# CIRCUIT Excel Racing Association Inc

# Meeting Minutes

6th of December 2023 7:00pm AEST Meeting held via Zoom conference call

Invitees: John Broadbent (President), Andrew Young (Secretary), Shannon Williams Treasurer, Craig Twining, Ben Davey, Nick Scaife, Brett Sheriff, Shane Beikoff, Linda Mrnjavac, Dale Carpenter, Brian Sciberras and Rob Holloway.

1. Roll call

Roll call conducted. The following persons were present: John Broadbent (President), Andrew Young (Secretary), Shannon Williams (Treasurer), Shane Beikoff, Ben Davey , Linda Mrnjavac, Dale Carpenter, Brian Sciberras and Rob Holloway.

Apologies: Brett Sheriff

1. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**: Approved by Shannon Williams, Seconded by Linda Mrnjavac.
2. Business arising From Previous Minutes:
3. President’s Report:

The President informed the group that most of the last month had been devoted to dealing with the 2024 three round series. The 2024 regulations had now been submitted to Motorsport Australia and are sitting with MA for approval. President was also hoping to have a meeting with both the incoming and outgoing CEOs of Motorsport Australia.

The meeting was told CERA had been successful in getting to grids at the July Queensland Raceway event and were hoping to hear back from ARG about the possibility of two grids at the Sydney Motorsport event in November. This will be the Race Sydney event.

1. **Secretaries Report:**

Secretary detailed back and forth communications with ARG particularly over the first Event of the 3 Round Series being Bathurst as a 6 Hour support category.

The Management liability insurance had arrived so the appropriate paperwork was done and then handed over to the Treasurer for payment. Secretary explained the reason for having the management liability insurance to the new delegates.

Ongoing communications with Supashock which will be detailed further in general business.

There has also been back and forth communications with the Bathurst City Council Delegate over Marquees.

There has also been a lot of email traffic to the CERA events email address, details to be covered in general business.

1. **Treasurers Report:**

Treasurer reported that there had been a lot of transactions going into the CERA bank account due to the Bathurst event. Current balance was $18,917.38. Outgoing funds were $964.15, $1,300.00 for accommodation and services for Bathurst and $22,000.00 as the deposit payment to ARG for Bathurst 6 Hour. For Bathurst: 54 competitors deposits, 4 full payments and 3 second payments had been transferred into the CERA bank account.

President spoke that the affiliation and club membership had arrived from Motorsport Australia so the Secretary and Treasurer would take care of this.

1. Technical Delegate Report

Technical Delegate spoke about working with Motorsport Australia to finalise the 2024 regulations so therefore there should be no issues with the regulations going through.

1. General Business

**Welcome to new Delegates:** President went around the group to follow up and welcome the Delegates following annual general meetings in all of the States. Delegates for each states are:

Victoria: Linda Mrnjavac

South Australia: Andrew Young

New South Wales: Shannon Williams

Tasmania: Ben Davey

Queensland: John Broadbent

Non-Voting NT Delegate: Rob Holloway

President spoke about putting forward at the annual general meeting that each state can have two representatives at the meeting but as reminded that the states will only get one vote as per the constitution. President pointed out that CERA is not a Technical committee but Management committee and to provide opportunities to competitors in motor racing at State and Nationals levels.

President welcomed all new Delegates.

**National Series:** President informed the group that the details of the Dunlop Destiny Series should be revealed soon. Wildan 13 has been working with some multinational companies to be able to put the Dunlop Destiny series together. No announcements will be made until all details are signed off on by Wildan13. Wildan 13 is extremely committed to the category and will look to create opportunities for Excel competitors.

President confirmed that the second event of the 3 Round Series will be the 13th and 14th of July at Queensland Raceway where we have two grids at this event. This will be a Shannon Speed Series round so therefore it will be broadcast on the Seven network, but no details are known at this point in time.

The concept behind the Destiny programme is for Dunlop to create a pathway for young up and coming drivers out of grassroots Motorsport. Dunlop want to be able to provide an opportunity for these young drivers to showcase their talents and hopefully progress through Motorsport. The selection of the competitors that will go into the programme will not be done by CERA but by high profile Motorsport people. Part of the selection will not only be driving talent but how competitors conduct themselves with their off-track behaviour and attitude. The examples of Brock Feeney and Brodie Kostecki were spoken about due to the fact that they had come through Excels and have a very positive off-track demeanour. The group was also informed that Dunlop has had communications with a couple of Supercar teams that are interested in the programme and were looking at the possibility of tapping into it.

For Bathurst the event will be managed by Andrew Young, Nicole Williams, John Broadbent, Shannon Williams and Linda Mrnjavac. CERA received. from ARG what we asked for in on track time being two x 20-minute practice session, one x 20-minute qualifying session and three x 30-minute races which is around 50 more minutes than 2023.

Secretary spoke about competitor entry forms have also been submitted to the event email address and at this point in time the secretary is spending around 90 minutes per day on the Bathurst event. Hence the importance of getting further assistance and help from the states having two representatives into next year. So far 110 entries have been received.

For the QR round the two grids will be one for the Dunlop Destiny and the other for Trophy Series / Masters.

**Supashock contract negotiation**: Secretary told the meeting that the Supashock contract had been signed off on the 30th of November**.** Supashock have publicly announced the contract extension via use of social media and their website. At this point in time there is currently over 40 sets in dampers in stock. Supashock has issued the CERA Secretary with direct purchase codes that can be issued to Excel club members as they request them. Price increases has now been sent out and received by all States. It was noted that Supashock did not increase the price of the dampers during the duration of the first contract.

The question was asked will all new dampers have the top seal. The answer was yes, all new sets will have the top seal and any dampers that are sent back for service or other work will get a top seal on the dampers. The top seal has been added by Supashock due to the fact that they received information that competitors had been stripping apart the controlled suspension.

Supashock have also introduced checking system where dampers can be sent back, checked and re-dynoed for $75 per damper. If additional work and parts are required, the $75 charge will come off the overall cost.

It was once again confirmed that the eligibility set of dampers that each state has are there for eligibility purposes only and remain property of Supashock. They are there to be a spare set. Discussion moved to the fact that some clubs have purchased spare sets.

Secretary will email out the CERA Supapshock email to all. This will be used for competitors as a first point of contact technical or warranty issues. CERA need competitors to use this email and not go direct to Supashock.

**CERA AGM:** Date was set for the 24th of January 2024.Nomination forms will be sent for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer. A Technical Delegate will be appointed at the meeting. The positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer can only be filled by a club appointed CERA Delegate as per the constitution.

**Around the States:**

**SA:** SA will have their last event on the 6th of December. This will be a passenger ride day at Malala Motorsport Park. CEASA committee has invited out the staff of Weldon 13 to come out for the day and to have a passenger ride in an Excel.

South Australia now has a calendar for 2024 so the Secretary also asked if all other states could forward their calendars so a National Calendar could be put together. SA will have 5 events plus the Enduro, 4 events at the Bend along with the Enduro.

CEASA in 2024 will be racing under the South Australian motor racing series which is promoted by the Peregrine group who are the owners of Malala and the Bend Motorsport park. The Sporting Car Club of South Australia that has traditionally promoted the South Australian Racing Championship will now move two more of an officiating capacity with the new series. This has delivered cheaper racing costs to all South Australian competitors. With this SA has also been given two grids for Masters and Trophy Series at all events.

**Victoria :** Victoria is still working on their calendar on dates with the promoters. Vic Enduro and SA Enduro share the same date at this point in time. This was explained to a lot of events in November including Adelaide 500. Victoria like SA will have two grids for Masters and Trophy Series

**Tasmania**: Has held their AGM with a new President appointed. Tasmania will have 6 rounds in 2024, two 1-day events and the other being 2-day events. Excels will be a part of Race Tasmania again with this being at Symmons Plains. Also looking at an Enduro in 2024 so all other States are welcome.

**NSW: T**he racing season is now over in New South Wales and currently eligibility checks are being performed on selected cars. AGM has been conducted and the majority of the committee has been returned along with a few new faces bringing new ideas.

NSW are still struggling with tracks and only are using Sydney Motorsport Park. This can be put into different configurations / circuits. This year the club used Winton to add some variety and may look at doing that in 2024 and hoping that Wakefield Park will come back on stream. Looking at having an Enduro at Wakefield Park later in 2024.

**QLD:** Queensland have also had their AGM with the majority of the committee remaining and a couple of new faces one being the Vice President.

Queensland are also moving to a new promoter for their race series in 2024. This will be the circuits themselves, this being Warrick District Car Club for Morgan Park and Queensland Raceway. Calendar has just been finalised with 5 rounds. Qld now have a committee member that will focus on promoting competitors racing interstate.

**NT:** NT has wrapped up their racing due to the wet season. Still trying to finalise calendar and working with Motorsport NT on this. Looking at the possibility of an event mid-year that they would like to see interstaters come up for particularly from SA. There may be the possibility with Supercars again in 2024, more info to come. The question was asked how will NT get their Tyres? SA Delegate with will work with Wildan13 and the NT Delegate to secure supply.

Discussion then moved towards the age of the Masters competition in each State being:

Victoria: Over 40 years for Masters

NSW: Over 45 years for Masters

SA: Over 30 years for Masters

QLD Over 35 years for Masters

**Driving Standards Document / Demerit point system:** CERA is looking at putting this in place for the Dunlop Destiny Program. The methodology behind using this for the Destiny programme to introduce it so as competitors move up in Motorsport this style of driving standards documentation is used along with the suggested penalty systems. Toyota 86 and Porche use a very similar system. CERA has received feedback from Promoters about a perceived driving standards issues about the category hence the need to have an agreed National system.

The intent will be to run / trial it with the Dunlop Destiny Series in 2024 and the end goal would be to come to an agreement with all states and roll it out nationally in 2025. Feedback from MA is that if the category has an agreed Driving Standards document / set of rules in place this can be then given to the Officials at an event to use the penalties within the document. CERA must get feedback from the clubs.

There will be a set of Sporting Regulations produced new year for the Dunlop Destiny Series which will be distributed to Delegates and MA.

President thanked all Delegates and volunteers for their work and efforts during 2024 and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

1. Adjournment

John Broadbent adjourned the meeting at 20:10 AEST Minutes submitted by: Andrew Young