

NZRCA Presidents report 2016

Once again its my privilege to present this annual report.

This past year we have seen a fairly large drop in our Membership of over 100 people. We have had less support for our National events despite massive preparation by the Clubs hosting the events for the NZRCA. Of even more concern is the fact that while some events showed similar numbers of cars entered the number of cars raced by each driver has increased showing the number of entrants is falling. Of concern too is the fact that the number of permanent outdoor tracks is also decreasing. The loss of the onroad track at Albany a blow for not only the North Harbour Club who have done all they could to retain one but all on road racers. A new 1/5th off road track has been established at Harwood as the number of our Members racing this class increases.

Following a world wide trend 1/10th off road has become very popular raced on carpet indoors along with some onroad. Many Clubs are now doing this and attracting large numbers of Drivers This is attracting a number of I/C racers to Elec also. More clubs are running 1/8th gas and Electric together at Club days and later this year two Island events will be held for all 1/8th off road cars at the one event. These events will also include 1/10th 4WD SC Trucks which are really 1/8th size. Likewise the 1/10th Elec off road Island meetings will be restricted to that scale only. Its very positive to see more cooperation between the two types of cars.

A major issue for our association going forward is Health and Safety. This is something we need to follow carefully as the financial liability can be severe. It could be that we need to have a person looking after this area for us. Safety fencing at all tracks to protect spectators a must.

Our reinstatement as an Incorporated society has been lodged

We have made a small loss as an association this year

There has been increased interest by our racers to compete overseas this year.

The Duthie family competed with distinction in this years World 1/8th I/C On Road Championship. Given a little less bad luck their results would have been

even better. Currently we have a very strong team competing in the world 1/8th I/C off roads in Los Vegas. Our thanks to Trevor Reid for the effort he puts in to help our Drivers compete in all types of World events.

This year has seen an increase in personality clashes at all levels and the amount of abuse levelled at elected people on the NZRCA. I am sure as with most things we can all learn from this year and with more communication do much better in the future. Most times when these incidents flare up we can lose Members especially people who have been prepared to organise and work for the Clubs concerned and they are very valuable to us.

At the AGM last year it was left to the NZRCA to come up with a set of rules for vintage racing. Over a dozen Members have been asked for help to do this but not one person has done so. Little Forest Raceway hosted a very successful event for these cars this year.

Currently we are working on a set of 1/5th off road rules with the help of the two Clubs catering for this form of racing.

The Exc this year voted to Licence Live timing at an annual cost of \$1200 and will supply it to any Club wishing to use it Free. We have a contract for the next 3 years. It is just one of the things we have been able to do with the expected extra income from the increase in Licence fee set at the last AGM.

Once again I would like to thank all the Elected Members who formed the committee this year. It takes a lot of time freely given. Scott in particular has done a great job keeping us up to date. We need Clubs to give us up to date information on contacts and if Members wish to be added to the list they are welcome to send him an Email address.

Our future looks challenging but with some exciting ideas and events planned I believe if we have the courage to make changes plus build on proven platforms there are positive times ahead.

Murray Macdonald