

October 17, 2009

The Fall meeting of the ROAR Executive Committee was held Saturday, October 17, 2009. To save travel and lodging expenses, the committee chose to use Skype voice conferencing as the location point. Documents to be reviewed were sent via email prior to this meeting and were asked to be available by each committee member. Meeting agenda was submitted on a timely basis to the committee members.

In attendance were:

Dawn Sanchez, President

Ed Hill, Vice President

Ruben Benitez, Competition Director

Shawn Palmer, Promotions Director

Rich Browne, Secretary/Treasurer

Andrew Mowery, Sanctioning Director

Fred Hohwart, Administrator

JD Crow, Technical Director did not attend this meeting.

Below is a summary of the meeting. Action items assigned and future follow up for next meeting will be noted.

- Review for completeness of action items in the meeting minutes from the last Fall meeting, held November 2008.

- Administrator review of income and expenses.

The nationals program was very successful financially with the reorganization done by Dawn Sanchez and Ruben Benitez.

Regional participation is a must for membership growth. Programs to be implemented in 2010.

Membership numbers continue to decline and review of programs to inspire racing at levels below nationals needs to be discussed.

IFMAR Worlds events are proving to be too costly and entry fees need to increase to cover costs. The Excom agreed upon a \$50.00 per entry raise in fees to pay for required staffing of referees and team managers at events. ROAR will be hosting 2010 and 2011 events where the bloc is required to supply referees and current systems do not allow for expenses to be covered sufficiently.

**ACTION ITEM to Administrator to alter entry flyers for Worlds competitors.**

- Nationals site locations reviewed and officially approved and will be posted immediately. Membership excitement has been evident as to knowledge of the locations.

Deviations discussed for Carpet event as requested by track host and class alterations were approved.

No other deviations were requested from bidding hosts.

Deviations approved are to add a 13.5 Foam and WGT 13.5 class to the event in addition to required classes as per the national guidelines.

**ACTION ITEM to Competition Director to ensure entry flyer reflects this deviation.**

- ✚ Deviation deadlines discussed for national programs.  
Deviation submissions with short notice to the start of a national event has been on the rise. Its difficult to implement a 'new' rule without a proper notification system on the website and using non ROAR message forums is not in the best interest of ROAR. Research is required.  
**ACTION ITEM for committee to review how and when deviations arise in 2010 to establish deadline system for 2011 and beyond for nationals.**
  
- ✚ President to travel to Houston for review and evaluation trip in November in preparation for 2010 Worlds event in July.  
Secretary will also attend event and will take time on Saturday of the event for facility tour and inspection.
  
- ✚ Behavioral issues were once again a problem at 2009 nationals.  
Several incidents occurred where the racer should have been asked to leave the event.  
In 2010, there will be a zero tolerance for racers mistreating officials in any manner or for inciting negative attitudes in the pit areas towards ROAR or the officials on site.  
Membership suspensions and terminations will occur immediately with ROAR President and Executive Committee approval.  
**ACTION ITEM for onsite ROAR representative to report to ROAR President after each national event any situations that are in need of discussion.**
  
- ✚ Rule 5.14.3 will be corrected in wording to express the actual intent of the rule.  
The wording will be *"lap penalties incurred during a race will be subtracted from the total laps recorded for the race in which the penalty was incurred"*.  
This means when a penalty occurs such as the racer failed to corner marshal, the rule states the penalty is to be applied towards the best qualifier or main.  
Rule 5.14.3 refers to a penalty that occurs during the race such as corner cutting, short coursing, and improper reentry to the race surface or improper refueling.  
**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document**
  
- ✚ The current rule for stock usage of parts and accessories in the rule book (12.4.3) will now include Super Stock.  
Meaning, both of these classes may not utilize prototype vehicles or parts and accessories in competition.  
ROAR feels the research and development should come from the open or modified classes.  
**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to make those changes to the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**
  
- ✚ Concerns regarding the rule book and several changes made in 2009 were brought forward and it was realized with technology changing as quickly as it is now, alterations must be made to the rule book and we must understand what was a printed book must now be considered a document in constant revision.  
Therefore, ROAR will not pre print rule books and store as it has done for over 15 years but will print a small amount and alter the membership form to reflect the member's choice of receiving a printed book or opting to download from the internet, the most current copy. *The membership fees will now be at \$25.00 for an annual membership* and should the member opt

for a printed rule book the fee will be as always \$5.00 for the book and shipping and handling fees. All changes to the rule book will be posted in the news section immediately and updated versions will have document numbers and dates to the revision.

The news section will be the official notification area of any items of importance regarding the rule book for ROAR.

As always, track affiliates may retain \$5.00 of the paid membership for collection of "NEW" members to their facility.

Therefore, the track would send ROAR \$20.00 or \$25.00 only if the member selected to receive a printed rule book.

Older forms received for membership that state \$30.00, it will be assumed the racer opted for a printed rule book. Refunds of \$5.00 are not cost effective and will be refused in this case.

**ACTION ITEM to Administrator to replace membership forms with new membership fees and notify webmaster of changes for online membership sign up and renewal.**

- ✚ ROAR has a concern regarding track affiliates and their potential misunderstanding of their affiliation and what ROAR can or cannot provide to their facilities.

Discussions regarding using a city's travel and tourist bureaus came up and how can ROAR generate funding for a host facility and assist with knowledge on how to achieve successful events such as regional races. It was decided to appoint an assistant to the Promotions Director for just this purpose to increase better communication between facilities and ROAR so misunderstandings don't occur with as high a frequency.

ROAR appointed Mrs. Toni Hill as the official Promotions Assistant.

**ACTION ITEM to Promotions Director to begin projects with assistant immediately in regards to sanctioned events in 2010 and that locations Tourist Bureaus'.**

- ✚ Also in relation to marketing, ROAR's concern with the internet and traffic was brought forward. It was decided to utilize funds in a means of better marketing and better informing the membership about ROAR benefits and work being done by the organization on their behalf while opening up more online usage of registrations for affiliates. Online database management and an interactive site for members and track affiliates are highest in priority. Also, individual blogging pages for the management for regular updates to the membership regarding changes and upcoming news.

**ACTION ITEM to Secretary to provide marketing proposal to Excom by the end of November for utilization in 2010 as an added feature to existing website.**

- ✚ ROAR rules 9.4.5 and 9.4.6 and 9.4.8 will be removed from the rule book.

**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**

- ✚ Weight changes for Touring Car and 1/12<sup>th</sup> on road cars to reflect: 1420g in Touring Car and 730, single cell 1/12<sup>th</sup> car.

**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**

- ✚ Lithium battery dimension review.  
It was agreed to establish dimensions in ROAR that can be utilized worldwide for greater ease to industry affiliates.  
Prior conversations between ROAR and EFRA will established 2S stick and saddle pack dimensions and as of today, single cell stick dimensions as well.  
*2010 rule book to reflect these dimension changes:*  
2S Saddle 139mm x 47mm x 25.1 (dimensions to effect submissions beginning 1/1/2011. All previously submitted 2S saddle packs will have an extended approval through 2011.)  
The length dimension is two packs measured from end to end as a total of 139mm.  
Single cell 93mm x 47mm x 18.5 - all previously approved packs have a continued approval until 1/1/2011.  
**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**
  
- ✚ Lithium battery *maximum voltage* rules to be changed to 4.2v single, 8.4v 2S and 16.8 4S.  
There will be no allowances for overages.  
**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**
  
- ✚ Lithium battery rules in regards to temperature.  
There was one instance at a regional event where ambient could not be established due to several different locations of racers pit areas.  
ROAR nationals had no problems with establishing ambient temperatures in 2009 although concedes this could be a situation.  
ROAR will have to evaluate this at each event and establish the ambient test pack to be placed in the most extreme temperature location possible to ensure fairness and ensure no alterations are made to the battery packs.  
**ACTION ITEM for committee to evaluate 2009 events for ambient rule alterations.**
  
- ✚ ROAR currently has stated that off road vehicle bodies are permitted in sanctioned racing without an approval from the body committee.  
ROAR would like to continue this policy as long as the bodies being used are not in direct misuse of the intent of the class of which it represents. In order to take this early time of the off road fuel truck development, ROAR requests all body makers to contact the ROAR President at [president@roarracing.com](mailto:president@roarracing.com) to establish a working group of MFG's to establish a standard in 'truggy' bodies to avoid this class from becoming unrecognizable, much like what was done years ago with the off road electric truck body development. ROAR does not want to be forced into approval policies for off road bodies as is done in on road and sincerely wishes for the body makers to take the next year to establish these guidelines.  
*2011 will reflect rules in off road bodies to avoid any further confusion of what a class appearance should be.*  
**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR rule book document. ACTION ITEM to President to receive contacts from interested body makers and form working group of body consultants.**
  
- ✚ Short Course Truck proposal submitted several weeks ago was reviewed.  
It was the decision of the committee to not alter the dimensions of the current SCT rules for 2010.

Although, it is strongly urged that club racing and races outside of nationals research local racing programs that have open SCT events that allow all forms of this vehicle.

**ACTION ITEM to President to contact the submitting member.**

- ✚ ROAR has been informed and through extensive research has verified that product quantities for motors and batteries required for approval may be very difficult for most distributors to provide.

ROAR will remove the product quantity requirements ONLY in the approval system but will continue to require proof of distribution to a minimum of three retail outlets.

- ✚ With the product quantities being of difficulty to distributors and availability of some batteries at the end of approval cycles, ROAR will implement a three times a year battery approval cycle. *These cycles will be submission deadlines of January 1, April 1 and August 1 to the inspection lab.* Publication of the approved products will occur 30 days later with proven availability to the membership.

The distributor will be permitted a 30 day grace period for proof of retail availability, one time only within the cycle.

For example, a battery could be submitted January 1, 2010 and if the distributor cannot reflect availability by February 1, ROAR will grant an additional 30 days for proof before removing it from the published approval list.

**ACTION ITEM to Technical Director to alter approval forms to reflect this change and notify webmaster of these changes to online forms.**

**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR Rule book document.**

**ACTION ITEM to Technical Director to notify battery industry affiliates of change in approval system dates and quantity approvals.**

- ✚ ROAR has been asked to revise the current Dirt Oval rule set to more current and accepted standards.

**ACTION ITEM to Promotions Director to revise and submit updated rules as soon as possible for inclusion to the 2010 ROAR rule book document.**

- ✚ **SKILL BASED ELECTRIC CLASS STRUCTURES:** In an attempt to alter the structure of our class systems, ROAR will be implementing a skill based system over the next three years.

For 2010, ROAR will change the names of all (on road and off road) electric classes to "Sportsman Stock", "Expert Super Stock" and "Open Modified".

Changes to the Sportsman Stock only will occur in 2010. Expert Super Stock and Open Modified will not reflect any competition or participation changes.

- ✚ In addition to the rule set in 2008 regarding stock national champions, ROAR will also alter the **sportsman stock class** to reflect the following:

ROAR realizes establishing a level of sponsorship is impossible and expects sponsors and racers to be honorable regarding this class and abide by the intent ROAR has established which is felt to be necessary in order to generate interest and growth in RC racing. Those found violating these policies will not be allowed to continue at events and permanent suspensions could occur, including product approvals.

- ✓ 17.5 BL ROAR approved motors only

- ✓ Sportsman Stock racers will only participate in this class regardless of chassis division
- ✓ No advertising of RC brand names on vehicles, apparel, internet and print media or other sources of marketing
- ✓ Sportsman drivers may not have any form of compensation either monetarily or with product. This includes travel, lodging, and incentive programs.
- ✓ Although sponsorship cannot be verified by ROAR in all cases, should the driver be protested and proven to violate these rules, the racer will be DQ'd from the event and the sponsor's affiliation will receive sanctions from ROAR.
- ✓ Sportsman drivers cannot have their entry fees paid by any type of business entity, regardless of industry affiliation.
- ✓ Driver introductions for A mains are limited to name, age, home city and special thanks of non RC affiliated personnel.
- ✓ Touring Car classes will be rubber tire only.

**ACTION ITEM to President and Competition Director to reflect these changes in the 2010 ROAR Rule book document.**