



# ***Circuit Excel Racing Association Inc***

## ***AGM***

### ***Meeting Minutes***

24/01/2024 19:00 AEST Meeting held via Zoom conference call

#### **I. Call to order**

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

#### **II. Roll call**

Roll call conducted. The following persons were present: John Broadbent (President), Andrew Young (Secretary), Shannon Williams Treasurer, Shane Beikoff (Technical), Andrew Hobby, Cameron Charnley, Brett Sheriff, Linda Mrnjavac, Dale Carpenter and, Brian Sciberras.

#### **III. Approval of minutes from 2022 AGM.**

Approved by Shannon Williams, Seconded by Linda Mrnjavac

**Presidents Report:** The President acknowledged the Management team that got the category to Bathurst with the event being a great success. The events team was Andrew Young, Shannon Williams, Nicole Williams, Shane Beikoff and Jonathan Beikoff, so many thanks for their efforts at this event. Craig Baird for taking on the DSO Role was also acknowledged and thanked in making time to be part of this event and part of our category. President whilst at Bathurst met with Ken Collier and Liam Kirkpatrick from ARG. Both fed back how good the category looked both on and off the track and expressed there will be possibilities in the future for the category to work with ARG.

In early February we became aware that they was going to be a supply issue of the Federal control tyre and was confirmed by the local Suppliers being NETA and Exclusive Tyres. Both Suppliers confirmed that Federal will be no longer producing certain tyres that the category uses and other tyres will go out of production for 12 months. CERA in an effort to find an interim solution for 2023 contacted several tyre manufactures and decided to go with Dunlop due to their ability to supply a large amount of tyres in a small time frame. We also had feedback that Excels had competed on this particular tyre in QLD in the past and this tyre worked well in this application.



CERA then worked on producing a tyre tender document and a Tyre tender took place with 8 manufacturers responding to the tender. After following processes set down by Fair Trading and Motorsports Australia a tyre tender evaluation was completed. The outcome was Wildan 13 was awarded as the successful tenderer from the outcome with the tyre being the Dunlop tyre. A contract was set up and signed with Wildan 13. We also received good feedback from competitors with the Dunlop tyre when it was the interim solution and within the tender was one of the cheapest tyres.

President spoke about from his perspective that a constant over the year had been assisting clubs dealing with local issues. The President is happy to take issues to Motorsport Australia to assist clubs but does not want to get involved in internal club politics and committee issues. Clubs need to sort out their own issues at a local level, CERA should not be dragged into local state politics. The states must accept responsibility for their own clubs which intern transpires to, they must look after their membership base. This is covering issues such ensuring that racing is cost effective and that competitors are able to access the required track time at race meetings. The President stated that all clubs must into the future have a DSA and an Eligibility Officer at all race meetings. All must invest their funds to ensure that these two key roles are performed. It was emphasised that clubs must take on the responsibility to ensure that all cars competing are compliant to the rules.

President also spoke about the need to keep the category affordable to ensure its future success. We have seen in the past where other categories have not controlled this and this has led to diminishing numbers.

In 2024 we will be able to showcase the category with the Dunlop Destiny Series. At this point in time there will be more details to come into the future along with the end outcome of the Dunlop Destiny program.

It is recognised that we are an entry level category and therefore we will have young competitors coming through the category. We are all aware that in some cases they can be a handful and are naive, but part of our responsibility is to educate them and guide them along their Motorsport journey. We all look forward to seeing a young competitor progress through the ranks and stand on the podium of a Supercars event.

In closing the President thanked all of the CERA committee for their work in 2023. The President thanked Shannon Williams as the Treasurer, Andrew Young as the Secretary and Shane Beikoff as the Technical Delegate of the category. The President wished all the best for 2024 and hoped that the challenges of 2023 would not reappear.

**IV. Secretaries report:** The main role of the Secretary this year once again has been to coordinate the monthly General meetings, preparing the agenda and producing the minutes from those meetings. Part of the role is also maintaining the CERA website with ongoing additions and changes such as adding approved minutes end links for new regulations.

The start of the 2023 was an extremely busy time including the Christmas and New Year break due to the fact that we had another Bathurst event to roll out after getting the go ahead in late 2022. The role of the Secretary here was to sign off the event contract and work with Marquee suppliers along with the Bathurst Paddock Manager. This then extended to compiling of all the competitors entry forms, creating spreadsheet of competitors details for ARG, organising the competitive accreditations and car park passes, setting up of a cloud drive of competitive details for the Race Secretary to be able to access and then passing on all the information from ARG to the competitor base and managers. We also worked with Timetronics to pass on race numbers and to organise the hire of Dorian timing devices to those that require them. Also, part of this role was to work with Race Fuels to ensure that all competitors had an account and were able to access fuel at the event. From this then the Secretary took on the role as the Category Manager as all the background work had been completed.

There were also regular communications and emails with Supashock particularly in the first half of the year. The second half of the year seemed to settle down once Supashock were able to source the required materials and resources to build up a stock of controlled suspension. This followed the same trend as the previous year with stock on the shelf available by the end of the year.

In the third quarter of the year, we started negotiations with the Supashock to look at the possibility of an extension of this supply of the control suspension. After a lot of toing and throwing with feedback from CERA and Supashock a new contract was signed off in November that goes to the end of 2027. Supashock will continue with the purchase code system to ensure that CERA affiliated Excel state clubs member get the required supply at the contract price.

As previously discussed by the President we had to go through a tender process. The tender was advertised in the Auto Action magazine and on their website. Once all of the responses were received from the companies that replied to the tender all of their information was put on a secured cloud drive. The next step in this process was to create a non-disclosure agreement that all delegates and representatives would have to sign off before getting access to the secured cloud drive as many of the tenders did not want their information and intellectual property shared to the open public. An evaluation spreadsheet was developed which help to pick apart the individual tender responses and to score them against the criteria. As has already been covered the Dunlop Destiny Series planning is underway and an Events team have set up to run the three-round series.



Once again CERA continued the Management liability insurance, so the paperwork has been completed for that.

Secretary reached out to thank all CERA delegates for the help getting information out, especially all the State Secretaries. 2023 was a far more successful year in getting information out to the competitors and the Secretary found that there was far less communications from individual members to the National Secretary.

Secretary thanked and acknowledged Nicole Williams for the setting up of the CERA Facebook site which has also assisted in the information outflow. This has assisted CERA but also the States clubs in the promotion of local events. All were reminded that CERA will not use Facebook as the official communications medium and we would still be sticking with the traditional information outflow via emails to club secretaries and CERA website.

Secretary also thank Shannon Williams for taking on the role of Treasurer in 2023. After performing the dual role of Secretary and Treasurer in 2022 it was great to have the support of Shannon taking on this role. It was also acknowledged that due to Bathurst created quite a bit of work for the treasurer due to the many transactions from the 55 competitors that took part in the event.

Secretary also thanked the President, the Treasurer and Technical Delegate in their support of the Secretary in 2023.

- V. Treasurer report:** The Treasurer started by thanking the President, the Secretary and the Technical Delegate in their support of him taking on this role. This was the first time that he had taken on this role within a club structure and there was a lot of learnings required. Initially there was a lot of chasing up to set up the required banking applications and bank access required for being the Treasurer.

The Treasurer recognised the work in particular of the Technical Delegate with wisdom and experience to lead the category in the right direction. What needs to be acknowledged is the amount of time and effort that this gentleman puts into the category which is not seen or recognised by many within the category. It was stated that at times there is unfair criticism of the Technical Delegate who approaches the role in an extremely professional and thorough manner and this must be recognised.

The Treasurer also thanked the states for their support with the financial contributions of the required payment of \$500 as necessary, but into the future this payment will not be required with the flow of money from the Dunlop contract.

As stated by the Secretary the Bathurst event created a huge number of transactions within the bank account and a lot of work for the Treasurer who had to issue receipts for all payments. Treasurer then also with this event obviously had to deal with payments to ARG and the marquee suppliers.



Once again on-going expenses are:

- CERA Website and hosting
- R & D work with gearbox replacement components and independent testing of Supashock dampers
- CERA Emails and hosting
- Management Liability Insurance
- Cost for Incorporating Association with Consumer Affairs Victoria
- Transportation costs for goods out to clubs
- The purchase of mini cable seals
- Motorsport Australia affiliation

At the start of 2023 CERA Bank account was \$1122.22 and then by the end of the year the account had \$106,275.60. This was due to the incoming funds of competitor payments for the Bathurst event. Since the start of the 2024 further payments have been made being:

- \$6,912.00 for Bathurst Marquee Deposit
- \$55,000.00 to ARG for final category payment for Bathurst.

As incomings we have also received \$20,000 from Dunlop so the current balance of this year account is \$68,263.63. It was also noted that there will be further expenses needing to come out of the account to cover Bathurst costs .e.g. Accommodation, Transport of volunteers, food / drinks, DSA and consumables.

Into the future there will be some cash float left due to the incoming money from Dunlop and this can be used to help reduce costs for the competitor and keep racing affordable. It is also good to have a cash float there to run the category so that CERA does not have to reach out to the states for financial input to run the category at a national level.

**VI. Nomination Of Positions:** all the committee positions at this stage were dissolved and the past Secretary was asked to state the nominations received for 2024.

Only 4 States submitted nominations. The following nominations received by the Secretary and presented:

- Nomination 1 Western Australia: John Broadbent as President, Andrew Young as Secretary and Shannon Williams as Treasurer.
- Nomination 2 New South Wales: John Broadbent as President, Andrew Young as Secretary and Shannon Williams as Treasurer.
- Nomination 3 South Australia: John Broadbent as President, Andrew Young as Secretary and Shannon Williams as Treasurer.
- Nomination 3 Victoria: Andrew Young as Secretary and Shannon Williams as Treasurer.

Victoria also nominated Tim Rowse as Vice President. Unfortunately, this nomination was not possible as there is no Vice President position within the CERA constitution.

- John Broadbent accepted the role of President
- Andrew Young accepted the role of Secretary
- Shannon Williams accepted the role of Treasurer

No objections to the nominations so the positions are carried.

**VII. Nomination of Technical Delegate:** The President nominated Shane Beikoff as the Technical Delegate. Accepted by NSW, WA, Qld, SA. Victoria did not have discussions at committee level, so response was given. It was noted that Tasmania was absent from the vote but with 4 acceptances the vote and motion was carried. Shane Beikoff accepted the position.

**VIII. Goals into the future from the President:** President asked all Delegates to go back to local club / states and committees with a proposal to allow two Delegates per state to be part of the CERA committee. This would still not change the fact that when voting each state only gets one vote and having two delegates will not affect this. The idea to have multiple Delegates is to help share the workload over a greater number of personnel and allow others to contribute. This would also allow multiple people from the one state to be part of the CERA Executive committee. Please feedback to Secretary within two weeks via email.

President thanked the clubs that nominated him for the position.

## **IX. Adjournment**

John Broadbent adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm AEST.

Minutes submitted by: Andrew Young