

Bourke, Monica

From: Glenn Lawless
Sent: Thursday, 6 August 2009 9:23 AM
To: Bourke, Monica
Subject: NASR Submission

Good morning Monica,

I am pleased to be given the opportunity to reply to the submission made by the Operators of Brisbane Murray Bridge and Warnambool speedways.

I reject the notion that public good is better served by the further concentration of authority and assets of the Speedway Community into the hands of NASR Pty Ltd.

For a long time, speedway was crying out for the sport to develop into a more cohesive body. Regrettably the establishment of NASR has not done so. Whilst for a limited number of competitors who compete in the most expensive classes may have benefited, the vast majority have been forced to endure increased costs whilst not being offered a material benefit.

I contend that this application will further concentrate authority and assets into the hands of members of the NASR Pty Board. If granted, the NASR Pty Ltd will have further established the vertical integration of the sport into the control of the company. NASR Pty Ltd will further own, Tracks, Insurance, Major Events, Policy, Supply of Safety apparel, Licensing, Capital infrastructure and the resultant income and Capital Gains. I do not believe this was the intent of CAMS nor within the spirit of the delegation from CAMS. In fact the CAMS constitution, expressly forbids Directors from holding office if they are likely to receive a financial gain. Put simply, the sport does not elect it's governing body and hence has no control over it's future, use of assets.

I am of the opinion that competition is healthy in any marketplace. I also believe the competition within the governance structure of a sport is healthy.

Surely an organization, spending it's members money to further reduce the opportunities of it's members is a cause for alarm.

Please allow me to offer illustrations of the dysfunction which now exists within the sport.

1. NASR has increased licence costs for the 10,000 members it claims to have. The licence fees are in part used to underwrite some of the costs of teams within the most high profile classes to attend major events. This money is also used to pay for major event advertising. Many of the same people who pay licence fees will also attend the events, paying a second time for the event. And this again benefits the same people who are attempting to be able to further control the sport through these applications
2. It is very difficult for individual members who are now excluded from information with regards to the Governance of the Sport to respond to the issues raised. By controlling the assets of the sport, the Board of NASR has been able to establish an unfair advantage over the remainder of the sport and in turn has developed a combative approach to elements of the sport attempting to improve areas NASR deem otherwise.

Regards

Glenn Lawless

6/08/2009