

# **British Federation of Pedal Car Racing**

Annual General Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2013 11:00AM

Venue: Force India factory at Silverstone - Dadford Road, Northamptonshire, NN12 8TJ

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies for Absence – Team Matrix, 47<sup>th</sup> Swansea, 5<sup>th</sup> Morden Scouts**
- 3. Minutes of 2012 AGM and Matters Arising**
- 4. Chairman's Report**
- 5. Treasurer's Report**
- 6. Presentation of the 2014 Race Calendar**

## **7. Proposals/Discussion items from Members**

### **7.1 From Dave Ralphs of Falcon Notnray Racing and also from Team MK:**

Amendment to rule 3.4 Maximum height of uncompressed seat cushion (above ground level) 610mm

Reduce height to limit to 500mm. This will lower the centre of gravity of the car which will increase the stability of cars especially in inexperienced hands and reduce the risk of tipping over in an accident

### **7.2 From Dave Ralphs of Falcon Notnray Racing:**

Amendment to rule 8.2 The seat back recline angle must not be so excessive as to prevent a clear and easy view to the front.

Need to emphasize this point and possibly set measurable dimensions as at least one junior team has been seen with a seating position that is in our opinion putting the drivers head at risk in the event of being hit in the rear. Suggestions welcome, but what about a ratio between hip height and shoulder height eg shoulder height must be at least twice hip height above ground?

### **7.3 From Dave Ralphs of Falcon Notnray Racing**

#### **Reinforce rule 10.2**

No protruding parts, which in the opinion of the scrutineers could cause damage or injury, will be permitted. In addition all parts that protrude outside of the wheel line or bodywork (eg axle and nuts) must be rounded or fitted with nut covers to avoid sharp edges

## **7.4 From Dave Ralphs of Falcon Notnray Racing**

Starting grid – There has been a big discussion on the forum topic – If he attends James Heydon who posted it can elaborate.

However having thought about it I think there are one or two sensible options, as trying to have a qualifying or similar timed lap in pre-race practice isn't feasible for multiple reasons.

1: Leave as is under BFPCR rule 4.f rule – cars form up in championship order then number order etc

2: Teams who have points form up in points/championship order, then those that don't form in class order PC1, PC2 etc with cars in each class in numeric order.

The only reason we have for suggesting this amendment is to try and put faster but newly entered teams in a starting position consistent with their speed and so to avoid a fast car starting at the back behind slower (and maybe younger) teams and in the excitement of the first lap and trying to make up places causing an accident.

## **7.5 From Neil Carter:**

Regarding the starting grid issues, the simple solution is that any team who feels they may be vulnerable at the beginning of a race because of faster cars starting behind them should move to the rear of the grid.

## **7.6 From Martin of Norton Greyhounds:**

Is it worth adding a veterans category PCV?

The team would need to have 2 or 3 members over a certain age to qualify?

## **7.7 From Team MK:**

Mathematically it is possible for a PC3 or 4 team to win every PC2 race (except Shenington because of the compulsory 6 hour stop) and then lose the championship because of the Shenington race, as the PC3/4 teams have to stop at midnight. Could we not issue points at midnight and then at midday. If it is possible at midnight we take a screen dump of the cars positions for calculating the points later at home. Trophies are still awarded to the team that crosses the line first at Midday Sunday.

### **7.8 From Team MK:**

With the pressure of exams, family commitments etc, should the championship be decided on your best 5 races. (Shenington counts as two as it is double points).

Obviously the more races you do the better chances you will have of winning the championship. But it doesn't penalise a team who can't attend due to exam pressure, etc.

### **7.9 From Team MK:**

How can the sport encourage more PC2 and 3 teams to take part in the sport?

I think the two problems we need to overcome are finding the right people to get a team together, and help them get a pedal car. The right person maybe enthusiastic and able to get a group of drivers together, but may have no engineering skills. With the pedal car, could the sport have a few cars that can be hired by new teams? Can we provide plans (simple to build, cheap car), list of cheap suppliers for bike bits.

### **7.10 From Team MK:**

Could we have PDF forms (i.e. race entry) converted so we can type the answers then print the form?

### **7.11 From Team MK:**

In road race cycling, youth bikes have to go through a "Roll back test". Basically to protect young riders from damaging their knees by pushing big gears while they are physically still developing. A few years ago we looked at putting the biggest front chainring and small rear gears on a car as we knew no better. Should the sport introduce a similar rule to protect the knees of young drivers?

### **7.12 From Team MK:**

Why is the minimum age of the website users set to 13? Facebook is 13, due to direct marketing laws in the states. As we are neither in America nor do we do direct marketing, should this rule be relaxed?

### **7.13 From a "iambeno" of Swebelli Racing:**

The number of PC3 / PC4 drivers should be higher for the 10hr and 24hr race. For example In the 24 hour race a PC1 driver races for 2.6 times as long as

Wombwell where a PC3 driver races for 3 times as long as Wombwell.  
As such for PC3 and PC4 I think it is worth considering having 7 drivers for the 10hr race and 8 drivers in the 24hr race.

#### **7.14 From mark Williams:**

I would raise the need to sell Transponder Tags for £20.00 to cover supply costs.

#### **7.15 From Jacob Spencer:**

3-year retrospective on PCD/PCP/2-driver class:

Basically, it was three years ago that the PCD class was proposed and introduced: quoting from the AGM minutes of 2010, it was decided to give the class a three-season trial. In the interim AGMs, there have been proposals to review it which have been rejected due to this three-year trial period not being up. Since we have now tried the class for three years, I invite the teams at the AGM to discuss their thoughts on the class and whether or not we should keep it for the 2014 season and beyond.

#### **7.16 From Bob Robinson:**

I would like to request an agenda item please. I think that the presentation ceremony at the end of the season should be improved. The Trophies used to be for 1st and 2nd place in each class. I think this should return. I have this year donated a new trophy and runners up trophy for the PC0 and PCD classes. I would suggest that the trophies need an overhaul and perhaps framed certificates should also be considered, they cost very little.

#### **7.17 From Team 105:**

I was asking would it be possible for an additional trophy be given with the annual championship winners shield that goes to each PC class winners. As at the moment you just receive the annual shield but no keepsake.

### **8 Nominations for and election to the 2014 committee**

One member of each of the race organisers for the year, plus up to seven members who must be elected from teams who have registered with the Federation for the year the Annual General Meeting takes place in, or have pre-registered for the following year.

## **9 Any Other Business**

## **10 Presentation of the 3DDC annual trophy**

## **11 Date of next meeting**

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### **BFPCR committee roles and responsibilities.**

#### **Chairperson**

Chair meetings.

#### **Vice Chairperson**

Assist the Chair.

Act as Chair in the Chair's absence.

#### **Treasurer**

Look after the money!

Have overall control of the Bank Account, Paypal Account and maintain full records of both, all financial transactions and other assets the BFPCR may own.

Responsible for arranging Public Liability Insurance each year.

#### **Secretary**

Maintain contact list of all registered teams, committee members and volunteers each year.

Schedule AGM and Committee Meetings.

Publicise meetings to the membership.

Construct meeting agendas from received proposals and necessary items of business.

Ensure meetings and decisions are held and made in accordance with the BFPCR Constitution.

Minute meetings (and collate and publish minutes).

Maintain the written BFPCR rule book, British Pedal Car Specification.

#### **Competition Secretary**

Compile race calendar.

#### **Licence Secretary**

Assign and keep records of Race Licences.

Ensure race licences are properly assigned.

#### **Publicity Officer**

Publicise the sport in order to attract new teams and retain and grow interest from current teams

#### **Chief Scrutineer**

Scrutineer cars!

**Chief Marshall**

Assist Race Controller at all races to maintain race discipline and ensure racing rules are observed.

Assist Race Controller in dealing with complaints and infringements during racing.

**Race Controller**

Overall responsibility for operating races on race day.

Ensure racing rules are observed.

Deal with complaints and infringements during racing.

**Additional notes:**

All committee members present at races may be called upon by the race officials (Controller, Marshall, Scrutineer) to opine and adjudicate in the event of an ambiguity that the race officials do not feel confident or comfortable resolving on their own.

Having responsibility for a task may mean delegating, e.g. while the Secretary has responsibility for scheduling meetings, others may volunteer and arrange premises, etc. Likewise while the Competition Secretary has responsibility for the race calendar they do not necessarily organise any of the races.

It is not a requirement that committee members attend races, however it may be considered a distinct advantage to have the committee made up of the more active (keen? committed? involved?) members of the sport, and an advantage at races (a) should an issue arise that requires a committee judgment; and (b) to demonstrate to teams present that the committee is made up of members actively involved in the sport; and (c) so all members can get to know the faces of committee members.

Most roles only require a few hours work per year and attendance at up to three meetings. Some roles take more time (e.g. Treasurer and Secretary).

All committee members are expected to be willing to express opinion and partake in discussion on any relevant topic pertaining to the running of the BPCC, rule changes, etc., both at meetings and in the online forum.

All committee members are expected to be familiar with the Constitution and current rules used within the BPCC and are expected to apply them without favour to any team including their own. In the event of a conflict of interest (e.g. a dispute or complaint involving their own team) a committee member must be willing to withdraw from any discussions (having put the case on behalf of their team if required, of course) and let the remainder of the committee adjudicate if required.