

Circuit Excel Association of South Australia



Circuit Excel SA July General Meeting

Meeting commences 7:30pm.

Members and visitors are welcome to contact the hotel to make arrangements for a meal prior to the meeting.

When 22-07-2019 at 7:30 PM

Location: Caledonian Hotel North Adelaide, 219 O'Connell St, North Adelaide SA 5006, Australia

Chairperson Nathan Green

Present Santo Arabia , James Benford , Nathan Green (President, State Council Delegate), Andrew Hobby , Shayne Nowickij , Wayne Pannowitch (Treasurer), Nick Scaife , Fred Severin , David Shaw , Isaac Sparks , Scott Stephenson , Gregory Stuut , Simon Wills (Promotions & Sponsorship Coordinator), Andrew Young (CEMC Delegate), Thomas Young , James Zeitz

Apologies Ryan Bell , Ashleigh Bennett (Secretary), Leon Bondarenko (Vice President), David Burn , Shane Chancellor , Michael Clemente , Bradley Colman , Jay Donald , Daniel Longhurst , Darren Mattiske , Greg McCrackan , craig neave , Shaun Pannowitch , john reynolds , Lisa Totani

Minutes

1. Open Meeting

Meeting Opened 7:30PM at Caledonian Hotel, North Adelaide.
Nathan Green in Chair. Darren Mattiske acting as Secretary.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (May 2019)

Wayne Pannowitch moved that the minutes were true and correct, seconded by Paul Falco.

3. President's Report

While we're already halfway through the year the championship is just ramping up. We look forward to the Ryan Pannowitch Memorial Trophy in less than a fortnight with entries still open until Wednesday!

Entries have already opened for Round 4 which will be a big event overall as the HQ's host their nationals in conjunction with our State Championship Series.

Around the states there is no shortage of Excel racing, with WA hosting their first enduro event inviting co-drivers from across borders to compete in local cars.

Congratulations to Tom Benford who co-drove with Ryan McNess to take out the win! This weekend we see the State Championship continue in Victoria at Sandown along with NSW at SMP! Lisa Totani was at SMSP and did some impromptu interviews

Congratulations to Joel Johnson who was in the top 5 at Sandown !

We continue to see growth here in SA, with several new entrants at Round 2, importantly new to Circuit racing as seen with the number of OLT's completed as part of the event. We have another few OLT's being completed at Round 3 with a couple more cars in the build expected to debut later in the season.

Locally we are focusing on:

- Maintain technical parity and contain costs ie: support CEMC
- Foster a strong community amongst competitors and club members (ie: social place to be)
- Ensure the club is approachable by competitors, sponsors and promoters alike

The presidents haven't met recently, but last conversation about establishing an incorporated association I've started looking at cost to facilitate face to face forums annually which is circa 6-8K. Compiling membership numbers across states that could equate to 20-30 per member. Some clubs could absorb such costs but needs to be considered in fee structures and funding models in the future.

4. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

5. Treasurer's Report

Accounts are in strong position; Some significant payments have been made recently including costs of travel and accom for Andrew and Dave to attend CEMC conference in Melbourne.

Recently paid for photo's from The Bend.

Some final sponsorship payments are still to come in.

6. CEMC Delegate Report

Regulations convention:

Next weekend, 27-28th July will see a 3E Circuit Excel regulation review hosted at CAMS head office in Melbourne with the focus on consolidation of changes recommended over the last 6 months. Its proposed that a subsequent sellers convention will be hosted later in the year to ensure the interpretation of the regulations is clear. Costs of travel and accommodation are covered by the respective club

Suspension Review:

Members would've received a suspension review voting form. Its appreciated that these are returned ASAP as the outcomes will be discussed next weekend !

Technical enquiries & feedback:

If you have any technical enquires relating to Circuit Excel regulations its requested by Jamie Augustine that they are directed to the state delegate in the first instance before contacting CAMS. If you have any queries email cemcdelegate@circuitexcelsa.com.au

Data Logging: Discussed recent correspondence and views from CAMS, also recapped some views from SA from 2 years ago, with the intent to minimise costs and complexity to competitors.

7. Eligibility Officer's Report

Data loggers and electronic dashboards were reviewed at round 2 to assist technical conference. Identified that VBox was circa \$5K tool.

Noted Fred will be back for Round 3.

Good conversation about checking bonnet pins and noted the good work Dave does walking through form up looking out for competitors.

8. Promotion's Report

RPMT coming up next weekend! Sponsorship has increased prizemoney and number of positions its awarded to. \$1000 will be awarded for the feature race ! Reminder than Sign-on is required at documentation AND RPMT HQ which will be sepreate amongst the sheds.

Other:

OTR Supersprint display – CEASA have an opportunity to display 2 carts as a trade display to promote the series at the Supercars round at The Bend. Offering spots to members for modest charge to share the costs – great opportunity to share your sponsors or business – Contact Simon

OzNats – Misch Mechanical will be hosting a display for Excels at OzNats
Promo video filmed at The Bend will be released shortly. First cut shown to members on the night.

Nationals: EOI's are OPEN. Encourage all members to submit their EOI if interested, indicating if they are a definite, likely or maybe via the EOI form online <http://tdy.cl/se/jdMTTzk>

9. DSO Report

Simon read some notes on behalf of Scott:

Apologies for not being able to attend the meeting tonight.

Rnd 2 at The Bend was my first event as the DSO for the circuit excel category and it seems I got thrown in the deep end for the Saturday event. It was very different taking in the sights and sounds of Race control and learning how they operate up there. But I was dry so couldn't complain.

Saturday was a busy day seeing that first race carnage unfold in what was clearly some tricky conditions. Hearing the chaos over the radio from T6, the officials were very concerned about the damage that was sustained to all the cars. They did threaten to take away racing laps from our category if we took any longer.

Sunday was a relaxed day with only small problems throughout the day but nothing serious thankfully. Throughout the whole weekend there were a number of issues that I believe could have been avoided with a bit more space being given and care taken. I want to stress to all competitors that the stewards and officials really are watching closely.

I just wanted to thank all the competitors and the officials for their patience while I am learning the ropes. I would also like to highlight a few things that were raised from the last round.

Points to summarise:

- Leave racing room: When making a pass where there is any overlap with another vehicle, the onus is on the vehicle making the pass to complete it safely. If you do not believe you can make the move safely then back out of it. It is not worth damaging someone else's car or your own. Damaging another's car will result in penalties for yourself.
- Look for flags: A number of people were penalised for passing under yellow or red flags and passing before the control line. Please be aware of safety car rules for restarts. If you are not clear on anything then please feel free to ask me. Please also be aware of all flag points and make it a priority to sight them when or before you pass them.
- Drive to the conditions: The Saturday race saw a lot of people come unstuck in the wet race due to tricky conditions. Remember you are on a road going tyre that is not incredible in the wet and it is easy to breathe on the brake pedal and lock them up. In a wet race, finishing the race is half the battle, if you stay on the track the whole race, you will pick up a lot of positions.
- See Scott before going to Race control to make a complaint: The officials were very frustrated with how the Saturday race impacted the days running. I do not believe it made a big impact but they do. They would prefer if the drivers address all problems to me before raising it with Officials.

Please also bring footage and evidence of your complaint. Yelling at me about how bad another driver is will not get anything done about it.

A big thanks to Scott Stephenson who came out of retirement taking on the role of Driving Standards Observer (DSO) for our category. Scott has a wealth of experience driving these cars locally and on a variety of tracks in the east. We thank everyone for showing him the respect he deserves in this challenging role.

Note: At round 3 there will be another 2 OLT's for Circuit Excel

10. CAMS Delegate Report

Discussed feedback from Round 2 including conditions. It was noted by officials that a number of improvements had been made to The Bend drainage from previous wet events, but there are still some areas where flowing water is evident in heavy rain. While this clears up quicker than it had previously, it means that it returns with the rain (when it otherwise conditions would have remained the same). Feedback has been noted and reviews with Engineers and officials continues.

The wet weather re-invigorated discussions regarding rain light requirements for race cars in general (Schedule C use-of-rain-lights-in-race-events) and the panel seeks clarification on minimum requirements VS FIA compliant products along with impacts a future Stall light would have. Regardless rain lights will be mandatory in 2020, feedback from CAMS and CEMC regulation review may paint a clearer picture. CEMC meeting this weekend and will be discussed

The CAMS 2019 Award dinner confirmed as 8th February 2020 – Adelaide Oval Series awards were discussed, re-invigorating interest in the history of both the SA Racing Driver of the Year and the Peter Wright Memorial Trophy which both have unique scoring systems rewarding competitive drivers across ALL SA categories. The Motor Race Panel (MRP) are looking to publish more up to date info to help bring to bring them to life!

Also its time to start thinking of anyone that may be eligible for awards, particularly officials and other service awards as we lead into the nomination period in coming months

2020 Calendar discussions:

Early discussions on 2020 calendar options are underway. The gap between championship rounds 1 & 2 has traditionally existed with the ANZAC historic meeting filling the void for others, it was further exasperated by Superloop 500 and Hidden Valley dates which impact our calendars as they draw from a common pool of officials. Also need to consider Australian F1 GP and now Vietnam F1. While we hope to have a shorter gap than 2019, we are also looking for opportunities to host an endurance event (non championship) event which could fit nicely into a natural gap in the season.

There's also some discussion about the length of the championship. In recent years it was a 4 round series growing to a 5 round series with the advent of The Bend. Discussion amongst categories is mixed as to whether a 5 round series is viable for all. CEASA's position remains to maintain a 5 round State Championship in SA (taken from last meeting).

Also up for discussion is whether to continue with ALL ROUNDS count towards final score or have the option to drop a round. There are pro's and cons for both so we would love to hear your feedback!

11. General Correspondence & Business

Nothing to report

12. Set Date for next meeting and Close

26th August – 2 weeks prior Round 4 (alt the week prior: 2nd Sept)

Discussed AGM dates: 25th November after Nationals some key members were unavailable, so may push to 2nd December

End of minutes.