield's facilities used to create Mallala, the circuit faded very quickly back into the scrub, though the outline of the circuit is still visible via Google Maps.<sup>[3]</sup>

The circuit ran clockwise, and started on the Repco Straight. This was followed by a right hand kink before a sharp left turn leading into the right hand TyreSoles Hairpin, the slowest turn on the circuit. A short run south to the right hand Kallin corner led onto the longest (600 metre) straight on the circuit, Thompson Motors Straight. Dunlop corner (turn 5), and Stonyfell (turn 6), led back onto the Repco Straight.<sup>[4]</sup> Lap times for the circuit were around the 1 minute mark, with Brabham and Reg Hunt (Maserati A6GCM) sharing the fastest lap of the 1955 AGP at 1:03.0.

The last race meeting, organised by the Austin 7 Club of South Australia, was held on 14 May 1961.<sup>[4]</sup>





Source: <https://www.speedcafe.com/2017/05/12/mallala-set-revamp-new-ownership/>



Source: <http://www.speedwayandroadracehistory.com/mallala-race-circuit.html>

## **SAMROA General Meeting minutes – February 2020**

<b>Meeting Details</b>	
<b>Date &amp; time:</b>	
<b>Location:</b>	The Maid Hotel – 1 Magill Road, Stepney, SA 5069
<b>Opened:</b>	19:40 (7:40pm)
<b>Present:</b>	Janelle Orrock, Bruce Morisset, Andrew Robinson, Deb Squires, Peter Ruth, Kimberley Stevens, Peter Stevens, Jackie Schlein, Brad Morrison, Kim Wilson, Cathy Croci, Daniel McIntosh, Rebecca Abela, Matt Avery, Arthur Butler, Graham Church, Darren Mattiske, Tony Aloj, Rod Mountifield, Ray McGuinness, Steven Kaczmarek and Paul Karamanov.
<b>Apologies</b>	David Castrechini, Tom Westin, Paul Bonnett, Peter Cirillo, Steve Lewis, Lisa Totani, Karl Fleming and Chris Hutchinson.
<b>Visitors / guests</b>	
<b>Announcements and Reminders</b>	President, Vice President and Secretary were apologies at this meeting, as per SAMROA Constitution, Bruce Morisset was nominated and accepted position to chair meeting.
<b>Previous minutes</b>	Copies of the previous minutes (December 2019) were moved by Peter Stevens and seconded by Deb Squires. All members present, voted in favour that minutes be accepted. Carried.
<b>Business arising from the minutes</b>	No business arising from the previous minutes.
<b>Incoming / outgoing correspondence</b>	Correspondence as per list tabled at the meeting. (Copy Attached) Moved by Janelle Orrock and seconded by Rod Mountifield that the correspondence be received. All present voted in favour. Carried.
<b>Business Arising from the Correspondence</b>	No business arising from the Correspondence List.
<b>Reports from Other Committees</b>	
<b>WHS</b> <i>(Presented by Deborah Squires)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Race meeting for new year is this Sunday. Remember Hydration &amp; Sun Block.</li> <li>Flag Posts at Mallala have now had mesh installed for protection – T&amp;CC are looking for feedback on suitability and ease of operation.</li> <li>Thank you to Steve Lewis for organising and fitting the new flag holders around Mallala</li> </ul>
<b>T&amp;CC</b> <i>(Presented by Peter Stevens)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> event for year is this Sunday – Saturday is shed clean-up day, CF roster completed and calendar is on database.</li> <li>New format Feedback sheets will be used Sunday</li> <li>Planning a combined training day with WfW (also discussion around first aid training – who is responsible and what is actually required? T&amp;CC would like this discussed at Gen. Committee level)</li> </ul>
<b>Motorsport Australia News</b> <i>(Presented by Paul Bonnett apology – First meeting for 2020 – 21 January 2020)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Board member: Kristen Bailey</li> <li>FIA Circuit Official of the Year: Rob Thiry</li> </ul>
<b>State officiating panel (sop) report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Meeting to be held 17/02/2020</li> </ul>
<b>Motor racing panel (mrp) report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership feel that SAMROA should have a representative. Thank you, Darren, for previous service.</li> </ul>
<b>Website / IT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darren M. will assist Peter R. to upgrade Web Site.</li> </ul>

<b>Social committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAMROA Dinner date set for 22 August 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Promotions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JDP planning a display at Bunnings BBQ – Invitation for SAMROA to help / be involved</li> </ul>
<b>SCC-SA</b> (Last meeting 30 January 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WfW will now assist with recoveries</li> <li>• No Formula Vee State Championship this year</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Round of State Championship to have a historic focus.</li> </ul>
<b>General business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Robinson suggested a card for Sue &amp; Steve Lewis. Janelle has sourced. (Andrew also mentioned passing of Darryl Warman)</li> <li>• Bruce M. mentioned that all are welcome to come to Mallala this Saturday to assist with shed cleanup. Also commented on the great standard of flagging at the recent Le Mans event. Excellent job by Karl Fleming on putting fire out and that the Bend Classic was a little boring.</li> <li>• Darren Mattiske: Took photos for Newsletter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Congratulated David Castrechini and Bruce Morisset on their Motorsport Australia Service awards.</li> <li>➢ Changes to Circuit Standing Regulations</li> <li>➢ Section 7 – Driving Standards have changed re exceeding track limits, car going off track and bringing debris onto track.</li> <li>➢ Section K (?) Driver consistently over track limits bringing debris onto track</li> <li>➢ New rule re causing a collision.</li> <li>➢ Members have asked for an emailed copy with interpretation. Copies will go in Folders at Mallala.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rod Mountifield: Reminder to Officials on Sunday to check the Mallala circuit between FP7 &amp; 8 as Porsche's last weekend were losing traction.</li> <li>• Matthew Avery: Discussion re First Aid Training as at Sandown recently, camera man collapsed near Flag point.</li> <li>• Peter Ruth: Congratulations to Karl on putting fire out - reminder that carbon fibre is toxic when burns and officials should be aware of their own safety.</li> <li>• Janelle Orrock: Reminder to all members re Social Media Policy and that you also represent SAMROA with every post you make. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Reminder that Superloop Guest Tickets are not for resale.</li> <li>➢ Lunches for Sunday's event – no special dietary requirements have been catered for.</li> <li>➢ The General Committee is purchasing back packs for members and that there will be a criteria to meet before receiving one.</li> <li>➢ New membership cards are being printed and a small plastic pouch (for your pass book) will be available to SAMROA members, Saturday of Superloop.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>With no further General Business, the meeting was closed at 20:40 (8:40 pm)</p> <p><del>Next Meeting: 19:30 (7:30 pm) on 08 April 2020</del>  <b>CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19</b></p>





SAMROA Member's Backpack - front



SAMROA Member's Backpack - rear



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