

CARS Board Meeting Minutes December 10, 2025

Item	Discussion
1	<p>Meeting was called to order by Bill Westhead on Wednesday December 10 at 4:32 pm PT</p> <p>In attendance: BW Bill Westhead (President) RO Rose Oakhill (RPM Director) MSz Michael Szewczyk ((RW Director & Treasurer) DC David Cotie (RSO Director & Treasurer) FE François East (RSQ Director & Vice President) MSw Malcolm Swann (ARMS Director & Secretary) CK Chris Kremer (Past President) FS Frédéric Senterre (Media Production and Marketing)</p> <p>We have Quorum with 5 Region Directors present.</p>
2	<p>Agenda: <i>Motion to approve</i> was made, seconded and carried. (DC & MSz)</p>
3	<p>Approval of Previous Minutes. <i>A motion to adopt</i> the Nov 12, 2025 board meeting minutes was made, seconded and carried. (MSz & DC)</p>
4	<p>Financial 2025 update</p> <p>DC –Presented YTD Income Statement & 2026 Budget Both are sent out to the membership in advance of the AGM in January. Discussion ensued on budget line items. Moving from an audit process to a review process in 2026. Looking to update website and create electronic logbook in 2026.</p> <p>Motion to approve the budget for distribution, was made, seconded and carried. (MSw & MSz)</p>
5	<p>CRC report</p> <p>DC – Tall Pines: 29 entries with 23 finishers. Unfortunate issue during recce. All road conditions were in use from gravel to ice. Typical weather. 2 significant rolls. Won by Ricardo & Hernandez in the Citroen. Event went well; sweep was busy, good volunteer numbers but overrun with spectators at one point. Managed to run on time for most of the event. FE – Very challenging roads, generally a good event, without issues.</p> <p>RO – Big White: ploughing concerns brought forward. 29 entries, 26 finishers. Won by Ricardo & Hernandez in the Citroen. Typical snow rally. Having prepared class podiums, very much appreciated and a big morale boost.</p> <p>MSz – Also re ploughing of static areas, Parc expose etc. Some sweep teams seemed a bit underprepared, which is not something we usually see. Spectator stage was great. Arrowing was on point. Issue with recce with cars getting stuck.</p> <p>BW – 5 sets of stud gauges were in use and Martin was checking studs at each service. Neutral zone test was not successful. To be reassessed for next trial.</p> <p>CRC 2026 dates have been finalized. Rallye Defi confirmed Sept 11-12 & moving event to Le Beauce.</p>

	<p>Anyone with contacts at Domtar logging, please let the RSQ team know.</p> <p>In all Regions, CARS continues to look for interested individuals to learn and develop as Stewards.</p> <p>Perce Neige requires a NSM representative.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>CRC Media Report</p> <p>2025 has been a very good year. While Facebook growth has been good, Instagram engagement is growing more & more. WCRC social team have really been doing great work throughout the year with consistent content.</p> <p>Can we have a CRC designated photographer at each event. Rationale to link with FS and ensure media has a conduit. Provide a central person to co-ordinate with FS. Ensure coverage beyond just stage content. Eg shakedown, inspection, service, podium. During the event, not just after.</p> <p>In this way we can tell the story of the rally while it is happening!</p> <p>BW – Yes there is a voracious appetite for content during each event.</p> <p>DC – Tall pines had over 470,000 engagements over the weekend with over 200,000 on the Saturday.</p> <p>Can we fill the gaps between events by featuring people who are building a car, getting started in rally, volunteering etc.</p> <p>FS to draft a proposal re creating a path for better coverage for events. To reach more people.</p> <p>CRC official merchandise: how to create and do this. Print on demand set-up, so no stock. Outsource to remove risk. Clothing, stickers, posters, hero cards, officials clothing. FE- e.g. RSQ used Trium and a token system for officials for example. Once created we could offer this to teams as well. BW clothing must be high quality.</p> <p>If we are revamping the website – how do we raise the bar on our competitor profiles to meet this demand? Spectator guide with team profiles, links?</p> <p>Organizers; event photog or media contact, social media manager. Do we update the event responsibilities to include this. Meet w Frederic 4 weeks prior to establish this contact.</p> <p>Frederic to bring some options / proposals to January Board meeting.</p> <p>BW we need to ensure that we are happy with the standards and execution.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Region Event Updates</p> <p>MSw – ARMS updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First RX event cancelled due to weather; 2nd event went well. • January for next 2 RX events.

	<p>FE – RSQ update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM last weekend calendar set and first event, (rallycross) in January at new facility. • Region bylaws changed to meet new provincial nonprofit laws. • New RSQ board has 7 voting members. Clubs are still the members of CARS with one club one vote. • Paying (licensed) members belong to a club. General members e.g. volunteers will be members of RSQ, not linked to a club, which should help with communication for volunteers. This will also help RSQ in discussions with the government. <p>DC – RSO updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar finalized but not published • Co-ordinated with RSQ re 2 winter road rallies so they are on consecutive weekends. <p>MSz – RW updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERC holding a RX next weekend. 8 more planned. • CSCC to hold 8 event series as well. • Performance calendar is set with test days and co-driver school. <p>RO – RPM update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last 2025 event this weekend at Thunder Mountain. • We have a waitlist for many BC RX events. Very healthy • Totem Road rally held end of November with 14 entries. • Thunderbird TSD scheduled for the end of January
8	<p>Club updates: BW led a discussion on clubs and CARS affiliation. We want to encourage a broad representation within our member clubs, including activities that support the sport.</p> <p>Reviewed: CARS membership is not a right or entitlement to any individual or group. The board also has the right to expel any member or individual without right of appeal, as long as the process as outlined in our rules and bylaws is specifically followed.</p>
9	<p>CARS AGM Preparations:</p> <p>Nominees: Rose Oakhill for RPM, Michael Szewczyk for Rally West, Éric Dubé for RSQ, Bill Westhead for President. Competitor Rep has 2 nominees; David Ma & Mikaël Arsenaault.</p> <p>No current nomination for organizers rep.</p> <p>Regional directors are voted by their regions’ clubs, and confirmed at the AGM.</p> <p>AGM package is available for download on the CARS website and has been sent to member clubs.</p> <p>Looking to present Championship trophies and Ken Vaughn memorial trophy at Perce Neige.</p>
10	<p>Sponsorship: To discuss w Pirelli; what worked, what didn’t and how to improve in 2026. Talking with another potential sponsor; looking currently at a regional level arrangement. RSQ- Nokian Tire is potentially sponsoring the Quebec rallycross series.</p>
11	<p>Safety Delegate: regrets</p>
12	<p>Competitors’ Representative: regrets</p>

13	<p>Technical Rules Committee: Discussion on use of carbon fiber OEM roof in a build. Issue with splinters? As per the current rules this roof is allowed.</p> <p>Does rallysafe require attachment to metal to work properly?</p> <p>FE: Can we look at a Western & Eastern Scrutineer attending events? Inconsistencies from event to event. Basic safety equipment is checked but we do not always see the restrictor checked or the cars weighed.</p> <p>Acknowledgment from directors that there is a lack of consistency and in some cases understanding across the country, in relation to technical scrutineering.</p> <p>CK: cost will still be in the region of 13-15 K. The need to balance costs vs value.</p> <p>BW: there is not a desire to add more cost, but there is a strong interest in promoting higher quality Scrutineering and verification of safety equipment</p> <p>Can we create a network of scrutineers that can share best practices, information etc on an event-by-event basis? It could be as simple as a what's app group or a zoom meeting to facilitate this group talking to each other.</p>
14	<p>Admin Rules Committee: regrets</p>
15	<p>New Business</p> <p>CK: look at making Tall Pines the last event of current season and Big White first event of following season. Rationale; inability to get eastern teams to travel west at the end of a long and expensive year. Allows teams to decide whether to start chasing the next season instead of trying to finance sudden western trip. Can this make a difference for the competitor base without hurting any of the events. I'm not in contention for this year, so I will skip Tall Pines and plan on Big White to start next year off. Allows for the choice to be made instead of being forced into a quick expensive decision. Tall Pines is also the centrally located event, which makes it optimum for a season finale.</p> <p>Licensing of volunteers is a way of documenting and tracking your supporters. Allows events to assign appropriate levels of responsibility, based on experience.</p> <p>Concern with more spectators than planned for at last 4 events. Make organizers aware. Social engagement is driving this?</p> <p>DC OPP turned away over 200 cars from one spectator point. Weather is also a factor in this.</p>
16	<p>Next meeting – Wednesday January 7, 2026 at 7:00pm ET.</p>
17	<p>Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried (DC & MSz)</p>