



# NATIONAL AUTOGRASS SPORT ASSOCIATION LTD.

MINUTES OF THE CHAIRMAN'S MEETING HELD Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2013

AT THE TRAVELODGE, BIRMINGHAM ROAD, WALSALL AT 11.00 AM

| League | Name                | attended | NASA (MA) |                      |
|--------|---------------------|----------|-----------|----------------------|
| 1      | Nicholas Clarke     | Yes      | NASA (BH) | Margaret Allen       |
| 2      | Darren Mabey        | Yes      | NASA (DT) | Barbara Harper       |
| 4      | Manfred Kampschulte | No       | NASA (DH) | Diane Tomkinson      |
| 5      | Mark Hoppe          | Yes      | NASA (MB) | Don Hilton           |
| 6      | Anthony Griffiths   | Yes      | NASA (SB) | Maureen Boyd         |
| 7      | Andrew English      | Yes      | NASA (PP) | Simon Bentley        |
| 9      | Malcolm Cooper      | Yes      |           | Pat Patrick          |
| 10     | Mark Grice          | Yes      | Visitor   | Pat Ashley           |
| 11     | Richard Crowther    | Yes      | Visitor   | Lynn Cooper          |
| 12     | John Lawson         | Yes      | Visitor   | Kenneth Beals        |
| 13     | Joan Bevans.        | Yes      | Visitor   | Paul Glover          |
| 14     | Jeffrey Parish      | Yes      | Visitor   | Steve Walford        |
| 15     | Ernie Ashley        | Yes      | Visitor   | Andrea Boengen       |
| 16     | Peter West          | Yes      | Visitor   | Rachel Hinton        |
| 18     | Derek Linch         | Yes      | Visitor   | Dave & Sue Mansfield |
| 19     | Mark Johnston       | No       | Visitor   | Tim Clancy           |
| 21     | John Haffey         | No       | Visitor   | Daryl Smart          |
| 22     | Simon Jackson       | Yes      | Visitor   | Mark & Matt Booth    |
| 23     | Eamonn Sheehy       | No       | Visitor   | Vicky Napier         |
| 24     | Carole Shaw         | Yes      | Visitor   | Peter Hackett        |
| 25     | Keith Matthews      | Yes      |           |                      |

Meeting Chaired by: Don Hilton

Start Time 11.08m

- Don Hilton opened the meeting and advised at future meetings he wanted all delegates to be at the front only. K Matthews asked for a table lay out. D Hilton also reminded everyone to send correspondence to D Tomkinson 2 weeks prior to meeting. D Hilton asked if anyone had any objections to K Matthews being the vice chairman – no objections. D Hilton said the Agenda had been changed due to a request from the chairman the Treasurers report and Membership report would be at the start so those directors could leave. Also the Directors report would come towards the end however in view of some of the items today D Hilton felt the director's report would need to be earlier.

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- **Apologies** :- P Haines

- **Minutes of Meeting 13.10.12** :-

P.3 D Hilton advised that the case regarding the Star Bas and beer tent damage had been closed no culprits found. J Parish advised that Don Colquhoun was home now but still not fit to work. P West asked if neck braces were going to be compulsory like arm restraints? S Bentley said they are strongly recommended but not compulsory. Discussion took place if making neck braces compulsory could you be liable if there was an incident. P West asked would they not be liable for making window nets/arm restraints compulsory. J Parish said not really as we were only following best practise in other forms of motorsport. M Cooper suggested if neck braces are made compulsory then look into helmets too don't have people drilling helmets to fit a Hans device for eg. M Hoppe asked for clarification on boundaries.

- **Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting 13.10.12** – proposed P West seconded M Grice

- **Treasurers Report** :-

M Allen Confirmed £37,571.95 Current Account £36,562.89 Deposit Account

M Allen confirmed that the first instalment for the insurance had been paid and so had fixture books and rule books. Day Licence books would now be £50 (was £35). A Griffiths asked why clubs had not been informed at the AGM of the increase. M Allen said that clubs could still charge what they wanted for day licences but there had not been a price increase for many years. Four people were still claiming PA insurance and would not be eligible for a licence Sarah Johnston, Don Colquhoun, Keith Featherstone & Ron Bevan. M Allen asked people to remember their names and not give them day licences either. To try and prevent people racing whilst claiming PA Insurance M Allen will not issue a claim form until the driver returns their licence. L Cooper asked if an adult had their licence taken off them how could they be responsible for a minor in the pits B Harper said they will have to find someone else. M Allen had spare day licence books if anyone needed.

- **Membership/Licence Report**

M Cooper asked how many race meetings a national champ had to race before the cut off date to be eligible to defend their title. B Harper said that she would expect at least 2 meetings, however if the weather was bad and lots of meetings cancelled she would review and possible 1 meeting would be okay.

B Harper said 1710 licences had been processed so far this year which is up on last year this time last year was 1592. This did not necessarily mean membership was up over all. B Harper said the Gloucester club were not using the correct consent forms and no licence can be issued with the wrong one. B Harper reminded everyone to put the correct postage on licence applications and also when returning signing on sheets, and to remember the signing on sheets must be returned within 7 days after the race meeting. M Hoppe asked if the J needed to be used on Junior Specials. B Harper said no this was disbanded a while ago. M Hoppe said some people were receiving licences with the J on them.

- **Directors Report :- (given by Simon Bentley)**

S Bentley asked if they still wanted the report to be delivered by him/Director or just send the report with Don. K Matthews felt it was best delivered by a Director so questions could be asked there and then.

S Bentley confirmed that cancellation insurance was available for any club/event. M Allen had policy documents available for everyone this weekend. Any queries direct them to M Allen. If anyone wishes to cancel a meeting and claim on the insurance this can only be done if a Director cancels the meeting. J Bevan

asked which director? S Bentley said any director the one that is nearest to come and view the situation. Reason is so clubs can't just think it's wet lets cancel if we claim we will get more money back than trying to run.

Disciplinary against Neil & Zack Booth has been rescinded due to procedure not been followed, & questioned by N Booth the board had taken legal advice and the options were 1) rescind the ban 2) arrange a deal 3) start the procedure again. The board have opted to start again. A Griffiths asked what had gone wrong. S Bentley said the appeal had not been arranged within the time scale. The board had now elected Jeffrey Parish to oversee all procedures were followed correctly. A Griffiths asked if they try to join their club do they refuse. J Parish thought so but could well be stopped with NASA, M Grice said he thought abuse to an official meant licence revoked. P Patrick pointed out N Booth refused to attend 2nd appeal. P West said he was only involved 2 weeks ago and agreed it S Bentley that N Booth does not deny that verbal abuse and attempted assault to S Bentley, N Booth just wants S Bentleys 'head on a stick', and would he get a fair appeal as the board are the same. S Bentley confirmed that there was new board members that would oversee and M Allen was absent from original one. D Hilton confirmed that a piece of correspondence from CGTRO was in connection with this so was now with the board and could be discussed after the appeals. M Cooper asked if one of the problems was Z Booth was approached to seal his car just after coming off the track without the parent there? Whilst M Cooper did not condone N Booths actions maybe this should not have happened.

S Bentley confirmed the Solicitor had advised that the yes/no voting at the AGM should have been done with 21 days notice and as such the AGM was not correct, however the board felt as this was how the delegates wanted it in order to move things forward they would oversee this issue.

M Hoppe asked if D Atkins appeal was to be dealt with; M Boyd said the correspondence was not received in time for the last directors meeting so will be discussed next time. M Hoppe said D Atkins had not received an acknowledgement that his letter had been received.

J Parish said the procedures needed sorting ie at the first hearing you should be present and bring witness statements? This was been looked into.

S Bentley said at present the appeals have to be dealt with what is in place.

P West said that N Booth admits to everything, however wants a fair hearing.

J Parish confirmed that N Booth had received a letter giving 14days to provide his statement.

K Matthews asked if it was right they had to give 21 days that they wanted a yes/no vote at the AGM. N Clarke said his league wanted the yes/no vote so people didn't just get voted in because no one was standing. S Bentley said the articles of association would need to be changed. S Bentley suggested this option should be taken back to the leagues to get there feeling. K Matthews said that is why there were there to put forward there leagues decisions, S Bentley said not everyone could know there leagues views? A English said he could not comment on behalf of his league has he has not discussed it with them, he could give his personal opinion but not his leagues, he also pointed out that too often members don't feel they are listened to therefore this should go back to them to ask what they think. M Hoppe said this is why anything takes too long to be dealt with, its discussed taken back to leagues vote at next meeting, then taken to directors and just seems long process. D Tomkinson said if K Matthews had put this subject on the Agenda you would have time to discuss this at league and a decision/vote could have taken place today. A Griffiths asked if the voting out of lance was legal S Bentley said no but the board have decided for stability to move on.

S Bentley said they have wrote to T Williams with regards co-opting on as the board had some reservations P West said he had print outs of the letter and T Williams answers (passed round the room). M Allen said the board had discussed moving the stand at the NEC and T Williams aware but yet the plan came and it was in the same place? Also it was T Williams decision to step down from doing the NEC S Bentley said the only

reason the letter was issued because T Williams was invited to the board meeting but refused to discuss anything.

S Bentley said that D Hilton had asked for the NASA trailer and was refused. J Bevan said a lot of the letter/problems seemed to be related to the NEC show but should we not look at what T Williams done in the past. D Hilton said so often the board are told to run the business but in view of recent events would it be right to have someone working with them like that? M Cooper said that could apply to many of the board. S Bentley said that T Williams arranged for 3 extra autograss cars to be at the show which were all by the same builder, which caused trouble amongst other autograss builders, and also other autograss cars on the list to be at the NEC. M Cooper said he was asked by the promoters to take his 3 cars, and didn't feel that was 'NASAs business. K Matthews asked how long had T Williams been a director, S Bentley said 8 yrs. K Matthews asked if this was just a clash of personalities. M Allen said no T Williams has clashed with directors before. The board would be discussing further.

S Bentley said it had been publicised numerous times there would not be any rule changes in 2013 however the rule books came back from the printers with 6 pages of rule changes. S Bentley confirmed the board knew nothing about this. The board have discussed the rule changes with D Hardy and most of them have been deemed as clarifications. The rules that are not to be followed will be advised to all delegates with these minutes.

E Ashley asked why the books weren't proof read, S Bentley said they didn't proof read as there wasn't supposed to be any changes to proof read. M Hoppe asked who sent to the printers S Bentley said Gareth Jones and Gareth writes the book. M Hoppe asked if the cost of printing has gone up due to extra pages M Allen said no. M Cooper asked who the director was in charge of scrutineering, S Bentley said D Hardy. S Bentley said for eg on rule said the class 1 pump could only be purchased from BP Grassing this should have read a part number anyone should be able to sell it. The bulk head rule reads wrong, also the rule regarding the fly by wire. S Bentley said all rules should come to the board to clarify and make sure that the rules are worded correctly before anything goes in the book. In view of this there will be no rule changes until 2014 at the earliest. M Grice asked if anyone was been punished for this error, M Cooper suggested D Hardy come into the room to give answers.

#### Directors roles

P Patrick - Event Permits

M Allen & S Bentley- Insurance

D Hardy P Patrick and D Hilton - Disciplinary

D Hardy - Scrutineers

B Harper - Nationals and Membership

J Parish & M Boyd - by laws & living with NASA Nationals File

J Parish Procedures & Fixture Books

S Bentley - Chairman/Director co-coordinator

P Patrick & J Parish - Nationals 2014

S Bentley & V Mackenzie - Nationals 2013

V Mackenzie S Bentley & D Tomkinson - NEC 2014

V Mackenzie - Marshals

K Matthews suggested directors should not x over into other departments. M Hoppe said this did not say what their role was within these sections. B Harper said she would arrange for that to be done.

S Bentley said on the whole the new under 18s consents were been filled out correctly

The Toyota yaris would be introduced into class 1 in 2014. J Bevan said she understood the scrutineers voted

it out S Bentley said that D Hardy told the board to introduce it.

D Hilton asked if a director not in charge of scrutineering witnessed something been done wrong what is he supposed to do A Griffiths said the director should approach the chairman of the day to resolve it. M Hoppe said at present its felt that S Bentley has 'his fingers in every pie' D Mansfield said you shouldn't have chiefs in charge of areas of they are going to be over ruled let them do their jobs. D Smart said that because S Bentley was at many meetings people do approach him and get him involved in situations.

S Bentley confirmed only 1 delegate can vote at meetings J Parish said this applied to some leagues that have joint scrutineers or joint chairman. J Bevan asked if it was still okay to send someone if the delegate can't attend M Boyd said yes as long as they bring confirmation that is the case. S Bentley advised the board had met with P Waldron & W Beatty to discuss what plans they had in place for the UKAC rounds. There will be no registration fees, the signing on fee will go to the host club the sponsorship will be paying for admin costs.

Causeway would be having a new track with a left hand bend at the moment the board had only seen plans and photos but someone would visit shortly.

The board are supporting PAC with their new track and planning permission. J Bevan reported they have a meeting with the council in March.

Former WASA league club NR is now with Gloucester and Penhow are with West Wales league on a 2 yr period with an exit clause.

#### **Correspondence: -**

- \* Booth - previously discussed
- \* N Western letter re Junior Special under weight.

D Hilton said that regarding the Junior Special whilst he felt for those involved surely this needs putting behind us and we need to move on and learn from what happened. M Cooper said he didn't feel some of the questions in the letter had not been answered. E Ashley said the scales were not calibrated and was not weighed when the guardian was with the junior. M Cooper said that J Gibbons had been punished for his car being illegal which affected his BAS & Nationals and yet nothing has happened here. S Bentley said the board received confirmation from D Hardy the car was signed off as legal. M Hoppe said it was okay to say lessons learnt but what would be in place to ensure it doesn't happen again. D Hilton said he would make sure D Hardy publicised what the process would be. M Booth asked how the decision can stand that the car is legal when a director changed the rules on the day regarding the weight limit. S Bentley said if the car was illegal why did the chief scrutineer allow it to race, and why did he not re weigh the car. The chief scrutineer had no intention of weighing the cars anyway. J Parish said there were clarifications in the rule book regarding the weight M Hoppe asked that a procedure was in place regarding where when and who weighs etc. M Cooper asked that the letter from N Western is sent to the directors for a response.

**Nationals 2013** - S Jackson confirmed all going to plan

**Nationals 2014** - J Bevan said the presentation put to the board would be on line soon and asked which file should they be working from J Parish confirmed the correct one would be with them in April.

#### **Log Book**

1. By Laws - J Parish dealing drafts will be available for 2013 AGM
2. Nationals file - J Parish be published by April 2013

- 26. Event of pairings - ideas - proposals required from leagues
- 9. Rule books to be re written - before end of 2014
- 13. Proportional representation at nationals - board to discuss
- 21. Failed cars to be made public - D Hardy to put ideas for next meeting
- 27. NASA Leaflets - done for NEC spare ones for any clubs who need
- 34. Post scrutineering increase on costs for oil etc - Directors increased to £20 for oil £50 gasket for class 1 & 2 - £20 for oil & £70 for gaskets for all other classes.
- 28. Central Database - to be discussed
- 29. Clarification on ladies racing with the men - in the members hand book now
- 30. Cancellation insurance - discussed earlier
- 31. Storage of race cars on race days - ideas needed from leagues
- 32. Ideas to encourage help on race days - KM not going to happen
- 33. Regional qualifying - still waiting for leagues to put forward ideas
- 35. Nasa Forum - JP to encourage use.

### **AOB**

L Cooper asked if M Boyd could acknowledge all correspondence she receives B Harper said she thoughts he did but she would make sure she did in future.

M Grice asked if anyone does fuel sampling S Bentley said didn't think so but was a scrutineering issue.

E Ashley asked if the £6k spent on the NEC was worthwhile S Bentley said that some clubs receive new membership from NEC and there had been some good interest on the stand, but sometimes it's just about being there and being noticed. T Clancy said they found having 2 club cars had created new members. JP read out the outgoings from NEC £200 electric £300 promotional bags £ 250 TV/DVD rental £270 promotional clothing £1100 equipment £2200 driver/officials expenses =£5860 T Clancy suggested having a club car on the stand and sell races S Bentley said they had tried to get a micra built to raffle off. N Clarke asked if the cars on the stand were too nice S Bentley said there was an idea of putting a car that has just raced on the stand ie muddy T Clancy asked why NASA where not doing Stoneleigh S Bentley said that T Williams advised it was not worth it. P Hackett suggested alternate NEC one year and the following year give clubs funds to do local events. S Bentley said clubs are encouraged to do local events anyway. There were plenty of promotional leaflets if anyone needed them. T Clancy said they are taking promotional leaflets to local high schools.

K Matthews said he had received an email from Neil Booth D Hilton said in view of previous discussion nothing to be discussed as NASA is dealing.

M Hoppe asked what the requirements were for running a series & charging an entry fee. S Bentley said from memory must have audited accounts, meet with the board, clear dates with board, pay more insurance. M Hoppe asked how the board felt about the UKAC series S Bentley said the board had reservations like they did with BAS. M Hoppe asked if creating guidelines had created a problem, ie not allowing them to charge an entry means they don't know how many seriously doing the rounds M Hoppe asked if the board had been helpful. S Bentley said the board's objective was to safeguard other clubs ie if a bas was on at York and ukac round in Radford it didn't leave much scope for another club to run. S Bentley said the meeting was to try and work out contingency plans ie if a BAS was cancelled how UKAC would cope. V Mackenzie said it appeared the meeting with UKAC reps and the board had been portrayed negative which was incorrect. J Bevan asked if the 1st BAS was still closed S Bentley said at the moment yes, but if weather bad it may be opened up. SWL had expressed an interest in opening to West Wales and Ireland

members. M Hoppe asked if a meeting was closed and could be opened up why it couldn't be the other way round. S Bentley said couldn't see any obstacles.

V Mackenzie reported from the Marshalls meeting that the marshals were not sure if taking out the X Over board was a good idea. Also concerns over getting in cars with window nets so seatbelt cutters would be strapped to fire extinguishers.

D Hardy joined the meeting M Hoppe asked what procedures would be put in place to prevent the situation with the junior special D Hardy said the NASA scales would be used and if the car weighed wrong it would be out. L Cooper asked if D Hardy had a deputy D Hardy said hopefully the person was going to confirm soon.

M Hoppe asked if the procedure could be in writing regarding the specials and weighing etc. D Hardy said yes. P Hackett asked if the scales could not be made available before the meeting for people to weigh their cars D Hardy said not the man power to do it and look after the scales. K Matthews asked if the scales would be available at any other meetings D Hardy said yes. J Bevan asked who had the scales D Hardy was unsure they were with Ady Taylor (since clarified that they are with Lance Bowen). D Mansfield asked if D Hardy was happy that the underweight junior special was deemed legal. D Hardy said no D Hardy said he was told he could only sign the car off at post race scrutineering and at that point it was legal. S Bentley said it was previously said that Z Booth should not have been approached to seal his car without a guardian therefore should M Berrisford special have been weighed without his guardian. D Mansfield asked why the board rejected the scrutineer's decision to remove the title from M Berrisford. S Bentley said because the car was signed off as legal by the chief scrutineer. M Cooper asked if the letter from N Western be taking to the board and a reply given in writing D Hilton said he would deal.

A Griffiths asked why the extra pages in the rule book despite been told there would be no rule changes. D Hardy said after every meeting G Jones makes notes of changes that are discussed and then there is a meeting with the board to go through the changes the meeting didn't take place this year so G Jones put in the books. A Griffiths said but there was not supposed to be any changes? D Hardy said he would have to take blame along with G Jones. M Hoppe said it's not the first time this has happened so what measures are put in place to prevent it happening again? D Hardy said all changes must be confirmed in writing by M Boyd before added to books. M Cooper said he knows how hard it was for G Jones to put in the book about arm restraints to get so much information in the book in a few lines. P West suggested that rule changes should be made aware sooner D Hardy said they think around the nationals. M Grice said there had been some talk his car was illegal at the NEC now due to the new changes D Hardy said it was legal according to info he had M Hoppe asked how could he say the car was legal when he had no even seen it ! M Hoppe asked what the time scale was for the new rule books to be re written D Hardy said he didn't know as no one come forward to do them.

M Hoppe asked if there had been an increase in taking legal advice, would legal costs be more than normal. S Bentley said no. J Bevan asked who the solicitor was now S Bentley said still Steven Paris, although Doodsons have a solicitor too. L Cooper asked if this solicitor was available for all clubs if needed S Bentley said yes.

D Hilton asked that everyone try to get correspondence in for the agenda at least 2 weeks before next meeting so everyone knows what's going to be discussed and can get feedback from members.

M Hoppe asked for clarification on who agreed to bring the Yaris in. (D Hardy had left the room)

**Meeting Closed at approx 4pm**

**Minutes prepared by Diane Tomkinson**

**Please note if a league wishes to put forward any items for discussion at the next Chairman's meeting it must be put in writing to the Chairman at least 2 weeks before the meeting takes place. The letter must be signed by the League Chairman and forwarded to Secretary: Diane Tomkinson 4 Hallfield Avenue, Micklefield, Leeds LS25 4AU. Email: [diane.tonky@btopenworld.com](mailto:diane.tonky@btopenworld.com) Tele: 0113 2873101/07709471385**