

DMCC AGM 2018 Minutes

Date: 7th October 2018

Location: DMCC Track, The Naul

Attendees:

2018 Committee: Emmet Farrell, Lee McGuire, Ken Gordon, Chris Lowe.

Members: Colin Whelan, Denzell McBurney, Tony Marshal, Joe Ottofaro, Ciaran Parkes, Graham Parkes, Tony Kavanagh, Michael O`Leary, Robert Regan, Ivan Thompson, Mick Bolger, Dave Bolger, Alan O`Neill.

Not in attendance Committee Member, Marcin Debowski

Agenda

- Minutes of AGM 2017 and action points taken
- Chairpersons Report
- Drivers Rep/Committee members report
- Secretary`s Report
- Treasurer`s Report and Club Accounts.
- Guinness World Record
- Recycling bins
- Opening/Closing times to facilitate more racing
- Refereeing
- Members learning to do booking in/run racing
- Rule Changes
- Election of new Committee

Opening:

Chris opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Ciaran Parkes was awarded “most improved driver”, Lee explained that his driving has improved so much over the last year and he really deserved the trophy.

Minutes of AGM 2017 and action points taken

The entire minutes of 2017 were not detailed, it was explained it would take too long. However, all action points taken were detailed. Lee went through the points:

1. Grant Application.
Lee Explained that in 2017 we applied for a grant through the SCP to buy transponders. At the time of last year`s AGM, we hadn`t had a decision, but during the year it was rejected due to the “lack of sporting content”. He said we would try again in this year`s SCP.
2. Cleaning Sub Committee.
At last years AGM, Tony Marshal volunteered to run a Sub Committee to look after general cleaning. It didn`t seem to take off, and nothing was done.
3. Transponders.

Lee reminded members that Mylaps had made changes to software and are phasing out RC3 and Hybrid transponders. He advised the members to purchase the 3 wire RC4 transponder in the future if they need a new one for any reason.

4. New Rule Book.

Lee reminded members that last year they voted in a brand-new rule book. He said it seems to be working well, with allowing the committee to change race formats and make things a bit different.

5. He also reminded members that the introduction of a stock class and replacing the “percentage rule” was defeated.

Chairpersons Report

Chris said that he felt the club had a great year, with memberships up. He said he would like to see the membership being more diverse, and that the only way he thought that would happen is through all of us promoting the club through social media.

He said that due to changes in work, he was less available than he would like and would not be putting himself forward again this year.

Secretary's Report

Lee went through the main correspondence that was received this year. He explained that a number of emails were received from people looking to rent cars/ have stag nights/ corporate events etc at the club, and that this was something the club couldn't do.

He said there were a number of contacts received from people interested in getting into model car racing. And that some have come to the club, others have not. But we have always given as much advice as we can.

He said the Cherry Orchard community project had been in touch a number of times to get TT-02 cars up and running for the kids there, and that Emmet was helping them out to build new cars.

Number of emails from members requesting clarity on race results, and that we had helped out the members.

He also mentioned a small number of complaints received from members about events that happened at racing

He said that Deep River Rocks PR company had been in touch with us about doing a video, and that as everyone knows this has been done. He also explained that this DRR campaign wasn't about getting donations, though this was nice, but it was more about promoting the club. He explained that over 3000 people outside our community has seen the video which is great for the club.

He also mentioned that we had tried a Wednesday evening championship and that it wasn't a success. He asked the members would they like to try it again. A few of the members said they would, perhaps in the summer. A vote was taken, and agreed to try the midweek championship again.

He informed everyone that the committee had purchased new hoovers for the track/pits. He reminded everyone to make sure there was a bag in them when they were used.

He informed everyone that the committee has decided to purchase a new laptop for timing, as issues with old one's sound card and video output. However, this had not been received yet. (it has been at time of writing minutes)

He also explained we have decided to purchase good quality tools to work on track, and once we have these they will be kept in a locked box.

He said we have also been in touch with Mike Keane who is a carpenter that builds skate parks. And that we have yet to meet, but the plan will be to get jumps and features made. He asked the membership to pass on any ideas they may have.

Treasurers Report

Ken took the members through the accounts

Full details in the XPS file below:



Accounts Report AGM 2018 .xps

Drivers Rep Report

Emmet explained he had a good year at the club, and that there were no issues raised to him by the members. He said he thought the quality of driving was also improving from a sportsmanship point of view.

Recycling Bins

Lee explained that Robert Regan has raised the idea of recycling bins. He has noticed there is a lot of waste that could be recycled.

Lee put it to the members if they would like to see it, and it was voted in unanimously. He asked how should we deal with the waste. Graham who normally takes the bins explained that he could not take Green Bin waste as well as black bin waste. It was suggested that we make a rota to take Green Bin waste home. This was agreed by the members.

Lee also raised the issue of members leaving rubbish on their tables, and he had found dirty cups, bottles and even food waste. He asked the members to make a better effort in cleaning up after themselves.

Opening and Closing Times

This was raised by Joe Ottofaro. He explained that he would like to see the opening and closing times of the track change to suit longer racing time.

Lee explained that he felt that we have a good balance at the moment. He asked the membership how they felt, specially those who travel long distance. Denzell said he wouldn't mind it opening early, as he would be up early. Graham explained that it wouldn't always suit him due to work.

There was a mixed response, but the general feeling was that it would be ok to change the times if we got more racing in, and we would look at it for the next championship.

Refereeing

A number of members had raised the issue of refereeing, and they would like to see more races refereed.

Lee explained that we currently do our best, and that the committee want to race too. He suggested an idea where we could nominate members to referee. Ken said he felt that it can be difficult enough to get volunteer marshals at times.

It was agreed that we would continue as we are.

Proposals for Rule Changes

Lee got each person who proposed a rule to go through their proposal.

Constitution Proposal 1

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: Constitution; Section 11.1 Data Protection Policy

Current rule: Data Protection policy should stay as it is, with the addition of the following:

Proposed change/addition:

Withdrawal of Permission: If a member chooses to have their Personal Details deleted from the club databases at any time, they may contact the Data Controller (Club Secretary) by email, and their details will be removed within 5 days. They will then be deemed to have left the club.

Reason for change:

We MUST have an "opt out" clause.

Some current members have asked us to remove their details by replying "stop" to club emails. This means we can no longer contact them for important information, and it means we must remove their contact details so cannot hold them for insurance purposes etc.

Lee explained that we need an opt out clause in our data protection policy. But that if a person chose to opt out we have to consider them to have left the club.

Graham said he felt that this was going too far.

Dave asked to clarify, that if a person chose to have their details removed from our members data base, would this be an issue for insurance. Lee said that we need to have all our members details for our insurance. Also that if we needed to contact members for important reasons that we wouldn't be allowed to. E.g. For safety issues at the club etc.

On voting it was passed unanimously.

Proposal 1

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: Section 3 Heading

In the case of additional rule, where should it be added:

Current rule: 3 Race Classes

Proposed change/addition: 3 Race Classes and Driver Grading

Reason for change: This is just a change to the heading, as section 3 takes into account both Classes and grading.

Lee explained this was just a proposal to change a heading in a rule, as the rule deals with both items.

It was passed unanimously

Proposal 2

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

To be added to: Section 5 Championships

Proposed addition:

5.5 Championship Awards

Drivers finishing in the top 3 positions in Clubman and Open will be awarded. Also, the highest finishing driver grades will be awarded not including F1 and F3. I.e. Best F2, best F4, Best F5.

In the case of an f2,4 or 5 drivers being in the overall top 3, they will be awarded twice.

Reason for change: This is to give the feeling of an "intermediate class" to members. We already did this for our Summer championships, and I feel it gives the intermediate drivers something to aim for.

The reason for giving 2 awards to an F2 etc driver if they finish in the overall top 3, is because more than likely an f1 (or f3) driver will win the overall championship, however if an f2 driver comes say 2nd or 3rd, giving that award to the next best f2 driver is giving awards for the sake of it. ..."and second best F2 of 2018 is..."

NOTE: If rule change 6 is passed, this will need to be edited slightly to reflect this.

....will be awarded not including F1 and F4. I.e. Best F2, Best F3, Best F5, Best F6.

Lee explained he would like to see it written into the rules who got trophies, as its what we are currently doing, and that it would be something drivers know they can now aim for.

Ken suggested that we add that only drivers who attended enough rounds to count should be awarded. He also suggested we tidy the wording up a little. Lee agreed this was a good idea and we can add this.

Rule was passed unanimously, with addition of counting rounds clause and to tidy wording to

"Drivers finishing in the top 3 positions in Clubman and Open will be awarded. Also, the highest finishing driver in each of grades F2, F3, F5 and F6 will be awarded."

Proposal 3

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: new rule

In the case of additional rule, where should it be added: Section 3 Race Classes

Current rule: n/a

Proposed change/addition:

3.6 Clubman, The Spirit of Clubman

This section while not a normal "rule", is to remind us what "Clubman" is for. The Clubman class was originally designed for Beginner and Veteran drivers. It should remain that way. The idea behind Clubman is to give a place for new drivers to learn how to drive, set up their car and how to race, where newer drivers can race/learn in peace without being lapped multiple times by the top racers. Clubman should always be easier going for drivers trying to learn, penalties should not be applied so quick. Clubman is a class for new drivers to learn the sport before they move up to the Open class.

Lee explained that he felt we had often forgotten what clubman is for, and that it should be written into the rules to remind us.

Rule was passed unanimously.

Proposal 4

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: Rule 3.2 Four Wheel Drive

Current rule: Four Wheel Drive Open: where there are no restrictions to motor winds. Four Wheel Drive Clubman: where there will be restrictions.

Proposed change/addition:

Four Wheel Drive Open: where there are no restrictions to motor winds.

Reason for change:

This proposal is to remove 4wd Clubman as a class.

The reason behind this is that 4wd is not a beginner class, and clubman is for beginners.

Currently most of the drivers racing 4wd clubman are racing 2wd open, showing they are fast enough for 4wd open.

Looking at race results, the 4wd clubman drivers' times slot right in behind the current Open drivers.

If we use the seeding for Qualifying as we do for 2wd, all drivers will race against drivers of similar level and they will be racing in finals against drivers they qualified with.

Also, in both classes we generally only have 2/3 drivers per class, so doesn't make sense to separate them.

This year in Open, the top 2 drivers did 6 rounds and the driver who was 3rd only did 4 rounds, so had the drivers been amalgamated a current clubman driver would have been 3rd overall in Open!!

For the "intermediate" who want to have something to aim for (i.e. win/trophy), they will be aiming for "best F2".

Lee explained that he felt firstly that 4wd is not a beginner's class. He said that the current numbers doesn't warrant splitting it. He gave an example that if both clubman and modified had been a single

class that a clubman driver would have finished 3rd, 4th and 5th. He also showed that the faster clubman drivers lap times were very close to the slower open class drivers.

Graham and Ivan disagreed with it, and said they didn't want to be lapped constantly every 2 laps.

Ivan wanted to stop members who didn't race in 4wd voting on the proposal, Lee wouldn't allow this as he said all members can vote unless they choose not to.

Lee said that Ivan had proposed a rule last year to force the winner of clubman to move to modified, and asked why has that changed. Ivan didn't answer.

Emmet said that he hadn't raced in 4WD because he knew this "shit" was coming. Lee said he thought that was unfair, as he only proposed it to try to improve the class, and it wouldn't be coming in until the next championship anyway.

The discussion was quite heated, so Lee called for a vote on it.

The motion was defeated 7 for, 7 against and 3 abstentions.

Proposal 5

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: Rule 3.4 The X Percentage Rule, when a driver must move from Clubman to Open Class

In the case of additional rule, where should it be added: Rule 3.4, end of the existing rule

At end of rule, add:

The percentage chosen should be based on 2wd and should also be used for both 2wd and 4wd.

Reason for change:

2wd has higher numbers, so easier to work out what the percentage should be based on pace/laps of drivers i.e. 2wd is a "better sample". It shouldn't be different in 2 and 4wd as it's about the ability of drivers, not how they are doing in individual classes.

i.e. if a driver is good enough for 2wd open, they are good enough for 4wd open.

Lee explained that he felt if a driver was good enough for 2WD open, they were good enough for 4wd open and that what ever percentage was chosen should be the same for both classes. Again, Graham and Ivan disagreed for the same reasons as Proposal 4.

The motion was defeated 7 for, 9 against and 1 abstention.

Proposal 6

Proposed By: Lee McGuire

Rule number to be changed: Section 3.5 Grading

Current rule: Current rule allows of F1 and 2 in Open, and F3,4,5 in Clubman.

Proposed change/addition:

Addition of F3 Grade to Open Class and consequently F6 to Clubman as per table below

GradingClass Drivers in F Grading

- F1 Open Class Top drivers in previous championship*
- F2 Open Class All drivers that do not fit f1 or f3*
- F3 Open Class Drivers new to Open Class (promoted drivers etc)*
- F4 Clubman Class Top drivers in previous championship*
- F5 Clubman Class All drivers that do not fit f4 or f6*
- F6 Clubman Class Drivers in first year of racing*

Reason for change:

To allow for further seeding of heats as Open glass is growing in numbers.

Also allows awarding drivers further down the championship table.

Lee said that he would like to see an extra grading class to allow further seeding of the heats, and to give drivers who had just moved to open a chance to compete against each other to win a trophy

Proposal was passed unanimously

Proposal 7

Proposed By: Tony Marshall

Rule number to be changed: 4.3 Marshalling

In the case of additional rule, where should it be added: Added to end of 4.3

Proposed change/addition: No person under the age of 12 will be permitted to marshal

Reason for change: This change is proposed for reasons of Health and Safety

Tony explained that he felt members under 12 shouldn't marshal for safety reasons, that he thought they may get injured.

Lee said he felt this isn't a good idea, as it should be up to the committee and the parents of the member, that it's good for the younger members to learn how to marshal, and that plenty of under 12 members are well able to do it. Someone pointed out that some of the younger members are the fastest and best marshals.

The motion was defeated 1 to 16.

Proposal 8

Proposed By: Tony Marshall

Rule number to be changed: 3.2 Four Wheel Drive

Proposed change/addition: Addition should be made at the end of the current rule.

Any car competing in the 4WD Class must have effective drive to the front and rear wheels (excluding race breakages). Any car which is designated as 4WD must be able to complete a lap of the track, with either the front or rear drive-shafts removed and all settings of the remaining drive-train as it will be raced, in a reasonable time frame.

Reason for change: In the last championship, a driver entered a two wheel drive car into the 4WD class just by bringing the car up to the 4WD weight required.. there is no defined definition of a 4WD car in our rule book.

Tony explained that he didn't think it was fair for a 2wd car to be allowed into the 4wd class even if the weight limit was reached for the class.

Lee said he didn't think the rule was needed, and he doesn't like to see a rule for 1 incident, but wasn't totally against the rule.

Mick said he could see the point of "defining" 4wd.

Lee said that we now need to define 2wd, but that hasn't been proposed.

The proposal was passed 12 for 5 against.

Voting of Committee 2018-2019

Chairman, Chris said he would not be continuing as chairman. Lee proposed Graham, and Chris Seconded it, He was voted in unanimously

Secretary, Lee said he would continue and was voted in unanimously

Treasurer, Ken said he would continue and was voted in unanimously

Drivers Rep Emmet said he wouldn't continue as drivers rep this year. Tony Kavanagh expressed an interest and was Proposed by Lee and Seconded by Graham.

Committee member, Marcin Debowski was not going forward as no communication was received. Lee asked if Joe was interested and proposed him. He was seconded by Mick and voted in unanimously.

The meeting was then closed by Chris.