

**Group S Racing Association Inc
Committee Meeting Minutes
Saturday 5th February 2011**

Venue

Epping Club. Meeting opened at 5.15pm.

Attendees

Committee – Colin Wilson-Brown (President), Kent Brown (Vice-President), John Lenne (Secretary), Robin Marshall (Treasurer), John Young (Committee & Newsletter Editor), Peter Jackson (Committee & Victorian Registrar)

Ex-officio – Phil Baskett (Vic – Pointscore), Paul Newby (NSW – Technical), David Withers (NSW Accommodation)

Ex-officio Apologies – Troy Ryan (SA Registrar), Paul Sabine (Victoria – Technical), Manuel Pena (QLD Registrar), Geoff Williams (Webmaster), Hung Do (Assistant Pointscore)

Minutes of 5th AGM of 21 December 2010

Accepted as true record of the meeting
Moved Kent Brown, seconded John Lenne

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of 1 January 2011

Accepted as true record of the meeting
Moved John Young, seconded John Lenne

Business Arising from Minutes

None

President's Report – Colin Wilson-Brown

Forthcoming event status:

- **FoSC Wakefield Park 12-13 February**

33 entries. Sa/sb (18) will run separately from Sc (14). FoSC advises that there will be 5 races for each category. Best 2 of first 3 races will be championship scoring.

Colin has requested that consideration be given for race 4 to be under/over 2 litre Group S, and race 5 to be all cars in Group S combined.

- **HSRCA Wakefield Park 26-27 February**

Disappointing entries but Group S is largest category at 24 (Sa 10, Sb 5, Sc 9). Colin will mention this at Presentation Dinner.

- **VHRR Phillip Island 18-20 March**

Sa/Sb entries stand at 51 cars.

With a maximum grid density of 50 cars, Michael Holloway will limit Sa/Sb qualifying to 55 cars on the premise that 5 will not survive qualifying. You will have also seen the note that the four bugeye Sprites may go to J/K/Lb.

Sc entries stand at 39 plus one invited Group T car (Lea). A good turn out but a few more Sc cars would be welcome.

As to the Group S program: Friday am practice; Friday pm qualifying; Saturday two races; Sunday two races.

There will be no 12 lap feature race for Sc this year. The two feature races on Sunday will be a 30 min Formula 5000 race and a 30 min Q/R/invited sports car race with several overseas entries. All other categories are being worked around this.

Peter Jackson advised that he is arranging drinks and nibbles after Friday racing – details to be confirmed.

Brian Weston advised that he is sourcing the trophies to be given to 2010 Goldfields Cup winners at the drinks.

The committee thanked Alex Webster who has arranged for sponsorship of the drinks and Goldfield Cup trophies from Martini.

NSW State Election: CAMS letter

Colin tabled correspondence from CAMS asking car clubs to lobby the two political parties for greater support for motor sport.
Kent will draft a letter.

Regalia Manager

Colin advised that Brian Weston is no longer able to look after shirts and caps and we need to find someone to take this on. It is not time-consuming. Suggestions to Colin please.
John Young agreed to purchase more shirts. He will check stock with Brian Weston.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Marshall

Robin presented the Treasurer's Report. Positive balance of \$10,333 prior to Presentation Dinner expenses.

Secretary's Report – John Lenne

John reported that at 31st January we have 127 paid up members. 5 members have retired but there were two new members in January.
Colin will contact the 23 unpaid members.

Proposals from Members – Colin Wilson-Brown

Colin tabled proposals from four members for consideration.

- Race Numbers

Colin tabled two amendments to the current race numbers protocol from Stephen Borness:

"Group S members will not nominate a number preference that is allocated to another Group S member, when entering in a race meeting in the Group S category"

"Allocated numbers will lapse if the Group S member does not enter a Group S category event in any one calendar year"

The meeting considered that Stephen's experience at the HSRCA Eastern Creek Tasman Revival where 'his' number was allocated to another competitor, was a rare error by the organiser and did not warrant amendment to the current rules which have been operating successfully for 5 years. Colin advised that he has spoken with Noel Bryen who normally allocates numbers for HSRCA (but did not do so for the Tasman meeting) and he is happy to work with the current rules, as are other clubs.

Colin will advise Stephen.

- GSRA Meetings at Race Meetings

James Flett proposes *"that we have member invited GSRA meetings on Saturday afternoons at every second or third race meeting. This will stop members being disenfranchised"*

The committee supports the idea of social gatherings at larger race meetings at the close of racing (such as at Phillip Island) provided that these do not prevent us from supporting the organisers social events. However the committee is opposed to holding formal meetings at race meetings as this would cause undue stress for committee members who are attending as competitors. Such meetings would also be difficult to manage and minute. Members should be reassured that all issues raised by them will be considered by the committee and members can ask to attend committee meetings.

Colin will advise James.

- Ballot Proposal

Colin tabled several letters from Peter Lang, plus supporting letters from Steve Smith and James Flett, proposing that Group N brake rules be adopted for Group S and that a ballot should be held to determine member attitudes.

It was noted that Peter had raised this issue with the HPBEC (CAMS Historic Production Based Eligibility Committee) and the previous GSRA committee, which did not support his proposals (see minutes of the Committee Meeting of 14 January 2010).

The new committee has canvassed member opinions on this issue and re-examined the arguments for and against adopting Group N brake rules.

The committee unanimously rejected conducting a ballot on this issue because:-

- a) It is opposed to adopting Group N brake rules because they will increase the performance differential between the slowest and fastest cars; substantially increase costs for competitors; and are contrary to the spirit (and rules) of the

highly successful production-based sports car racing category. We believe that changes such as the adoption of Group N brake rules, could lead to a fundamental re-shaping of Group S that would be detrimental to the integrity of the category and older, slower cars in particular.

- b) Our informal discussions with competitors found minimal support for such a change.
- c) The proposal is inconsistent with the Group S category as defined by CAMS (see CAMS manual 3.5.1).
- d) The GSRA committee supports the CAMS Historic Commission and its eligibility committee (HPBEC) and, even though we may not all agree with their rulings, we see no purpose in conducting a member ballot on an issue that has already been considered (and in the GSRA committee's opinion, correctly) rejected by HPBEC.

The committee does, however, respect the rights of members to make individual representations to HPBEC (Bruce Richards and state eligibility officers).

Colin will advise Peter, James and Steve.

GSRA Race Numbers Registrar – Colin Wilson-Brown

Noted that the list has been updated, sent to event organisers, and is on the website

Noted that Sa Catalina Champion, Peter Jackson, will use #1 in 2011. Sb and Sc Champions, Brian Weston and Geoff Morgan, declined the opportunity

Championship Pointscore – Phil Baskett

Noted that 2010 results are now on the website
2011 Championship details have also been posted on the website

Accommodation – David Withers

The committee thanked David Withers who has negotiated a GSRA discounted rate for accommodation at Trappers Motel in 2011. Competitors should quote GSRA/David Withers when booking. Details are on the GSRA website.

Close

Meeting closed at 7 pm.

Colin Wilson-Brown
President

John Lenne
Secretary