

Bourke, Monica

From: n allpike [nallpike@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Monday, 31 March 2008 11:03 AM
To: Bourke, Monica
Subject: NASR exclusive dealings application
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The General Manager,
 Adjudication Branch,
 ACCC

By email

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to present my views and objections to the application by NASR P/L for 'exclusive dealings'.

I am an ex speedcar racer who basically retired from competition because of the ridiculous situation regarding NASR P/L. However I am still involved in the sport being the President of the Australian Quarter Midget Association.

In answer to Question 1:-

There is NO importance in holding a NASR license as there are genuine associations who issue them. Anyone can buy a NASR license without being tested - fill out the forms and send away, pay the fee and back comes the license!! To me this is primarily a tax collected by a proprietary limited company for their profit. The National bodies of racing divisions have licensed drivers in the past and that is the way it should remain in my opinion. There are also other bodies that license and insure such as VSC and NDRA.

Question 2:-

NASR's advice to you is basically false. In 2004 drivers were advised by letter from NASR that the license/insurance would be one fee. In that letter the break down of license and insurance was given. NO mention of free insurance then. Only announced the next season when NDRA gained momentum.

Many drivers obtain their own insurance as they did before NASR came on to the scene. In the main, Self employed, Professionals, Farmers, Company Directors etc., have sufficient cover of their own. Some of these policies also cover the person whilst flying a small plane as well as motorsport but this is still not good enough for NASR. Welfare recipients do not require coverage as they have no 'income' to be replaced.

It is NOT difficult to obtain cover for motorsport racing, be it Public Liability or Personal Accident Income replacement. It is quite interesting to note that some speedways here in Western Australia have the same Public Liability policy as NASR obtained through Marsh, at a greatly reduced fee, by purchasing theirs through a broker. Combined Insurance offer families and individuals cover 24/7 and includes motorsport. There are numerous other insurances as well. Some of our West Australian drivers have cover through the Australian Speedway Accident Fund also.

NASR have made a statement regarding their 'control' of most tracks. This is a nonsense as most of those tracks are insured/affiliated not 'controlled'. The only 'controlled' tracks would be ones like Motorplex in Kwinana who are shareholders of NASR Pty Ltd. Another interesting thing is the list of 'interested parties'. Is it public knowledge as to how many of these groups have a 'conflict of interest' because they are NASR Shareholders!!!

Many drivers do not accept that their liberty is being taken away from them by exercising exclusive dealings. They want freedom of choice. They do not want to have to pay for insurance twice. The listed members' benefits are of no consequence to many. Motorsport is expensive and costs should be minimal.

It has been proven that NASR approval or track gradings is only used to apply pressure to stop NASR driver

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groups from racing on these non approved tracks. Two country speedways here in West Australia which are 'non approved' tracks were asked to pay for NASR Public Liability insurance even though they had exactly the same policy as NASR provides to it's 'approved' tracks.

I feel it is important to be part of an organised group such as the Victorian Speedway Council or similar body but NOT to be taken advantage of by a group of profiteers, such as NASR's Special Shareholders. We have a Speedway Commission here in Western Australia which has been infiltrated by NASR personnel. This body should be neutral and govern our sport here as a 'commission' not as a shareholder's company.

Thanking you for giving me the opportunity to add some input into this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Neville Allpike,
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30/3/08