

AORC NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 July 07

Welcome to the first edition of the 2007 Australian Off Road Championship Newsletter. It is our intention to use the newsletter as a means of keeping in touch with all AORC competitors, organisers, officials and fans and also bringing the latest in news and points to each of you on a regular basis.

Each edition of our newsletter will feature a profile of a current AORC competitor – This month we will see what Matt Hanson has planned for this season and beyond. If you would like to be considered for this feature or if you have any news or information that you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter then please don't hesitate to contact janahm@cams.com.au

We hope that you enjoy the first edition and look forward to seeing you all in action at Pines!

Campbell and Janah

CAMS Off Road Department



Photo taken by shane@offroadracing.com.au



A min from Admin

There have recently been a few questions raised regarding Off Road Numbers for the Pro Buggy class and what will happen once the last of the numbers are snapped up (and they almost have been).

It has been decided by AORCom that in the event of all numbers for a class being taken that people who wish to register for the Championship may do so by filling out the registration form and paying the \$35 fee. Once all of the class numbers are allocated, the applicant will not be issued with a number at all, but will still be considered registered and the organisers will issue a number that is not being used for their event to that competitor.

The response to AORC Registration has been fantastic, we are now half way through the season and we are still receiving registrations on a daily basis! I urge anybody who would like to be eligible for AORC points at any of the remaining rounds to get your forms into CAMS asap.

Upcoming Events

July 14 & 15	AORC 3 Pines
August 18 & 19	AORCom face to face Meeting
August 23-27	Australian Safari

Ambulance Cover in SA

In 2008 Ambulance cover in South Australia will become compulsory. As a result, Off Road competitors competing in SA will be required to tick a box on their entry form stating that they are covered. No proof of this cover will be required as a large number of people have this cover incorporated into their medical benefits and don't have a "card" as such.

The declaration on the entry form will take away the risk or potential risk of the person who calls for an Ambulance, or the event organisers getting sent a bill due to the inability of the injured person to pay.



Competitor Behaviour

Now that we are half way through the AORC season competitors are starting to get a little more serious about points and results. Whilst it is great to see that teams are so passionate about their racing perhaps sometimes this passion combined with the stress of competition can intensify into something more inappropriate, it is for this reason that it is relevant to explain a little about the CAMS Member Protection Policy and its relevance to anyone reading this newsletter.

As most of you are probably aware off road events including the AORC rely on the continuing hard work and commitment of volunteers. This means that chances are that the next Marshal, Scrutineer, Time Keeper, Observer or Radio Operator that you see at an event has elected to use their own time to assist the event (and therefore you) with their services. The disrespect of any Official or Volunteer under any circumstance or situation will not be tolerated and could incur serious consequences as per both the NCR and Member Protection Policy.

The CAMS Member Protection Policy was brought into effect in 2006 with the aim to ensure the core values, good reputation and positive behaviours and attitudes of CAMS are maintained. It assists us in ensuring that every person involved in our sport is treated with respect and dignity, and is safe and protected from abuse. The policy covers a wide range of topics including; bullying, complaints, mediation and disciplinary measures and is relative for all CAMS members and those who participate in the activities of CAMS.

To date there have been only a handful of situations this season where some self restraint should have occurred before unnecessary confrontation took place, and we hope to see no more of this for the remainder of the season. It is expected that at AORC level all involved should be well aware that there are specific paths to follow if you have a justified complaint or opinion. At every AORC round you will see John Paterson, the Chairman of the Australian Off Road Commission, and at many events the CAMS Off Road and/or State Manager, and all of those people would happily make time to hear any particular issues you may have. In addition you should utilise the service of the Competitor Relations Officer (CRO) to assist with your event related issues.

The CAMS Member Protection Policy is available online at:

<http://www.cams.com.au/content.asp?ObjectID=71&PageID>About> and we would highly recommend that you take the time to read through this, as well as revisiting the NCR (in particular NCR 183) in order to understand the code of conduct you are required to abide to by CAMS.

Please take this as a friendly warning, as any further actions which are in breach of the rules outlined above will be acted upon.

AORC Overall Pointscores after AORC

Round 2—Top 5

For further AORC Pointscores please refer to the attached

AORC Driver Outright		AORC CoDriver Outright	
Hayden Bentley	35	Ben Chivell	35
Brad Prout	25	John Kawacki	23
Eric Phillips	20	Kerry Crowe	15
Bruce Chapman	12	Hugh Austin	12
Buddy Crowe	12	Mick Shannon	12
Pro Class - Driver		Pro Lite - Driver	
Hayden Bentley	139	Jaako Kylma	69
Eric Phillips	90	Justin Watt	65
Brad Prout	84	Anthony Fehlhaber	40
Buddy Crowe	70	Robert Mowbray	20
Bruce Chapman	59	Ben Erceg	19.5
Super 1650 - Driver		Sportsman - Driver	
Stewart Pritchard	64.5	Timothy Harris	39.5
David Cowan	40.5	Peter Barnes	19.5
Matthew Martin	24	Keijo Kylma	15
Extreme 2wd - Driver		Performance 2wd -Driver	
Greg Campbell	65	Peter Kozak	113
Brad Gallard	65	Paul Richey	64.5
Bruce Muir	65	David Rohlfack	52
Bernard Gwynne	59	Scott Rogers	51
Gavin Mickle	59	Geoff Teagle	47
Production 4wd- Driver		Extreme 4wd- Driver	
Geoff Pickering	109	Colin Hunter	109
		Matt O'Brien	47
		David Fong	41.75
		Trevor Spencer	12

Fuel Testing

Please note that CAMS is has been conducting fuel tests at AORC events and will continue to do so. To date there have been no issues. Thank you all for your cooperation.



A Moment with Matt Hanson

Pines is only a few days away now and among those competitors eagerly looking forward to sitting on that start line is Melbourne driver Matt Hanson. We caught up with Matt before Finke Desert Race and enticed him to spill the beans on his new toy!

Name: Matt Hanson

Age: 34

Occupation: Group Finance Director (Moraitis Group – contract position)

Club: VORRA / Portland Dune Buggy Club

Years of competition: 22

Navigator/Co Driver: Luke Gladman

Sponsors: Dean Williams Engineering / Racer Imports

Team: Start Me Up Racing

Car: Porter Pro Class Buggy #7

Engine: BMW 5.0 litre V10



Tell us about your new toy! How long did it take to build?

We received the bare frame from Porter Race Cars (US) in December after ordering the car on the Tuesday after Finke 2006.

Dean Williams, with the assistance of Eric Schlifelner did a fantastic job building the car. We had plenty of help along the way from Cam Ritchie at Racer Imports, and Greg Smith and MoTec getting the engine to run. CV problems kept us from competing at Hyden and remain an unknown at Finke.

Overall, we are extremely happy with the finished car and cannot wait to get it to the track!

Who is your closest rival? (Who would you love to beat?)

We have had some great battles with Cam McClelland in the Super 1650s in recent times so no doubt there will be some new competition in Pro Class.

Rentsch, Burrows, Fellows, Chapman etc...there are so many quality drivers and cars in Pro class that should make for a great spectacle in the 2007 Championship.

What is your favourite AORC event and why?

Hyden has been good to us over the last couple of years so we enjoy that. All of the rounds are so unique and have their own feel that there is not really an event that we don't enjoy. It was our first time at Goondiwindi last year and we loved it - a real drivers track and looking forward to that race again in October.

What advice would you give to new competitors to the Off Road scene?

The best advice I ever got (and failed to take notice of up until about 2 years ago!) was "To finish first, first you must finish". An oldie but a goodie and very relevant to Off Road...

Any advice to the oldies??

I could say "check your mirrors" or "they all wear blouses" but I'm not that stupid.....plus Neil falls into that category now and he is important in the pits!

Where would you like to be in 10 years?

I would love to still be racing and enjoying it. To have raced in the US would also be good at some stage. We have only raced the Nationals over the last 2 years and have had a lot of fun and met some great people. Our whole family is involved with Lyn, Neil and Sam getting to all the races. Off Road is really starting to come of age with a lot of excitement in the sport at the moment and we look forward to being a part of it into the future.

Most embarrassing Off Road moment/Funny story:

A few trees and rollovers whilst testing the gravitational limits of car #284 over the years.....not intended to be repeated in car #7!

Best wishes to Matt and his team
For Pines and the remainder of
The 2007 season,



Crew sign-on at Briefings



As those of you who regularly check the CAMS website may have noticed, there was a bulletin issued taking affect from 5th April 2007 relating to crew sign on requirements.

B07/041 came into effect to clarify the requirements for crew sign on at an event. The changes were made to make it clear that both a Driver AND Co-Driver would be required to attend briefings held, with no room for misinterpretation by either crew member.

For further details see the CAMS website:<http://www.cams.com.au> and click on the Bulletin list on the right hand side of the page.

Off Road Manager's wrap up

Be it the change to the class names, the new numbering system or changes to the Class Championship, you will have noticed there have been quite a number of changes for the 2007 issue of the AORC. So far it would appear that now we are beyond the initial implementation phase, people are beginning to understand these changes well.

As you may be aware, many of these changes are part of a larger plan for improving various aspects of the Championship. In particular they are aimed at making the championship a little more marketable and getting it some more exposure for both it and its participants - you. There is no doubt the competition and the cars are already great and now only the finishing touches are required.

Just a reminder that the Australian Off Road Commission can consider any issues you might have relating to Off Road - if you wish to raise any such matters, please discuss with a Commissioner or feel free to contact the office.

Finally, I hope you've found the newsletter and its new format an improvement. We'd like this to be a useful document for you, so if you have any comments to make or suggestions of topics to cover, we'd be more than happy to hear from you.

See you around the AORC.

Cheers,
Campbell Andrea
Manager - Off Road



2007 Teagle Excavations Pines Enduro

Even if you aren't competing, come and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Teagle Excavations Pines Enduro, on the weekend of the 13th, 14th and 15th of July. Millicent is the location for the race which will be round 3 of the Australian Off Road Championship and round 1 of the South Australian Off Road Championship. Scrutineering will be held at the showgrounds in town on the Friday evening. With the prologue and the main race all starting from Teagle's quarry which is situated on the outskirts of town. The quarry provides excellent viewing and catering for family and friends. The race is the only off road race which has NO DUST, which means plenty of passing opportunities providing two days of exciting off road action. There is a \$1000 dollar 30th anniversary bonus award to the outright winner. The first event was held in 1978 with around 15 cars competing, with the race being won by Peter Baron. The race will be around 400kms in length and consist of 9 laps of a 45km course. So head for Millicent on the weekend of 14th and 15th of July and help celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Teagle Excavations Pines Enduro.— *Phil Hatley*