

AUSTRALIAN OFF ROAD COMMISSION

DATE: 11 MARCH 2024

DOCUMENT: BRIEF / SUMMARY

MEETING: TEAMS TELECONFERENCE

RATIFICATION OF DECISION MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS

Motorsport Australia Technical has been working with a paraplegic competitor to facilitate several modifications to a Can-Am Maverick X3, including Safety cage updates and hand controls permitted within the regulations. As part of the hand operated throttle and brake pedal installation, the competitor requested approval to install an increased ratio steering mechanism to allow full functionality of the hand control mechanism.

The Commission approved and ratified the decision.

MATTERS ARISING / NEW BUSINESS

MIN 0701 Fuel Rail, Fuel Lines and Fuel Pump Placement for SXS

A discussion took place on allowing freedom to change the fuel rail on SXS engines. The factory fuel rail on most SXS vehicles is plastic, and the fuel lines attach to the rail with plastic clips. There is evidence to suggest that with repeated use, these clips are failing either on their own or when the vehicle is subjected to moderate to heavy impact - heavy suspension bottoming, roll over impact. There are instances of such failures causing fuel to spray onto hot engine components including two at the 2023 Kalgoorlie Desert Race.

Action: Place on agenda and progress in between meetings.

MIN 0702 Off Road Strategic Plan

The Commission presented the 2025 - 27 Off Road Strategic Plan which included the following primary objectives:

- 1) Increase participation at all levels of the sport, specifically grassroots and younger competitors.
- 2) Proactive interaction between commission, Competitors, clubs/event Organisers.
- 3) Provide clear pathway for sport development for the next 5 years.
- 4) Strategic review of SR's and GR's, with focus on SXS's and future developments in our sport.
- 5) Develop relationship with key stakeholders and Sponsors.

Action: Responsibilities will be divided amongst Commissioners. Commissioners will then update the Commission on their nominated responsibilities at each Commission meeting.

MIN 0703 FIA Safety Delegate Course

Motorsport Australia adopted the Rally Safety Delegate role from the FIA. For more information click here - https://www.fia.com/sites/default/files/rally_safety_delegates_guidelines_1.pdf

The newly formed role applies to the Australian Rally Championship and as of 2024, now applies to the Australian Off Road Championship. Click here for more information - <https://www.aorc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-AORC-and-SXS-Sporting-Regulations-Addendum-V2-.pdf>

The Commission recommended officials' with off road experience should apply for the FIA Safety Delegate course.

MIN 0705 EX4WD Buggy Class Merger

The Commission revisited MIN 0554.

At the February 2nd Commission hearing in 2019 the Commission resolved the following:

"The Commission agreed that from 1 January, 2019, 4WD Buggies will be eligible to compete within the Extreme 4WD Class at State Championship level events and below. The impact of the introduction of 4WD buggies at State Championship Levels and -

below will be monitored by the Commission before any future determination is made to permit 4WD Buggies to compete at National Level. A minimum 12-month notice period is required should the Commission determine that 4WD Buggies will be eligible to compete at National Level.”

Off Road Standing Regulations Article 5.2 Note:

5.2 AUTOMOBILE CLASSES

Refer Off-Road Appendix – Specific Requirements.

The Australian Off-Road Commission may approve separate *Competitions* for other classes which will be specified in the *Supplementary Regulations*.

The *Supplementary Regulations* may further subdivide the Performance 2WD, Extreme 2WD, Production 4WD and Extreme 4WD classes based on technical specifications.

Note: The Extreme 4WD Buggy class is only permitted in State level *Competitions* or below.

The Commission moved that the Extreme 4WD sub-class be eligible to compete at National level competitions. Specifically, the Commission directed to remove the limitation of EX4WD Buggy's running in National level events. As discussed, and agreed, the EX4WD buggy sub-class will now be eligible for outright places, not points, for 2024. From 2025 EX4WD Buggy's will be eligible for Outright and Class points.

NEXT MEETINGS

Teleconference conducted on Tuesday nights, commencing at 7:30pm Melbourne time.

- Aug 20th
- Dec 3rd