

Presidents Update – July 2013

Since my first update in April The Extended Board has continued to make considerable progress towards our 2013 goals. The time, effort and dedication of not only the Extended Board, but also the various working groups and committees, is commendable and very much appreciated by myself, and others that I talk to.

This update includes a few highlights from the quarter followed by a detailed status update of our goals:

Social Media and TV

Our social media efforts continue to improve with some 80 tweets from Rallye Baie des Chaleurs and the first of four online videos released on July 19. The 2WD, Subaru and Yokohama videos should be coming shortly. With each event we expect to see more participation on our social media channels and an increased profile for the CRC and the sport.

Our traditional exposure continues to be important and I'm pleased to announce an English language broadcast deal is in place that will see the programs air on TSN2 and TSN through an agreement similar to the last several years. We are, of course, continuing to work towards a French Language broadcast deal and expect to have one in place shortly. The plan is that our six events and a summary show will be scheduled to air through the fall this year.

Large Displacement Solution

It appears we have found a meaningful resolution to the issue of allowing Gr 5 cars a continued home in the National Championship. Rule changes are coming to allow the larger displacement 2WD vehicles to continue in the 2WD classes. The new rules went out on bulletins in July asking for rally community input. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed rule changes and the board has approved the changes as proposed. The revised 2WD rules will be in the 2014 rulebook.

Extended Board Changes

Darryl Malone will be stepping down from the role of Technical Director at the end of this year. Darryl has performed the role of Technical Director for a number of years and his expertise and participation on the CARS board will be missed.

The board is looking for a suitable replacement and would appreciate hearing from anyone with the skills and desire to take on the role.

In addition, Bryan Lord has resigned as CARS rep for Rally West. His predecessor, Eric Grochowski, has been appointed by RallyWest to return to the CARS board until the Rally West organization can hold elections.

Seat Expiry

After considerable discussion in a number of circles, we expect the strict adherence to the five-year expiration for seats will be replaced with a rule that allows for ongoing visual inspection after five years and replacement of seats after 10 years.

Recognised Championships for 2014 and beyond

Since the introduction of the four-class structure we have had much debate about what should be awarded in terms of our National Championship. There is a desire to recognize the 2wd champions appropriately, which is already seen in this year's move to have national podiums at each event for overall and 2WD.

For 2014 and beyond, the Deak and Fidler trophies will continue to be awarded annually to the overall champions. In addition, equally impressive trophies will be awarded to our 2WD champions. We will also continue to recognize year-end class awards for drivers, co-drivers and manufacturers in all four classes.

Goals Update for July 2013 follows:

GOALS FOR 2013

1. Continue development of this Vision, Mission, and Objectives document.
(John Hall - complete for 2013, will develop 2014 goals for presentation at the AGM)
2. Clarify and document the rules change process to include both administrative and technical rule changes procedure.
(John Hall – complete, we now have both a Tech Rules Committee and an Admin Rules Committee that review all rule change requests, research and make proposals to change or not)
3. Address all technical and administrative rule changes in a timely manner while ensuring adequate time for rally community input.
(Tech and Admin Rules Committees are following the process and ensure that adequate time and consideration is given to rally community input to proposed rule changes)
4. Make proposals relative to technical rule clarification and change requests (Technical Rules Committee)
 - o Seat expiry *(in final stages of approval)*
 - o Light weighting of production cars *(complete)*
 - o Hydraulic handbrakes in production cars *(complete)*

- Use of pedal boxes in production *(complete)*
 - First aid kit accessibility *(complete)*
 - Tow rope locations *(complete)*
 - Roll cage padding similar to RA rule
 - Model range clarification
 - DOT helmet use in Rally-X
5. Make proposals relative to administrative rule clarification and change requests (Admin Rules Committee)
 - Review Series' Scoring Rules prior to the 2014 season 6/6 or 4/6 for 2WD. *(complete, decision made to go 6/6 for the 2014 season, based upon the fact that we are trying to elevate the 2WD championship)*
 - Review Triangle use rules *(proposal approved by board, going out for rally community review.)*
 - Championship awards CRC overall & 2WD or 4WD & 2WD *(complete, decision made to have two major championships in 2014. The overall championship for the Deak & Fidler trophies and the 2WD championship for the yet to be named but equally impressive 2WD championship trophies)*
 6. Ensure compliance with impending Federal Not-For-Profit Corporation legislation through a re-write of the by-laws. *(Martin Loveridge is working with NFP legislation committee and will have proposed by-law amendments ready for presentation to an EGM which will occur in conjunction with the AGM in January 2014)*
 7. Improve financial reporting for dissemination to the elected Board with quarterly expenditure reports referenced to budget. *(The Treasurer, Martin Burnley is providing quarterly financial updates and has introduced a capital planning process that the board will start to use)*
 8. Input to new insurance coverage for volunteer vehicles *(complete, the insurance policy was modified to include coverage for volunteer vehicles while on a hot stage)*
 9. Conduct a complete review of the Safety Guidelines. Identify required safety practices and recommended safety guidelines. *(Ross Wood is leading the safety guideline review committee who plan to be complete the review by YE 2013 – Committee has met a couple of times and are making progress)*
 10. Develop new media program working with Muskateer Media to produce TV and Social media content. *(Keith Morison has been working closely with ACP from Muskateer Media as well as our sponsors to ensure a satisfactory broadcast deal to in place for 2013. Progress being made with an English language broadcast deal for the 7 CRC shows complete. Currently working on French language broadcast deal.)*
 11. Continue development and improvements to CARS website. *(Keith Morison – website development has been slow but continuing to look at our options)*

12. Determine if an electronic vehicle tracking system is needed/viable/affordable.
Make proposals
(Keith Morison developed a testing protocol, is arranging for test equipment from RallySafe. The testing of Rallysafe at various locations across the country will occur through the summer into the fall. Will want to assure ourselves that the system will work flawlessly in all circumstances before committing to its use and searching for sponsors to offset operating costs.)
13. Develop and implement an emergency & crisis response manual
(John Hall – No progress will defer to 2014)
14. Implement the use of an electronic survey tool for gathering input.
(Keith Morison, complete and survey monkey is used regularly by the board to gather input to various topics)
15. Determine if further changes to the Class structure are required by June 30th 2013 and monitor thereafter.
(Martin Burnley led the Large Displacement Committee who proposed rule changes that received rally community feedback and have now been adopted by the board for inclusion in the rules.)
16. Assess the use of a Spec Fuel program. Provide feedback to the rally community on the value and proposed direction to be taken by CARS.
(Keith Morison – the review of a spec fuel program was completed, the board decided to not proceed with a spec fuel program at this time)
17. Organize training and/or training materials for both Stewards and Organizers.
(Ivan Butikofer has been working on this project)
18. Provide monitoring and support of the Pacific Forest Rally and the Rallye Baie des Chaleurs to ensure that national standards are met.
(Terry Epp is continuing to work with the events and has received excellent responses from all organizers)
19. Determine if the use of Speed Factor in conjunction with the current seeding system is to be implemented.
(Jim Morrow – continuing to work with the speed factor committee who have developed a prototype system that they are testing with various event data. Hoping to have some proposals by YE 2013)
20. Review CRC restarting rules after a DNF. Possibly introducing super rally concept.
(Admin Rules Committee – will work on this item later in 2013)
21. Ensure that each Region observe at least one Rally-Cross event in 2013.
(Regional Directors)
22. Monitor P4WD weights and recommend a minimum weight for 2014
(Darryl Malone – thru 2013)
23. Monitor/enforce rally car noise levels and review current noise rule.
(Darryl Malone – thru 2013)
24. Document the process for issuing the rule book annually
(Terry Epp – thru 2013)

25. Communicate progress on 2013 goals with membership on a quarterly basis as part of the Presidents update
(John Hall – April complete – July complete)

John Hall
President
Canadian Association of Rallysport