

April 2013 Presidents' Update

Since taking on the role of CARS President on Feb 15th 2013 I've been very busy coming up to speed on CARS business. Learning who's who and what the board is all about.

As President I am really in a role that serves the CARS board, that's the regional directors, the five people who represent the clubs and the rally community at large:

Clarke Paynter	ARMS
Ivan Butikofer	RSQ
Jim Morrow	RSO
Bryan Lord	RW
Martin Burnley	RPM

The 5 regional directors are the voting board; but I'm really pleased to say that we have a very knowledgeable and experienced extended board that includes a number of key people who's input to the decision making is invaluable, who are involved in the daily operations of our organization, its often the extended board that bring some continuity and sober second thoughts to issues and of course represent the competitors and organizers through their reps:

Terry Epp	CRC Series Manager
Keith Morison	Marketing & Media Manager
Ross Wood	Organizer Representative
Chris Martin	Competitor Representative
Darryl Malone	Technical Director
Debbie Dyer	CARS Office

I see my role largely as a facilitator of the process; I can help steer things & grease the wheels so to speak, however jumping into this role with no previous CARS board experience put me onto a very steep learning curve with lots of advice, information & ideas to absorb.

I can sum up my initial thoughts by saying how impressed I am with the degree of commitment and sense of duty the overall board have to our sport.

For me understanding where we came from is critical to understanding where we should be going. I have reviewed as much history as I can on Rally, the formation of CARS and what's been happening right through until I took over the Presidents role.

Currently there are a number of issues that need to be dealt with, mostly minor but all requiring our attention.

However in my mind, before we forged ahead making decisions, It was important that we take the time to articulate the vision of our desired future state, a vision that states in a clear & succinct manner what the future of rally in Canada looks like.

I needed to know that we're all looking at the same picture of where we're going so that we can check our decisions for alignment with the vision.

This week we have issued bulletin 2013-06 that contains the CARS Vision, Mission and Objectives. Next steps are to capture the 2013 goals; these are the specific tasks and projects that we will be working on this year.

The Vision, Mission, Objectives and Goals document will be reviewed and updated at least annually.

The board is also active on the following list of items:

1. We've formalized the rule change process to include both a Technical Rules Committee and an Administrative Rules Committee, the process calls for adequate review and input time prior to the board adopting rule changes. Bulletin 2013-007 has been issued
2. We have been able to get improved insurance coverage for volunteers while they have their vehicles located in a restricted area of a hot stage. Look at <http://www.asncanada.com> under the insurance tab for details.
3. The board has implemented the use of a survey tool that can be used to collect input on such topics as spec fuel.
4. Both of our series sponsors, Subaru Canada and Yokohama have renewed their partnership with CARS for the 2013 season.
5. We have engaged a new media company who will continue to film our events and produce TV broadcasts in both English and French. In addition they will lead our effort to increase social media content on our [CARS Rally TV YouTube channel](#), the CRC [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter account](#).
6. A number of technical rule clarifications have been approved and gone out recently on bulletin 2013-04 and 2013-08 as follows;
 - a. Hydraulic handbrakes in production, free brake rule clarification
 - b. Pedal boxes in production, free brake rule clarification
 - c. First Aid kit clarifications
 - d. Towrope storage clarifications
 - e. Light-weighting of production car clarifications
7. Several technical rules are still under review
 - a. Seat expiry, addressing concerns over the 5 year expiration
 - b. Roll Bar padding and if we want to follow RA's lead on expanded placement requirements
 - c. Defining Model Range as it relates to class
 - d. The use of DOT helmets in Rally Cross
8. A number of administrative rules are currently under review and include;

- a. Triangle use rules and adoption of additional signage
 - b. O2WD scoring for 2014. 6/6 vs 4/6 to count
 - c. Overall & 2WD championship versus AWD and 2WD championships
9. A number of committees/teams are active on the following list of issues. We have introduced a formal mandating process to ensure clarity of expectations and deliverables from these teams;
- a. Not-For-Profit Corporation legislation
 - b. Vehicle Tracking systems
 - c. Speed Factor options for start order
 - d. Safety guideline review
 - e. Website development
 - f. Large displacement 2WD classification issues
 - g. Steward Management system
 - h. Discontinued pursuit of a fuel spec program
10. Other new business that we're starting to deal with includes;
- a. 2WD CRC trophy
 - b. Restarting after DNF (super rally)
 - c. Crisis response plan in case of an escalating emergency situation
 - d. Vehicle registration
 - e. CARS standings database

I'd like to believe that communication and transparency will help us achieve our goals. As part of my contribution I will attempt to publish a regular "Presidents Update" that contains an overview of what's happening in CARS.

Please feel free to get back to me directly or talk to your Regional Director with comments or concerns

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