



NATIONAL AUTOGRASS SPORT ASSOCIATION LTD.

Minutes of Marshals and Safety Officers combined meeting held on 12th October 2013, Metro Inns, Birmingham Road, Walsall

PRESENT:

Simon Bentley	NASA Director
Andy Preece	NASA Chief Marshal's Assistant
Sandy Williams	NASA Marshals / Safety Officers Secretary

<u>League Chief Marshal</u>	<u>League Safety Officer</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>League</u>
Andy Preece	<i>Andrew Whitmore</i>	<i>n/a</i>	01 East Midlands
Phill Preece	Malcolm Butler		02 Gloucestershire
Adam Jones	<i>Duncan Rea</i>	<i>n/a</i>	04 South Wales
Ray Wyeth	<i>Mike Collins</i>	<i>n/a</i>	05 Southern
<i>James Lewis</i>	Eric Gittoes		06 West Midlands
Jayne Barrett	<i>Alan Bluck</i>	<i>n/a</i>	07 MAP
<i>Andrew Blomfield</i>	<i>Rhys Jones</i>	<i>n/a</i>	09 North Western
<i>Martyn Tinker</i>	John Howland		10 North Yorkshire
<i>Andy Page</i>	<i>Ian Nippres</i>	<i>n/a</i>	11 Essex
<i>Mally Wing</i>	<i>Tim Simpson</i>	<i>n/a</i>	12 Yorkshire
<i>Stuart Thomas</i>	<i>Stuart Thomas</i>	<i>n/a</i>	13 West Wales
<i>Bob French</i>	<i>Paul Hassell</i>	<i>n/a</i>	14 East Anglian
<i>Gary Merton</i>	<i>Martin Gould</i>	<i>n/a</i>	15 Shropshire
Paul Mason	<i>Simon Boddy</i>	<i>n/a</i>	16 CGTRO
<i>Paul Finn</i>	<i>John Berry</i>	<i>n/a</i>	18 Kent
David Shields	<i>Malcolm Dawson</i>	<i>n/a</i>	19 Dales
<i>John Haffey</i>	<i>Norman Jess</i>	<i>n/a</i>	21 Northern Ireland
	Michelle Tee		22 Wiltshire
<i>Seamus O'Riordan</i>	<i>Shane Houlihan</i>	<i>n/a</i>	23 Southern Ireland
<i>Kevin Pearsall</i>	<i>Melvyn Clayton</i>	<i>n/a</i>	24 Fenland
<i>Hugh Brown</i>	<i>Greg Cooper</i>	<i>n/a</i>	25 Scotland

Names in bold:

n/a:

Marshals and Safety Officers who attended the meeting

not attended the meeting

Marshals:-

Steve Belcher	CGTRO
Chris Raffel	Dales
John Speke	West Midlands

Safety Officers:-

Marcus Mills	West Midlands
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Apologies:

Stuart Thomas (CM & West Wales), Simon Boddy (CGTRO), Martyn Tinker (NY), Jason Baker (CGTRO), Arran Warburton (East Anglian), Alan Bluck (MAP).

The meeting commenced at 11.20 am.

Andy chaired the meeting, due to Stuart not being able to attend, and he thanked everyone for attending.

Ray Wyeth enquired about Vernon Mackenzie, following his accident, Simon said he is poorly, all present expressed concern and send their best wishes.

Minutes of 22nd June 2013 were accepted as a true record, proposed by R.Wyeth (Southern), seconded by D.Shields (Dales), further discussions were held on the following items:

1. **Page 38 – item 27**, “Any driver deemed to have gained an advantage by racing on the infield or by knocking down one track marker cone in an attempt to gain an advantage, will be Black Flagged”.
2. **Page 38 – item 26**, “Any driver knocking down 2 or more track marker cones in a race will receive a Green Flag”.

The above rule has been clarified as follows: “Two markers disturbed on the same corner, on the same lap – will be deemed a green flag” – anymore and it will be a black flag.

Marshals to use their discretion / commonsense on this. The clipping of cone bases not a problem.

3. **Page 37 – item 19**, “A driver making a “jumped start”, i.e. starting to race before the signal is given to do so will receive a black flag. However if in the judgement of the Startline Marshal the driver in realising he/she has jumped the start, then immediately holds back and acknowledges their mistake the Startline Marshal may let the car proceed to race without penalty”.

All present would like to see the above rule amended and to read as follows:

“A driver making a “jump start” i.e. starting to race before the signal is given to do so will receive a black flag and the race will be stopped”.

***Starting a race - there needs to be a “wind up” procedure. Flags should be clean and of the correct size as stated in member’s handbook, **ITEM 20. THE FLAGS:** page 40, final paragraph “All Flags referred to must be of a standard size, minimum of 18” (458mm) square, and of specific colours, not different shades of that colour” and fitted to appropriately sized poles.

4. **Complaints / Discipline Procedure:** (2013 member’s handbook, pages 26 to 30 inc.-16. Discipline) Simon confirmed the Directors are reviewing the whole procedure – this is on-going.
Directors- Jeffrey Parish, Pat Patrick and Derek Hardy – are controlling the disciplinary procedure.
5. **New Marshals barrier:** VM: The board had been approached by Scunthorpe club wanting to try a new “Recticel Safeguard Marshals Barrier” – Vernon explained the barrier type – The board have given permission for Scunthorpe to trial these for one year, after which it will be reviewed.
These are proving to be successful, they stand up to impact. Andy Preece has attended a few meetings at Scunthorpe this season and confirms he feels safe behind these barriers.
Note: feedback required from clubs/leagues regarding these barriers.
6. **Breathalysers:** Any news on the supply of new ones? Clubs/Leagues can purchase from another source, other than NASA – so long as they have a certificate and are calibrated to the manufacturers instructions.
Jayne Barrett (MAP) – they have been using one purchased from Halfords, details to be forwarded to Sandy.
Simon Boddy (CGTRO) has obtained information on an alternative.
Details to be forwarded to Simon Bentley to take to the Directors.
7. **Window Nets / Arm Restraints:** Feedback still required.
“**Window Nets:** Discussion, it was felt that there must be a standardised way of releasing window nets. Chris Tee suggested the use of a luminous yellow marker pointing to where a net can be released? Vernon said this is an experimental year, he asked the marshals / safety officers to walk over to the scrutineering lanes and the pits and observe and talk to drivers, make notes of anything they think could make their job easier, feedback is required. **Experimental year, (see above statement), feedback required.**”

Discussion took place: Feedback required. If a marshal notices a window net on a car that he/she feels needs checking – report this to a scrutineer on the day”.

8. Safety Clothing and Equipment: Directors are addressing this rule.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Marshals Barriers: Wrapped straw bales **are not** allowed, Sleeved silage bales are – see member's handbook, **page 54 – Alternative Marshals Barriers – Silage Bales.**
2. Racing Incident / rollover: Should the driver go into the ambulance to be checked over? It was felt that the driver should go into the ambulance but this left to the discretion of the First Aid personnel. J.Parish, Director, working on this ruling at present.
3. Nationals:
 - a. Racing incidents are recorded in race control, we must make sure the correct information is passed on to pits control and the commentators.
 - b. When a driver has been excluded from a re-run it doesn't necessarily mean they have been black flagged.
 - c. It was felt some of the driving standards by the juniors at the Nationals at St. Neots were poor and showed lack of respect for each other.
 - d. Discussion on the track and track sizes in general.
 - e. Drivers must race to the conditions and size of each track they race on.
4. Cameras: Simon confirmed the Board are backing these to continue. They are an aid for the marshals and to assist. Vernon is working on a development of the camera. Marshals shouldn't feel threatened by them. Chief Marshal on the track and a Chief Marshal with the cameras. Chief Marshal to be elevated. Do we need more equipment? Discussion: the time taken to sort out a query by using the cameras can be lengthy, so it was felt more equipment is needed.

DATES FOR MARSHALS / SAFETY OFFICERS MEETINGS IN 2014:

16 February

28 June

4 October

Please contact Stuart (07813 667220) or Sandy (01522 684493) if you are interested in Marshalling.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.06pm.

AGM – Sunday 24 November 2013 (12 noon)

Please note: if a league requires any items for discussion – these must be put in writing to The Chief Track Marshal, 2 weeks before the meeting takes place. The letter must be signed by the League Chairman and Chief Marshal / or Safety Officer.

SECRETARY: Mrs Sandy Williams, 153 Rookery Lane, Lincoln. LN6 7PW (Tel: 01522 684493)
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