



Home of Future Champions
Vice President's Report

It has been a busy few months since our last general meeting so here is a quick update of what's been happening.

Scoreboard

New lap scoreboards have been purchased and installed. We now have a large lap scoreboard for the start finish line and a smaller unit to be erected somewhere visible from the out grid. The scoreboards are configured to communicate with each other to ensure that everyone is aware of the lap count. They will also count down in minutes for the purposes of timed qualifying etc. A big thank you to Graham Castledine for organising this.

Break-ins

We have been the victim of three separate break-ins this year. During one break-in the perimeter fence was cut and the club's box trailer was stolen, the trailer has subsequently been replaced. We have also had LPG gas bottles, fire extinguishers and a water pump stolen. We have also been the victim of vandalism/theft where all the copper pipes in the amenities block were ripped of the wall. In all cases the police were notified and an insurance claim lodged. I have had a discussion with the Ipswich City Council's Motorsport Precinct chief technical officer with regard to using the house for a live in caretaker. If we want to go down that route the club will have to lodge a Development Application to allow for a permanent dwelling on site.

Amenities Block

The club received a grant last year for the upgrading of the sewer on site through the Office of Liquor and Gaming's Community Benefit Fund. We have successfully applied to have this grant extended until November this year. We are now putting plans in place to refurbish the amenities blocks with the grant money put towards the sewage component of that work.

Track Development Fund

The club acted on the resolution from our last general meeting to sell pit allocations to our members. This was met with overwhelming support and has resulted in a sell-out of all available spaces. Thank you to Nigel Smeaton and all those that helped to achieve this. The revenue generated from the sale of these pit bays has been put towards a newly created track development fund. The purpose of this fund is to build up the resources required to re-surface the track. In addition some of you may have noticed that when nominating for a race meeting you have the option to make a \$15 donation to the track development fund. \$15 is a small donation however if one hundred people made this donation it would generate \$1500 in revenue each race meeting.



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Track

The track has been inspected and the club has now received the Track Report and been granted a licence. There is work to be done if alternate layouts are to be used. For any layout in the anti-clockwise direction additional grave traps, tyre barriers and other speed arresting devices will need to be installed. Alternate layouts in the clockwise direction have been approved for daytime running only as some of the lighting will need to be relocated to illuminate dark track sections. Whilst on the topic of the track, the club has taken measures to address the issue of the track edges requiring constant maintenance. In the most problematic areas grass pavers have been installed adjacent to the kerbing. These pavers are similar to those used to create emergency vehicle turning lanes on our highways. They allow for grass to grow or dirt to fill in around small concrete protrusions. This holds the ground surface together whilst not allowing for an extension to the track surface.

Committee Movements

There has been quite a bit of movement in terms of the committee positions in the last few months. Both our president Kevin Castles and our secretary Jo Phillips have had to vacate their positions due to increasing work commitments. That is also the case for our Race Secretary Thomasina Whalley and general committee member Dean Devisser. We would like to thank all these people for their commitment to the club and their efforts to ensure that we all have a place to come and race. Kevin Castles has agreed to stay on in a general committee capacity whilst Jo Philips will retain her role as club administration assistant. The club has been very fortunate to engage two long time members of the club, Scott Howard as president and Tanya Trost as Secretary. I would like to wish those leaving the committee well and those joining the committee all the best in ensuring that the club moves forward and prospers. One further note the role of Race Secretary will not be filled at this stage as the committee is re-evaluating the position description. In the interim the role will be shared, with our existing committee member Russel Innes performing the traditional Race Secretary functions and Donna Cowie performing the role of Secretary of the Meeting on race days.
