

Chairman's viewpoint 07.11.

Welcome to our first speed weekend meeting of the 2011 season, where once again the "Munster's" will be sponsoring the trophies over the weekend. Len Munster will once again make the long drive from Northampton to Crimond along with the better half, Mrs Len Munster. You will easily recognise them with their waistcoats all covered in drivers badges and patches, so please give them our usual Crimond welcome when you see them in the pits.

As is the norm for this weekend, all heats will be run in graded order with normal track championship points awarded, but the finals on Sunday will see cars line up in points gained over the weekend heats, regardless of roof grade. As cars will be out of normal graded order, no track points will be awarded in the finals.

The Brisca F2's will be slightly different due to having a fixed format, so they will race for their Munster trophies only on the Saturday night, with the Highland fling being run on the Sunday. Cars will line up in graded order in the heats, but will be lined up in highest points scored in their grade for all finals. As this is our very first two day meeting for the F2's, I am not sure on how many drivers will appear, but some visitors are expected.

With the F2's on the Saturday night and the Stoxkarts as well, we have a busy schedule of 19 races on the Saturday night, so all drivers be at the pit gate when scheduled as we will be pushing through the races to get finished before it gets dark!!

With the permission of our land lord Eck Cowie and the Cowie family, we have brought back overnight camping at the circuit. The track toilets will be left open all night for the visitors to use, but please use them as you would your own. All noise must be kept down to a minimum and please leave the site clean and tidy. Committee members will be around during the late evening and any trouble makers will be removed from the site. The area to be used for overnight camping is from where the Horn hill used to be along behind the old stand. A small charge will be made for the overnight stay with the money going to a charity of the clubs choosing. If this night go's without incident, it will be allowed again at the Scottish championship weekend.

The Van banger's certainly put on a fine show at our last meeting, 13 vans took to the track for the first race, 12 big ones and one small one! Some had gone to the effort of painting them in the sponsors colours, white with lots of spots, but the majority were in the Panton team colours, desert sand camouflage. They were all told to have only spin and pass tactics for the heats and this they did, with a bit more contact allowed in the final. This was done to make sure we had some vans for the DD. Most of them did make the DD and as usual these vans take a while to destroy, but eventually it was Colin Riddell who was the only one left running in the ex-

community bus. His brother John Riddell was still running, but he was removed from the result earlier on for getting outside assistance, (Shuggy pushing him off the tyre's with the tractor during the DD).

The Stoxkarts were on to replace the F2's last time and that man Scott Keith was once again taking home most of the points from the meeting, with two wins and a second place for his afternoons work. They are all back again this weekend with one or two more cars expected. AT the Open Scottish weekend we will once again have the return of the English contingent of the Stoxkarts, with a total of nearly 30 cars expected; the Madman will be having kittens during that meeting!

During the last Hot saloon race of our last meeting, there was an accident involving Kevin Gordon # 51, where Kevin hit an infield tyre and spun round just after receiving the chequered flag and Athol White # 12, hit the driver's door of Kevin's car at full speed. This was an accident with Athol having no chance of stopping in time. Kevin was checked over by our first aid team and after some pain killing injections he was able to remove himself, with assistance, from his car and taken to our first aid hut to recover. His breathing was causing concern so an ambulance was called and he was taken to ARI for further checks.

It was found when he was checked over that he has Four Broken ribs, a punctured lung, a broken pelvis and severe bruising to his left leg. He will be in Hospital for a while, so we wish him a speedy recovery. Following this incident, the club is carrying out an investigation to see if we can reduce the risk of injury in a driver's door hit incident happening again.

In the track office and on our web site, there is information on a new ORCI Ben Fund being set up to assist all drivers and officials who are injured during race meetings. FORDS is what it is called, "For, Oval, Racing, Drivers, & Staff" is what it means. All ORCI promotions are contributing to this fund and as it happens, organised a while ago, this Munster weekend is our dedicated meeting for raising funds. As well as our drivers insurance this fund is an addition so drivers have two sources of assistance if and when they are injured, so Kevin will receive from them both.

There will be collection buckets in the track office and track shop during this weekend and they may go around the spectators as well, so please donate what you can as it will be going to help Kevin and other ORCI registered drivers like him who are injured in the sport they love to compete in. Thank you.

Next Sunday, July 10th, our Hot Saloon's will be making their away trip to Lochgelly for the second round of the Lochgelly Hot Saloon track championship. Last time we had 17 cars travel down and put on a fine show, so if you are at a loose end with nothing to do, go to sunny Fife for the day.

Our next meeting will see the return of the Unlimited bangers for the remainder of the 2011 season, where they will be competing for the Brian Jamieson trophy. The Road

Going saloons will be competing for the Paul Anderson trophy and we have the Stoxkarts once again to replace the Brisca F2's who are at Northampton for the European championship.

I hope you enjoy this weekend's racing, with something for everybody over the two days. 47 races' over the two days and only £8 admission each day, you will not get that much racing anywhere else in the UK oval racing scene.

If this is your first time at Crimond Raceway, please do not make it your last and tell your friends. "Crimond raceway where the action is the attraction".

Enjoy your racing and see you all next time.

Bill Barrack

Chairman / Promoter

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