

# 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the FVAA Board of Management

## Final Minutes

Teleconference, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2008

Commenced 6.00pm WAT, closed 8.10pm WAT

### Present:

- Scott Wythe – President, Mark Mitchell – VIC, Ian Chivas – NSW, Greg Hepburn – NTD, Derek Burns – WA, Tom Cameron – Qld

### Apologies:

- Ben Rebbeck – SA, Pip Welch – TAS

### Item 1 – Introductions and Action Item Review

- SW welcomed the Directors and noted apologies. The teleconference was held via Skype for the first time at no cost to the FVAA. The minutes note that while some technical and sound quality issues occurred, the medium was successful.
- See Action Item table below for details of review of previous Action Items.

### Item 2 – Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2008 were passed as a true and accurate record of the meeting (TC/DB).

### Item 3 – Finance Report

- SW noted that the current FVAA balance was \$8,383 with significant liabilities including \$1,750 annual web page costs, \$1,500 for marketing assistance due in August and \$2,000 for the CAMS National Series. Approximately \$1,000 was owed to the FVAA by the State Associations for the rocker lift jigs and restrictor plates.
- SW raised the likely need for a capitation fee increase for all the State Associations. TC proposed an increase from \$25/member to \$30. IC seconded, all agreed. Motion passed. MM noted though that he thought this increase was too light. **Refer to Action Item 36.**
- GH noted that there were only 1500 seals left and that this was likely to last another 18 months. The seals need to be ordered in batches of 10,000 which would lead to another \$5-6k liability during this period. He also noted that the FVAA needs to have a budget to properly manage its financial affairs. **Refer to Action Item 37.**
- MM raised the prospect of State Associations sharing the costs of the marketing broker. DB was against this as he saw little benefit for WA.
- IC and TC noted that the States may need to contribute revenue to the FVAA but that the Board should await the outcome of the current marketing process.

#### **Item 4 – Fuel**

- SW stated that the request for a change to the fuel regulations as passed at the last Board Meeting had been submitted to CAMS. He stated that after recent discussions with CAMS, the bulletin which had been issued relating to pump fuel being required for the National Series only had been issued in error and would be amended. The introduction date was proposed as 15<sup>th</sup> September to reasonably fit into the various State calendars.
- Subsequent to this Board Meeting, CAMS issued an amended bulletin which did not mention 'no additives allowed' and had an implementation date of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008. This error was again highlighted to CAMS and following complaints from several states about the lack of lead time for the regulation change due to the on-going CAMS errors, the introduction date was requested to be changed to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

#### **Item 4 – Tyres**

- SW explained that following the issuing of the letter to AR, subsequent verbal communications had been received by Fred Cooper only, stating disappointment in the intentions of the FVAA and highlighting that there was still one year remaining in the original 5 year agreement. AR proposed to conduct further wear testing on the set of tyres which the FVAA conducted tests on earlier in the year which showed wear rates of 300km maximum wear. Tests proposed by a competitor at a NSW race meeting did not eventuate.
- SW asked Fred to come back to the FVAA with the best price available given the significant change in the exchange rate since the agreement was signed. Fred noted that the high oil price had increased the manufacturing and freight costs and that \$660 per set including freight and GST was the best price that could be offered for new tyre imports.
- SW proposed a two pronged strategy to move forward. Firstly that the FVAA move forward with the tyre tender process with the date of implementation being the date after the current AR agreement finished ie. 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Secondly that the FVAA pursue the previously tested tyre and get further State based testing done in order to get the new tyres into use and provide some income to the FVAA until a new tyre arrangement can be put into place.
- IC opposed further testing unless AR could come up with another more suitable tyre. He stated that none of the tyres this year would be suitable for the Associations needs and that further significant sales of ARs were unlikely due to the poor reputation they had earned amongst the competitors. He favoured moving quickly to the tender process.
- GH noted that there were still several sets of the old tyres in stock that would take time to move. MM agreed that in the short term the FVAA could continue to pursue the AR tyres previously tested but noted that very few competitors in Vic use them. DB agreed to pursue the ARs but noted that only 3-4 sets were likely to be sold in WA. TC agreed that it was important to move ahead with the tender process.
- IC noted that as per the agreement we needed to nominate a minimum order of any new tyres from AR and that this was risky. DB stated that the minimum was 15 sets at a time. All agreed that this was a significant financial risk for the FVAA if AR were not the successful tenderer from 20<sup>th</sup> July next year, and that having a changeover period where 3 makes of tyres were permissible was not desirable. It

was agreed that the FVAA would not pursue further any of the tyres supplied to date by AR for further testing or review as they were not adequate. It was also agreed that the FVAA would consider any new tyres proposed by AR until the end of the agreement period next year. All agreed to get the tender process underway as soon as possible (IC/DB). **Refer to Action Item 38.**

### **Item 5 – Marketing**

- SW noted that the arrangement had commenced yesterday with Colin Manie. SW had discussed this today with Colin who was pursuing several avenues but had yet to have any substantial leads, although he had just arrived back from an overseas trip.
- DB stated that WA were pursuing a potential local sponsor who could be a candidate for national sponsorship. If this became the case DB asked if WA could retain its original sponsorship amount. IC did not think this would be possible, and SW suggested that they be put in touch with Colin Manie to pursue this further. DB thought this was too early at this stage, but SW emphasised that we should use Colin as a professional resource for the three months the FVAA had hired his services for.

### **Item 6 – 2008 Nationals**

- MM noted that a call for expressions of interest had been placed on the website and there has been EOIs of about the mid thirties with only one Victorian entrant at this stage which showed strong support. MM will contact each State Secretary to firm up these numbers.
- Winton had agreed to the standard Nationals format and discussions were being held with the HQs regarding mutual benefits in off track events and arrangements.

### **Item 7 – National Series**

- IC updated the Board on the first round held at Phillip Island. There were 35 entries with 33 participants – 14 NSW, 14 Vic, 5 SA, 1 Tas, 1 Qld. The event made a modest profit of \$110.
- IC noted that for Oran Park, 45 cars were entered with 20 confirmed at this stage. 32-34 cars were expected to run. 2 Qld, 2 Vic and 2 SA entrants had been confirmed. DB queried the costs with this number and IC stated that it would be close to break even or slightly down.
- IC updated Bathurst numbers with 55 cars confirmed, with 2 others waiting on deposits and 2 more interested.
- DB asked when the next payment was due and IC confirmed it was late September.
- IC noted that for Phillip Island Vic had supplied only 14 cars which was less than the minimum agreed for each State to supply for their rounds. MM disputed this interpretation of liability and his understanding was that this would only be invoked if the round made a loss. He would investigate this further and report back to the Board. **Refer to Action Item 39.**
- In absentia BR asked that communication of State requirements for National Series rounds be made clearly. IC noted that requirements had been discussed and these discussions were on-going.

- GH noted that SA needed to organise flights and accommodation for the Technical Director. **Refer to Action Item 40.**

### **Item 8 – Election of Public Officer**

- SW explained that the current FVAA Public Officer, Graham Best had signalled his intention to resign and that the FVAA had a responsibility to nominate a new Public Officer who needed to be resident in SA. In absentia, BR nominated John Hall. MM seconded, all agreed. Motion passed. **Refer to Action Item 41.**

### **Item 9 – Minimum Age Proposal**

- MM tabled a proposal to reduce the minimum age of competitors to encourage younger drivers into the category.
- IC noted that the issue had arisen previously and that the NSW Dept of Sport and Recreation does not permit it.
- GH stated that there had been considerable difficulty encountered by Speedway Australia in reducing the minimum age of their competitors from 18 to 16 and that this was unlikely to be allowed in NSW. However other States should be free to pursue this if they desired according to their State regulations.
- DB stated that WA had discussed this at their last GM and that they had reservations and were unlikely to pursue it.
- TC stated that 10 years ago Qld had pursued this but there were problems with Qld Transport with the requirement to have only licensed drivers allowed to drive cars in the pits.
- It was agreed that States could pursue this if desired but that the FVAA would not support a national push at this stage.

### **Item 10 – Technical Report**

- GH noted that the Phillip Island National Series round scrutineering had gone well but that the layout prevented as many checks as he would have liked. GH noted that fuel testing carried out had shown no anomalies, with two competitors using Avgas and one using 98 pump fuel.
- The Sealing Card system was in hand in NSW and was running in other states with no significant issues at present.
- GH would produce a checklist of items for State Technical Directors to use for eligibility scrutineering. **Refer to Action Item 42.**
- The Technical Manual update and parts recognition document would be combined and commenced later in the year. Each State would be required to contribute and do sections as appropriate.
- Once the Technical Manual is done focus would be on parts sustainability for the future.
- GH noted that there were now unmarked aftermarket cranks in VW boxes in NSW which were underweight and that the Brazilian cranks were no longer available. GH also noted that a new H beam had been produced in NSW made out of chrome moly and could be considered as a future replacement part. It is being sold for \$600 + bearings but is likely to be at least as strong as those currently in use.

## Item 11 – Other Business

- IC noted that there was an aftermarket aluminium gear selector housing now available which was identical to that currently used which should be considered, although it did not have a VW stamp. GH stated he would get something written up and pursue this through the NTC.
- DB stated that the WA AGM was coming up and the FVAWA was looking to update its constitution and asked if any other States could forward theirs for reference. NSW and Vic noted theirs were not that modern but that they could be sent anyway. **Refer to Action Item 43.**
- IC asked whether a deciding vote can be cast if votes end up tied 3-3 to assist in speeding up the decision making process. TC noted that if a vote was tied it was decided in the negative at present and could go back to the proposer for further review. This would not be applicable for constitutional changes. It was agreed that this arrangement had been working of late and should stand.
- DB noted that he had tried to contact Drew Curnow in Darwin when last their on business and would continue to try to catch up whenever possible.
- IC asked whether the frequency of Board meetings could be increased with the success of Skype. TC proposed monthly meetings. IC seconded and all agreed. It was agreed to set the meeting day as the second Monday of every month with the next meeting set for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.
- GH requested that any items proposed by the NTC which are rejected by the Board be sent back to the NTC with an explanation as to why. DB stated that this should be what occurs and all agreed to ensure this happens in future. IC noted the need for State Technical Directors to have good communication with their Board member.

## Action Item List

<b>Action Item #</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Actionee</b>	<b>Raised</b>	<b>Due</b>
8	<b>Provide a briefing on the advantages and disadvantages of both AASA and CAMS and the implications for FVee.</b> No further progress. MM noted this was in relation to the Nationals particularly with the FVAV preferring to run at Winton under a CAMS permit but costs are still being investigated. MM to report back to Board.	MM	28 <sup>th</sup> Aug 07	Next Meeting
26	<b>Implement Sealer Accreditation System.</b> List of Sealers to be approved by BOM	GH	20/2/08	Completed
31	<b>Chase Shantui Lishide Oran Park TV sponsorship payment and report back to BoM.</b> No further progress at this time although IC is furthering discussions with parties involved.	IC	22/5/08	Next Meeting
36	<b>Capitation Fees to be charged to State Associations at \$30/member. Invoices to be sent out once numbers supplied. All Directors to supply SW with State Member numbers</b>	All	12/8/08	Next Meeting
37	<b>FVAA budget to be drafted.</b>	SW	12/8/08	Nov 08
38	<b>AR to be informed that FVAA would be commencing the tender process with a view to a new contract commencing at the completion of the current agreement with AR on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009.</b>	SW	12/8/08	Next Meeting
39	<b>Investigate Vic interpretation of National Series State specific minimum commitments and subsequent liability and report to Board</b>	MM	12/8/08	Next Meeting
40	<b>Organise flights and accommodation for GH for Mallala National Series round</b>	BR	12/8/08	Next Meeting
41	<b>Public Officer forms to be completed and submitted to the SA Consumer Commission</b>	BR	12/8/08	Next Meeting
42	<b>Produce eligibility scrutineering checklist for STD use</b>	GH	12/8/08	Next Meeting
43	<b>States to forward copies of their constitutions to WA for reference as appropriate</b>	All	12/8/08	Next Meeting